


**CORRESPONDENCE
FROM 11/05/2025
MUNICIPAL SERVICES
COMMITTEE MEETING**

Gao, Beilei

From: lorraine montgomery
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 1:31 AM
To: Gao, Beilei
Subject: Carbon free electric power

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Dear city council,

In light of the disastrous fires that have hit our region, I implore the city council to keep to their pledge to make the city have carbon free electric power by 2030.

Our grandchildren's future depends on this!

Sincerely,

Lorraine Montgomery

Pasadena


Sent from my iPad

Gao, Beilei

From: Kristin Ockershauser
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 6:27 AM
To: Gao, Beilei; Madison, Steve
Subject: Implement Climate Emergency Resolution 9977

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It's been almost 3 years since the City Council unanimously passed Climate Emergency Resolution 9977 that mandated a transition to **carbon-free** electric power by 2030. In the meantime, we suffered a huge climate change induced fire here in our hometown, and disasters have happened worldwide, most recently in Jamaica. Climate change is not theory. It hurts people. **It's time to implement what the City Council resolved.**

Kris Ockershauser

Pasadena 91105

Gao, Beilei

From: ramsey leah
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 9:47 AM
To: Gao, Beilei
Subject: Carbon Free Pasadena

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I am writing to show my support for a Carbon Free Pasadena by 2030. Pasadena is home to incredible innovators in the science and tech world. Let us be a national leader among cities for 100% carbon free electric power.

Thank you,
Ramsey Stevens

Gao, Beilei

From: lauren cory
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 11:52 AM
To: Gao, Beilei; lauren cory; Madison, Steve

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To the Pasadena City Council, and my councilmember, Madison,

I am writing my response to the Optimized Plan.

Thank you for the extraordinary amount of work and money that has gone into the research and planning necessary to fulfill Resolution 9977 by 2030.

I think it essential that more solar be encouraged and installed on city buildings, schools and on residential properties. Solar canopies also provide shade and would be a valuable investment at the Rose Bowl and in plans for the 710 development. The old trope that it's too expensive and causes utilities to be more expensive for the working class needs to be faced honestly and solved. We are at a crisis point and even if the federal government's actions allow any entity to slide backwards, Pasadena doesn't need to capitulate.

As important as rooftop solar is, storage also needs be incorporated into planning. Yes, it costs. Doing it the old way costs more to the health of current and future generations. Target what *is* possible and build upon that foundation. Be forward thinking and aggressive.

Why is there such a bias against residential rooftop solar? It should be encouraged at every step. Streamline the permit process and give meaningful rebates to low income residents. *Figure out how* the city, PWP and residents can economically benefit from solar.

Again, thank you for the accomplishments underway. And please, be transparent and aggressive moving forward.

Lauren Cory
A District 6 Resident

From:
Sent: Monday, November 3, 2025 10:19 PM
To: Gordo, Victor; Jones, Justin; Rick Cole; Hampton, Tyron; Lyon, Jason
Cc: Gao, Beilei; cityclerk
Subject: MSC Special Meeting November 5, Item #1 - Optimized Strategic Plan

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The draft Optimized Strategic Plan (OSP) does not prioritize Pasadena goals 1) to measure electric power on an hourly basis to achieve 100% carbon-free electricity in 2030; and 2) to rapidly scale locally generated solar power and battery storage projects.

The OSP cites City Council's January 2023 adoption of Resolution 9977 as well as MSC's June 2025 direction to pursue 100% carbon-free resources measured on an hourly basis (OSP Case Study "100% Hourly Matching, Accelerated Local Resources") but advocates for "Annual Matching" which does not result in 100% carbon-free electricity. Despite the limited availability of new projects, the OSP favors utility-scale resources. However, for Pasadena, the extended time required to secure contracts, the need for long-distance transmission lines, and PWP's current limitations for importing energy to its municipal distribution network pose significant challenges in meeting the goal of 100% carbon-free electricity in 2030 without significant addition of local solar and storage.

Although E3 documented Pasadena's potential for locally generated clean power coupled with local battery storage, the draft OSP fails to explore and discuss these opportunities. Streamlining PWP's process to issue solar permits has lagged and federal incentives for solar installation on private property are expiring. However, the City of Pasadena has an immediate opportunity to simultaneously **reduce city operating costs, ensure greater local grid reliability, and achieve the goals of Resolution 9977** by rapidly deploying **solar and storage on municipal properties**. The city has total control over this process and would receive direct financial benefit from solar installations (rooftop and/or parking canopies) on municipal property. By pairing solar installations with onsite battery storage as PWP is encouraging for residential properties, Pasadena would significantly reduce city operating costs and increase local grid reliability.

On city property, there is 12MW of rooftop and 52MW of parking canopy potential – representing 10% of the overall solar generating potential in the City (Draft OSP page 75). Many municipal properties, especially fire stations and libraries, are already scheduled for new construction or roof repair. These are ideal candidates for local, city-owned solar/battery storage installations. Municipal parking lots – stand alone or combined with city-owned structures -- represent half of solar generating potential from installation of parking canopies. The remaining potential for solar generation on parking lots is located at the Rose Bowl. Solar parking canopies are easy to construct, maintain, and have relatively low initial cost.

The Draft OSP reintroduces the notion of "Waypoints", a term initiated by a former director of PWP but never clearly defined. The so-called "2026 Waypoint" starts in January. However, Public Works has already initiated a call for projects for the FY2027-2031 CIP which would fund municipal solar and

battery storage on municipal properties through 2030. **In collaboration with Public Works, PWP must evaluate, expedite and fund solar generation and battery storage projects on municipal properties by including them in the FY 2027-31 Capital Improvement Program (CIP).**

OSP Table 30- Rapidly scale proven technologies for local solar & storage, includes six capital programs which are **currently unfunded** and **must be included in the FY2027-31 CIP**:

1. **Develop municipal solar at up to 4 sites (4-8 MW online 2028; increase goal to achieve Accelerated Local Resources Plus, Draft OSP p. 50).** Construction of five new fire stations presents a unique opportunity to reduce Fire Department costs through installation of solar/storage on the new structures and in associated parking lots:
 - Fire Station 37
 - Fire Station 33
 - Fire Station 38
 - Fire Station 32
 - Fire Station 36

Additional opportunities for solar/storage on Municipal Buildings include the following capital projects:

- Facility Expansion and Upgrades – Fire Station 31
 - Facility Expansion and Upgrades – Fire Station 34
 - Hastings Library – roof replacement
 - Lamanda Park Library – roof replacement
 - Santa Catalina Library – roof replacement
 - Hill Avenue Library – roof replacement & seismic strengthening
 - Central Library – seismic retrofit and renovation
 - City Yard – roof replacement and parking lot improvements
2. **Explore other opportunities for solar/storage (Rose Bowl, 710 Stub).** Parking lots surrounding and adjacent to the Rose Bowl have potential for 24 MW of solar generation (Draft OSP page 76, note 1). The City of Pasadena has covered losses incurred by the Rose Bowl Operating Company (RBOC). Onsite solar/storage installations would reduce RBOC operating costs. Note that the Rose Bowl (RBOC) FY 2026-30 CIP had no capital projects proposed for the years 2027 through 2030.

National Football League (NFL) stadiums have installed solar panels to lower the carbon footprint of jumbotrons, bright lights, and air conditioning. [NFL stadiums aim to be sustainable with solar panels, recycling | AP News](#)

3. **Develop Broadway BESS (50+ MW, online 2029-2030)** – currently unfunded; this project must be included for funding in the FY 2027-31 CIP. Study of the Broadway Power Plant site identified that a 100MW storage system could be installed at the site (Draft OSP page 86). **PWP must plan for the full 100MW of storage capacity. Hope for future battery technology must not delay or stop initial planning – don't let the “Best” be the enemy of the “Good”.**

4. **Develop microgrids on selected municipal properties** – currently unfunded; must be included for funding FY 2027-31 CIP
5. **Develop municipal solar installations at up to 10 sites (8-16 MW online 2029-30; increase goal to achieve *Accelerated Local Resources Plus*, Draft OSP p. 50).** SEE opportunities listed above – currently unfunded. Additional solar/battery storage projects must be included for funding FY 2027-31 CIP.
6. **Continue development of microgrids at additional sites (2029-30)** – currently unfunded; must be included for funding FY 2027-31 CIP.

MSC must require revisions before the Draft OSP is recommended for approval. Reject the Draft OSP’s advocacy for “Annual Matching” instead of “Hourly Matching” as required by MSC. Reject also the OSP’s minimal attention to and backloading of solar and storage projects on municipal properties.


The so-called “2026 Waypoint” is Pasadena’s last chance to identify and fund solar installations and battery storage on municipal properties, thereby reducing City operating costs, increasing local grid reliability, and achieving the goals of Resolution 9977. MSC should direct PWP and Public Works to include funding for solar and battery storage projects on municipal properties in the FY2027-2031 CIP.

Sincerely,
Genette Foster, CD2

Gao, Beilei

From: Blair Miller
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 10:26 AM
To: Gao, Beilei
Subject: Item #1 Municipal Services Committee Agenda 11/5/25

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Councilmembers,

I support Pasadena 100's comments on on Item #1, adopting PWP's Optimized Strategic Plan. As you know, it has been almost 3 years since the City Council unanimously passed Climate Emergency Resolution 9977 that mandated a transition to **carbon-free** electric power by 2030. In the meantime, we suffered a devastating fire. The conditions which led to this destructive and deadly fire were exacerbated by climate change. Disasters related to climate change continue to occur frequently, most recently in Jamaica. Climate change is hurting people. **It's time to implement what the City Council resolved.**

Why is it Pasadena's job to take on climate change? Because we can. We are in the unusual position of controlling our own power supply, and in having majority support for the concepts that climate change is real and that humans can take action to slow down or reduce the impacts. Obviously it's critical to make sure that our neighbors have access to affordable power too, but luckily we can do both!


Thank you in advance for your consideration of Pasadena 100's comments, and your thoughtful approach to this important issue.

Blair Miller

Gao, Beilei

From: Denise Robb
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 2:28 PM
To: Gao, Beilei
Subject: Optimized strategic Plan

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Gentlepersons:

Pasadena needs to achieve our city's goal of carbon free electric power. We need to support residential rooftop solar and also strengthen our plans to install solar and storage in city properties.

Please keep this in mind as you revise the draft.

Sincerely,
Denise Robb

Pasadena CA 91106

Sent from my iPhone
Denise Robb, Ph.D.
Professor of Political Science,
Pierce College; and
Joshua's Mommy

“Those who can make you believe absurdities can make you commit atrocities.”
(Possibly Voltaire)

Gao, Beilei

From: Sam Berndt
Sent: Tuesday, November 4, 2025 8:41 PM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Hampton, Tyron; Jones, Justin; Lyon, Jason; Cole, Rick
Subject: Municipal Services Committee - 11/5/25 - Public Comment - Agenda Item 1

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Hi, my name is Sam Berndt and I support 100% carbon free electricity by 2030. The only scenarios that are carbon free are the hourly scenarios and will require that PWP exit their contract with the Magnolia Natural Gas Power Plant.

I urge the City Council to set the local solar and storage goals to be in alignment with the hourly Accelerated Local Resources Plus scenarios which requires an additional 100MW solar and 125MW of storage by 2030. To achieve the local solar goals, the City of Pasadena must not wait until 2028, and should immediately begin installing solar on all municipally owned parking lots (52MW) & rooftops (12MW). Additionally, PWP must continue to offer NEM 1 and additional incentives to ensure we meet the projected 36MW of additional local solar from private investment and seek the remaining 20MW through collaborations with city institutions (PUSD, 16MW), PCC, Caltech, and commercial partners.

Finally, achieving the 2030 goal will require a significant amount of external resources; aiming to solely achieve the annual metric by 2028 will leave too little time to acquire the remaining resources necessary to achieve 100% carbon free electricity by 2030. I urge the City Council to seek to procure all resources necessary to achieve the hourly metrics beginning immediately.

In solidarity,
Sam Berndt

Gao, Beilei

From: Jonah Kanner
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 7:01 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: MSC Agenda 1: Please support clean power

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Dear members of the Municipal Services Committee and staff,


I am writing in support of the goal of 100% carbon-free power by 2030. With that goal in mind, I believe the current strategic plan could be improved by:

- * Putting in place real incentives for solar power, not just "education"
- * A clear plan to end use of the Magnolia gas plant by 2030

Thank you!
- Jonah Kanner

Gao, Beilei

From: Cynthia Cannady
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 8:19 AM
To: Jones, Justin; Hampton, Tyron; Lyon, Jason; Cole, Rick; Gao, Beilei
Cc: Reyes, David; Márquez, Miguel; PASADENA 100 Steering Committee Committee
Subject: PASADENA 100 concerns about the OSP draft

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Dear Councilmembers,

We read over the OSP draft again yesterday--after Sam Berndt and I met with David Reyes, Kelly Nguyen and the 2 E3 consultants on Monday, they made a few changes to the OSP draft. We truly appreciate that PWP gave us this time to talk. The meeting was cordial and PWP made some changes to the draft, but **our concerns are still there. We are so close to a successful carbon free plan with targets verified by E3. We have the pathway to success before us, but there are some obstacles and detours that need to be removed.**

There are 3 big points and one overall concern about leadership:

1. MAGNOLIA GAS PLANT. Now at least PWP and E3 are not hiding this gas plant in a footnote. The draft clarifies that the hourly (carbon free) portfolios will free us from dependency on Magnolia. (see text below and also at page 42). That's good. And it's clear that the annual portfolios do the opposite: they assume that Magnolia will continue to supply dirty electricity until 2036. That's another reason why these "annual" portfolios do not implement Resolution 9977.

The revised draft says that PWP will figure out what to do about Magnolia and report **back to Council "at the end of 2030"!** (p. 42) **That will be too late to do anything about it.**

Also, the revised draft refers to it as a "commercial" matter. We are not sure what that means, but I think it means: Council and public, butt out and let us handle this until late 2030 when it will be too late to address the problem.

The draft continues the line that exit from the contract requires "negotiation with counterparties" (p. 43), but it's **not even clear that the old contract is still in force.** It may be that there is no need to "renegotiate" an expired contract; This possibility is not considered and should be the subject of legal analysis by counsel with expertise in this field. **The real solution to the Magnolia problem is to make sure that we have enough resources to assure resource adequacy; and that means we have to implement the MW targets of the hourly carbon free portfolios.**

Transparency about Magnolia is essential. PWP has not been transparent about Magnolia and did not disclose the plan to expand the plant, a vote that happened just last month. PWP has been on the SCPPA working committee on Magnolia since 2023 and has failed to acknowledge the problem, much less deal with it.

The ASKS: Include Magnolia on all quarterly reports. No waiting until it's too late. Determine whether the contract has expired. **Hold firmly to the carbon free portfolios, which will remove our dependency on continued use of gas generated electricity from Magnolia.**

2. The success of the OSP depends on adding local solar and storage to our imported resources.

This document needs commitment to achieving the MW goals for local solar that are set in the 2 carbon free portfolios. **Local solar and storage are the difference between success and failure.** That is why these portfolios are called "Accelerated Local Resources" and "Accelerated Local Resources Plus." **We are grateful that E3 showed us these paths, but these are not paths for mosey-ing. These are accelerated.** The OSP draft still treats them like a walk in the park.

a. The OSP slow-rolls local solar on municipal property. They will take through 2026 just to "identify" municipal sites; then "up to 4" sites are to be on line by 2028 (only 4-8 MW). Then in the last 2 years, after the 2028 waypoint, PWP plans to develop "up to 10" sites (8-16 MW). That is a recipe for failure.

ASK: Identify municipal sites now. Don't Public Works and PWP know this already? Why would this take through 2026? P100 has been asking for this for at least a year. Set MW targets and dates for implementation on a timeline that enables us to succeed, not condemns us to failure.

b. It lacks any new incentives for residential and hides PWP's agenda to end NEM in the non-transparent rate process. Remove red tape and dysfunctional permitting/inspection processes that are impeding adoption of rooftop solar.

ASK: Design and plan new incentives, rebates, bulk purchase and loan programs to support all customers who want to use their own money to install solar. Definitely include programs to support purchase of batteries as well as solar, but don't link support for solar to mandatory investment in batteries. Many people cannot afford the investment in both. If PWP cannot develop this solar-supportive program, establish a new entity to handle this, as has been done in Ann Arbor, Michigan.

ASK: Hold on firmly to NEM 1, the only incentive that customers have. Don't submerge the NEM issue in the non-transparent rate process. Let the public see and hear what is happening with this major issue of statewide importance.

ASK: Recognize the value in demand reduction, resilience and equity that rooftop solar provides. **It is the only way that low to mid income customers can invest and protect themselves** against rapidly growing energy costs.

ASK: Convert to Solar App+ and immediately review the problem areas identified in the Appendix to the P100 briefing memo on the OSP.

c. The ideas for programs for commercial (including Feed in Tariffs and demand response programs) and for institutional property owners are excellent, but vague. PUSD collaboration is a win-win.

ASK: Begin immediately to work with PUSD on installing solar on PUSD property, especially unused property. Set a goal date for specific project design and implementation and put it in the OSP Action Plans.

The draft adopts the Investor Owned utilities narrative about "equity" and concern for the poor as if this is the reason why they stall residential rooftop solar. The real equity is for all ratepayers to be supported in planning for their energy futures by installing solar and storage.

3. Stop pushing RNG which is chemically and practically the same as methane. Same problem with Hydrogen which will not be "green hydrogen" in the foreseeable future. These are detours.

We are glad to see that PWP has deleted some of the hydrogen pipeline references in this document but they are still there. RNG is featured and to be considered at the 2028 Waypoint!

ASK: Focus on implementing the carbon free portfolios in the OSP and future technologies that help us achieve and maintain our independence from dirty fuels.

OVERALL point. Now is the time for leadership. We have a path to success in front of us. Leaders lead the way, they address obstacles and avoid roadblocks and detours. **Our mayor must speak out in support and encouragement.** If he doesn't advocate for this plan, we risk failure. This is an ambitious but totally doable plan. It needs the support of all elected city officials and alignment of all staff.

A major criterion for the new City Manager will be commitment to our city's transition to clean electric power by 2030 and to the carbon free electric power portfolios set forth in this OSP.

Cynthia Cannady
Chairperson, PASADENA 100 Coalition

Gao, Beilei

From: Hall, Melanie
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 8:34 AM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Airitam, Derrick
Subject: Supplemental for MSC 11.6 Item 1
Attachments: FINALOSPLetter.pdf

Hello,

Please see the attached Letter from the Environmental Advisory Commission on the Optimized Strategic Plan. Can you please attach this to Item 1 for tomorrow's meeting?

Thank you,

Melanie Hall
Acting Sustainability Coordinator
City of Pasadena • Office of the City Manager
(626) 744-7480 • mhall@cityofpasadena.net



www.cityofpasadena.net/sustainability



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Memorandum

To: Pasadena City Council
From: Environmental Advisory Commission
Date: June 10, 2025
Re: Recommendations on Optimized Strategic Plan for Climate Resolution 9977

Executive Summary

After extensive review of available data from PWP, E3 and our research, we are convinced that these priorities will have the biggest impact on our ability to meet the Climate Resolution 9977. Although it was bold for Pasadena to adopt the Climate Resolution, we haven't seen bold policy being introduced to meet that goal. After two years of energy modeling, it is time to act.

City Council approved four scenarios that were determined as pathways to reach the Climate Resolution 9977. The EAC is strongly recommending that the City Council take more decisive action than adopting 4 scenarios from 7. We need to set actionable goals with firm quantitative actions. The EAC is recommending that the City Council take decisive action now by setting actionable goals and directing PWP to implement the following four policies:

- 1 75 MW Municipal Solar by end of 2030
- 2 125 MW Municipal Storage at Glenarm and Storage Rebate
- 3 Demand Response for Large Commercial Customers
- 4 Building Performance Standards for Existing Buildings

Background

For the past two years, PWP has gone through two energy modeling exercises, one for the IRP with Sparks consultants, and now for the Optimized Strategic Plan (OSP) with E3. The Environmental Advisory Commission has participated by having a representative on both TAPs and regular updates from the consultants and PWP. At the conclusion of each energy modeling exercise, six to seven scenarios or portfolios were presented that would achieve the climate resolution. These scenarios were broken down into components such as external renewable and storage contracts, internal solar, short-term storage, long term storage, EV, and demand response. The EAC has researched other cities' initiatives that have proven to be effective in reducing demand of energy, adopting renewable energy, and ensuring a reliable energy system for their citizens and businesses.

We recognize that the City of Pasadena has several constraints including **Goodrich Station** energy intake at 280 MW, switching to **Advanced Metering** by 2028, **Grid Updates** specifically the **East to West Line**, and **Glenarm Power Plant** as a reliable back up. We also think that having municipal solar and storage infrastructure, and demand response of large accounts improves the reliability of our grid, especially during extreme heat days when we exceed Goodrich availability. Performance Standards for Existing Buildings starts building decarbonization program which increases energy efficiency and reduces energy demand. These recommendations are just part of the OSP, that includes NEM rates, residential and commercial solar and storage, EV charging and energy efficiency programs.

Municipal Solar: We recommend for Council to set an annual goal for solar installation, and especially for municipal. Local solar at minimum is 66 MW by 2030 therefore 11 MW per year for five years to meet our goal. In the solar study from E3 they showed there is potential for solar installation of 60 MW on municipal parking lots and 10 MW on municipal buildings. The largest solar potential by far is

commercial parking canopy at 230 MW, tapping into this asset is imperative in meeting our goal (see Attachment 1). The natural adoption of residential solar is projected to increase by 36 MW by 2030 or 4MW per year.

To achieve this Municipal solar goal, we advise starting at the Sunset Reservoir and the Yards to feed into the Municipal Fleet EV charging stations. Working with Public Works to achieve the Fleet Management Plan should be intertwined with the OSP by installing solar and storage at the Sunset Reservoir and the Yards.

Example: City of San Diego has implemented the Zero Emissions Municipal Buildings and Operation Policy (ZEMBOP)¹ with a goal of zero emissions for buildings and fleet by 2035.

Example: Santa Monica City Yards Advanced Energy District incorporating solar, storage, EV Charging for Municipal Fleet.²

Secondly, we suggest prioritizing parking lots with EV units to build out our existing infrastructure with solar and storage into microgrids. Choosing parking lots with EV units will serve multiple benefits: powering the EV stations with solar, providing shade while residents are powering their cars, providing resiliency on our system. Microgrids are proven ways to optimize storage power and enhance grid resilience during peak times, improves energy efficiency, and provides power to critical resources such as police and fire stations as well as cooling centers during extreme heat days³. Adopting an energy demand map of microgrids and critical resources is critical for climate resiliency and energy stabilization. Below is a list of each parking garage with the amount of EV units:

1. Victory Park 23 EV units
2. Hastings Village 20 EV units
3. Foothill Campus 16 EV units
4. Shopper's Lane 20 EV units
5. Pas Arroyo Parking 38 EV units
6. Del MAR Station 38 EV units
7. Marengo Charging 43 EV units
8. Glenarm 26 EV units

Example: San Diego Edison has linked microgrids of solar and storage to municipal critical resources to secure power for peak resilience⁴. (See Attachment 2 of Map of San Diego Microgrids)

Example: Santa Monica: Adopt Energy Master Plan that breaks down energy demand by district or neighborhoods to determine microgrids, community solar or district energy systems based on energy demand of that district.

Municipal Storage: Battery Storage is a critical piece of the OSP to store the solar energy either produced from external sources or internal solar energy installations. This is used at two critical times. City of Pasadena's peak use is between 4 to 10 pm when solar starts to become unavailable and during high demand days. Therefore, storage is critical to get through nighttime hours to power with renewable and when demand from Goodrich is greater than 280MW. The 25 MW storage facility at Glenarm was recently approved in the Capital Improvement Program budget. An additional 100 MW energy storage is proposed in the PWP budget. We ask that City Council commit to this proposal and commit to 125 MW of additional battery storage at Glenarm to optimize our grid, making it more resilient and reliable.

¹ <https://www.sandiego.gov/general-services/energy/muni-energy/mes>

² <https://www.energy.ca.gov/sites/default/files/2021-06/CEC-500-2019-032.pdf>

³ [CEC-500-2018-022.pdf](#)

⁴ https://www.sdge.com/sites/default/files/S2550013-EnergyStorageMap_FLY_Update.pdf

Storage Rebate for Commercial and Residential Customers: Secondly, we recommend City Council adopt a storage rebate for commercial and residential customers, shifting energy use during peak times to storage batteries is key in reducing demand on the grid, as well as capturing solar energy. It allows customers to use stored energy during peak times from 4 to 10pm, or shift energy use during peak days. PWP proposed at storage rebate at the Municipal Services Committee meeting that would be \$4,500 rebate per storage unit with up to two storage batteries per customer.

Demand Response: During peak times such as heat waves, when Pasadena exceeds amount of energy demand available from Goodrich, it is critical for large customers either shed or shift energy. E3 instructed that the large commercial customers would have the biggest impact in demand response. In Pasadena, the 50 largest accounts demand over 50% of Pasadena's energy. In other words, asking for large customers to shed or shift energy demand during peak hours would be most effective in reducing overall energy use. Prioritizing installing advanced meters at large customers will have the least cost but biggest impact. We recommend that City Council advise PWP to set an actional goal of demand response for its large accounts and find new ways to educate and incentivize them to be active participants in flexible load programs.

Example: SMUD has goal to develop 165 MW of flexible load programs by 2030.

Performance Standards for Existing Buildings: We recommend mandatory building performance standards (BPS) for existing buildings to decarbonize buildings. Introduced by Chula Vista⁵, Santa Monica⁶ and recently passed by States of Washington, Colorado and Massachusetts, adopting these mandatory standards would be above the existing building code (See Attachment 3 for a nationwide map of current BPS). City Council would advise the PWP and Building Department to set mandatory standards by a certain year to decarbonize existing buildings of a certain size⁷.

Example: By adding the BPS for existing buildings, City of Santa Monica has a goal of reducing energy by 20% by 2030. Starting with buildings over 50,000 sf, this is aimed at large buildings reducing energy demand over a five-year period.

Example: Chula Vista adopted Mandatory Benchmarking and Conservation Requirements for Multifamily and Commercial buildings the exceeded a Gross Floor Area of 20,000 sq ft.

New Technology: We appreciate the difficulty of making energy investments in this climate of rapid change. Despite that we believe Council should act now and we believe that a municipal scale program will have the most impact. At the same time PWP should also be keeping an eye on developing new technologies that become commercially viable.

It is time to act now. It is imperative for the Council to set clear goals and directives to PWP. These recommendations are a start to a larger plan that includes residential solar and storage, commercial solar, EV charging, external contracts, and new technology. It is critical for Council to set a Municipal Solar annual goal and for PWP to start a municipal solar program, set Demand Response goal for large accounts, and implement Building Performance Standards for Existing Buildings. City of Pasadena needs to lead by example to meet the Climate Resolution 9977.

⁵ <https://www.chulavistaca.gov/home/showpublisheddocument/22730/637571124879800000>

⁶ [santamonica.gov - Green Building Incentives and Installation Resources](https://www.santamonica.gov/DocumentCenter/View/11111/Green-Building-Incentives-and-Installation-Resources)

Attachment 1

Solar Technical Potential within Pasadena Water and Power

Rooftop, Parking Canopy, and Ground-Mounted Solar

- + Despite land constraints, technical potential for local solar within Pasadena footprint exceeds 500 MW-dc*:

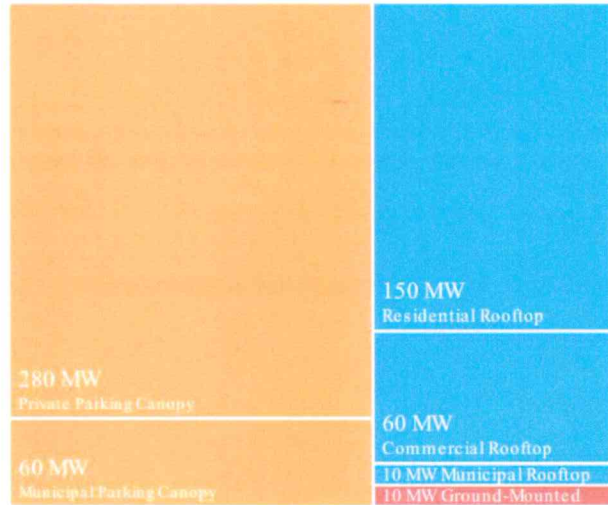
■ Parking Canopy: 340 MW-dc

■ Rooftop: 220 MW-dc

■ Ground-Mounted: 10 MW-dc

- + Key insight: the amount of distributed solar included in the OSP will be primarily determined by the needs of the grid and economics rather than by constraints on available space

*These values represent the maximum capacity available for development in a given region and do not consider the economic or market viability, historical landmark status, or other physical conditions that may restrict installation.



Attachment 2

Local utility-owned BESS and Microgrids map energy storage and microgrids



The State of Building Performance Standards


The State of Building Performance Standards (BPS) in the U.S.
Members of the National BPS Coalition as of March 2025



Gao, Beilei

From: Robert Haw
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 8:38 AM
To: Gao, Beilei
Subject: MSC meeting, Nov 5

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Hello

I want to see sincere follow-through by PWP regarding Pasadena's clean energy goals. Climate damage is already occurring and will only increase in coming years. Address this crisis now.

Commit to the MW goals for local solar as outlined in the carbon-free portfolios in the OSP. Install rapid and simple rooftop permitting procedures for homeowners and businesses. Australians are doing this. Pasadena can show the way here too.

Regards,
Robert Haw

Gao, Beilei

From: Colin Bogart
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 9:53 AM
To: cityclerk
Subject: Agenda Item 1: MSC Special meeting November 5, 2025

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Dear Municipal Services Committee,

I'm concerned that the OSP draft seems to have a bias against residential rooftop solar. We need to make it easier for residents to install residential rooftop solar, not harder. This draft threatens to end the only solar incentive that we have. My wife and I would like to add solar to our home and I would like for that to be an achievable option for us. The OSP should announce new rebates and loan programs to make it easier for all Pasadenans to enjoy the benefit of solar energy, which happens to be good for the resilience of our electric power system and for the future of human life on Earth.

Given that it's the goal of PWP to provide power for Pasadena and NOT to make a profit, PWP should be doing all it can to enable local solar power City-wide, and to do it as quickly as possible. Imagine what a huge difference it would make if every single building in Pasadena - residential, commercial, or public had rooftop solar. Really, that should be a key part of our sustainable energy goals.

It's been almost 3 years since the City Council unanimously passed Climate Emergency Resolution 9977 that mandated a transition to carbon-free electric power by 2030. It's time to implement what the City Council resolved.

Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Colin Bogart

Pasadena 91103

Gao, Beilei

From: Rachel Kenney
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 10:04 AM
To: cityclerk
Cc: Tyler Kenney; Sam Berndt
Subject: Municipal Services Committee - 11/5/25 - Public Comment - Agenda Item 1

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Dear All,

This is a Public Comment pertaining to the 11/5/25 Municipal Services Committee - Agenda Item 1:

Hi, my name is Rachel Kenney and I support 100% carbon free electricity by 2030. As a community member displaced by the Eaton Fire, it is very important for me to address this matter. The only scenarios that are carbon-free are the **hourly scenarios** and will require that PWP **exit their contract with the Magnolia Natural Gas Power Plant**. I urge the City Council to set the local solar and storage goals to be in alignment with the Accelerated Local Resources Plus scenarios which requires an additional 100MW solar and 125MW of storage by 2030. To achieve the local solar goals, the City of Pasadena **must not wait until 2028**, and should immediately begin installing solar on all municipally owned parking lots (52MW) & rooftops (12MW). Additionally, PWP must continue to offer NEM 1 and additional incentives to ensure we meet the projected 36MW of additional local solar from private investment and seek the remaining 20MW through collaborations with city institutions (PUSD, 16MW), PCC, Caltech, and commercial partners. Finally, achieving the 2030 goal will require a significant amount of external resources; aiming to achieve the annual metric by 2028 will leave too little time to acquire the remaining resources necessary to achieve 100% carbon free electricity by 2030. I urge the City Council to seek to procure all resources necessary to achieve the hourly metrics beginning immediately.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. The climate crisis is now and these changes will benefit us all.

Respectfully,
Rachel Kenney
MIT Class of 2016

Gao, Beilei

From: Piper Bangs
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 10:50 AM
To: Gao, Beilei
Subject: I support implementation of the Climate Emergency Resolution 9977

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Hello there,

My name is Piper Bangs, and I live in the 91101 zip code in Pasadena. I'm reaching out to you to share that I enthusiastically support implementation of the Climate Emergency Resolution 9977.

It's been almost 3 years since the City Council unanimously passed Climate Emergency Resolution 9977 that mandated a transition to carbon-free electric power by 2030. In the meantime, we suffered a huge climate change induced fire here in our hometown, and disasters have happened worldwide, most recently in Jamaica. Climate change is not theory. It hurts people. It's time to implement what the City Council resolved.

If this information is useful, my address is Pasadena, CA 91101 and my email
address is

Thank you for your time.

All my best,
Piper

--

Piper Bangs

Gao, Beilei

From: Julia Rose Manriquez Dowell <julia.dowell@sierraclub.org>
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 11:00 AM
To: Gao, Beilei
Subject: Sierra Club Comments on PWP Optimized Strategic Plan
Attachments: PasadenaWaterandPower.dotx

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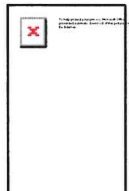
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Dear City of Pasadena Municipal Services Committee,

Please see the attached comment letter pertaining to Pasadena Water and Power's Optimized Strategic Plan.

Thank you,
Julia

--



Julia Dowell (she/her)
Electric Sector Campaign
Senior Campaign Organizer

I am based in Long Beach, CA on unceded [Tongva Land](#).



To: Pasadena City Council
Municipal Services Committee
100 N. Garfield Avenue
Pasadena, CA 91109

Councilmember Justin Jones, Chair
Councilmember Rick Cole
Councilmember Tyron Hampton
Councilmember Jason Lyon

Transmitted via email

RE: Comment on Pasadena Water and Power's Optimized Strategic Plan

Dear Chair Jones and Councilmembers Cole, Hampton, and Lyon:

I am writing to you today on behalf of the Sierra Club regarding Pasadena Water and Power's Optimized Strategic Plan (OSP or the "Draft"). Sierra Club recognizes that the OPS represents the most progressive attempt to date in providing the context for, and options to address, achieving Resolution 9977 – a mandate by Pasadena City Council to supply 100% carbon-free electricity by 2030. Sierra Club is very supportive of the Pasadena City Council's carbon-free electricity goal.

Sierra Club appreciates many pieces of the Draft, including plans to enter into Power Purchase Agreements (PPAs) to increase imports of renewable energy. We are also supportive of plans to enter into PPAs through direct sourcing in addition to the previous practice of exclusive reliance on SCPPA, beginning immediately with a 2025 RFP. Sierra Club strongly supports plans to invest in increased solar and storage, especially distributed energy resources which will help to meet energy demand locally. These plans are a huge undertaking and evidence commitment to carbon-free electric power.

However, Sierra Club does have a few concerns with the OSP Draft. There are six areas of concerns that may hinder the utility in achieving the carbon-free goal and therefore should be addressed:

1. The Magnolia gas plant; the OSP must plan to exit this carbon resource.
2. Imported electricity targets must be based on the carbon-free portfolios.
3. Local solar and storage need clear targets, consistent policy and specific actions.

¹<https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/combined-cycle/magnolia-power-project>

4. Greater urgency is needed to avoid defeatism at the 2028 waypoint.
5. Hydrogen and “renewable” natural gas promotion are not carbon free resources.
6. Process and transparency need to be improved.

In regard to the Magnolia power plant, the OSP completely omits any discussion of the fact that Pasadena has a contract to receive carbon-emitting power from Magnolia until 2036, which is six years after the 2030 goal. This resource supplies PWP with 80,000 MWh annually, approximately 8% of PWP’s current retail sales – a huge number in the context of our decarbonization goals. No options are presented to address the Magnolia power plant issue, such as, terminating the existing contract, reassigning the contract to another party, examining alternative resources to replace the 14MW supply. The Magnolia gas plant is a large (310 MW capacity) combined-cycle gas plant located in Burbank and operated by Burbank Public Power.

According to the California Energy Commission, the Magnolia power plant is owned by the Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA)¹, which has been the main sourcing manager for PWP for imported electric power. PWP is on the Board of Directors of SCPPA. This month, October 2025, SCPPA voted to expand the Magnolia gas plant, upgrading its output by about 25% at a cost of \$80 million.

The OSP should state that PWP will seek to terminate or renegotiate the Magnolia contract to end by December 2030. We encourage full disclosure by PWP of the contract and its terms including any liquidated damages provision, the cost of termination and whether PWP can assign it to another party.

We ask for disclosure of whether PWP sought advice and consent from the City Manager and the City Council for taking on a financial liability as a SCPPA member for sharing the cost of expanding a gas plant. We would like PWP to make and disclose a plans to manage the inherent conflict of interest in being a board member for an organization whose major asset is a gas plant, while that organization is the primary manager of power sourcing for PWP. We encourage disclosure of the amount of any financial obligation of Pasadena to pay for the \$80 million expansion as a member of SCPPA.

Thank you for your attention to these concerns. Sierra Club looks forward to working with the City of Pasadena to reach their 2030 carbon-free goal.

Respectfully,
Julia Dowell
Senior Campaign Organizer
Sierra Club

¹<https://www.energy.ca.gov/powerplant/combined-cycle/magnolia-power-project>

Gao, Beilei

From: Liz Schiller
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 11:36 AM
To: Gao, Beilei
Subject: Fwd: OSP draft plan

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----- Forwarded message -----

From: Liz Schiller
Date: Wed, Nov 5, 2025 at 11:34 AM
Subject: OSP draft plan
To: <bgao@cityofpasaden.net>, Jess Rivas <jerivas@cityofpasadena.net>

To Councilmember Rivas and other members of the Municipal Services Committee:

I am writing to urge you to move forward with alacrity on the city's transition to 100% clean power, as mandated in Climate Emergency Resolution 9977, passed by the City Council almost three years ago.

Climate change is real, it is here, and it is already affecting Pasadena and its residents. There is no question about whether the weather conditions that led to the immense destruction of the Eaton Fire were a result of climate change.

I'm very grateful that the City Council passed this resolution and that staff and elected officials have been moving forward on this commitment. But we should be doing more and moving faster. My specific requests:

Please renegotiate the Magnolia gas contract so that it concludes in 2030.

Please lift barriers and add incentives for homeowners (and owners of commercial and multi-unit residential property!) to install rooftop solar, and long term storage batteries.

Please go faster on the installation of solar on public buildings, including libraries and fire stations, and long term storage. Please partner with PUSD to get solar installed on schools that have been closed.

I know that progress is happening, also slowly, on expanding and strengthening the safe transportation choices available in the city, and transitioning Pasadena Transit away from gas-powered vehicles. Please move us faster on the power side.

Sincerely,
Liz Schiller
Resident, District 5

Gao, Beilei

From: Ana Soulrivier
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 12:08 PM
To: Gao, Beilei; Lyon, Jason; Cole, Rick; Jones, Justin; Gordo, Victor; Hampton, Tyron; jrivas@cityofpasadena.com; Madison, Steve
Subject: Please Strengthen Pasadena's Power Plan for a Truly 100% Carbon-Free Future

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Dear Mayor and City Council Members,

I am writing as a Pasadena resident deeply concerned about our city's path to achieving 100% carbon-free electricity by 2030. As you review the new draft of Pasadena Water & Power's Power Resource Plan (OSP), I urge you to make sure the final version reflects the bold action that our climate crisis requires.

While I appreciate some improvements in the new draft, key commitments are still missing. Specifically:

1. **Magnolia Gas Plant:** The OSP delays any decision about Magnolia until the *end of 2030* — far too late to transition responsibly. Please ensure that Magnolia's status and emissions are included in all quarterly reports, and direct staff to clarify whether the existing contract has already expired or can be ended sooner. Transparency on this issue is essential.
2. **Local Solar + Storage:** Pasadena should move faster to install solar and battery storage on city buildings, schools, and parking lots. Identifying municipal sites should not take until 2026. The plan needs clear MW targets, timelines, and accountability to achieve the accelerated "local resources" portfolios outlined by E3.
3. **Residential Solar Incentives:** Rooftop solar is vital for resilience, equity, and local clean power. Please direct PWP to create real incentives, remove red tape, preserve NEM 1.0, and explore new models like rebates or low-interest solar loan programs so that residents can participate in Pasadena's clean energy transition.
4. **Reject False Solutions:** Renewable Natural Gas (RNG) and non-green hydrogen are not pathways to a carbon-free future. Let us focus instead on implementing the truly carbon-free portfolios and scaling up proven technologies like solar, storage, and demand reduction.

Pasadena has an opportunity to lead — to show that a city can transition to clean, local, resilient power that benefits everyone. I urge you to strengthen the OSP so it delivers on our 100% carbon-free goal in both spirit and practice.

Thank you for your service and your attention to this critical issue.

Sincerely,

Ana Soulrivier

Gao, Beilei

From: Fred Herrera
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 2:37 PM
To: Gao, Beilei
Subject: Clean energy.

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Please promote clean energy programs. Thank you and God Bless all of you!
Sent from my iPhone

Gao, Beilei

From: Nick Laushkin
Sent: Wednesday, November 5, 2025 4:16 PM
To: Gao, Beilei
Subject: Goal of carbon free by 2030

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As part of the three year cycle of getting to a workable plan to be carbon free by 2030 much progress has been made.

However, sometimes the remaining items need more help and input, as is typical for long range planning.

We, at Knox Church Sustainability team believe that adding more local solar is still highly important, along with battery. back up. Our recent solar installation, brought on this year for the church campus is an indication of our commitment to this goal.

We are supporters of Pasadena 100 comments, including on Glenarm. City and school campus solar. Also, to provide more complete adherence to the goal of carbon free on an hourly basis.

Pasadena is starting to become well positioned now to move ahead on solar, renewables and energy efficiency, with some additional visioning of what this can mean for our community.

Regards,

Nick Laushkin
Co-Chair Knox Sustainability