



925 S. Main Street
Lebanon, Oregon 97355

TEL: 541.258.4906
cdc@ci.lebanon.or.us
www.ci.lebanon.or.us

MEMORANDUM

Community Development

To: Mayor Jackola and City Council
From: Kelly Hart, Community Development Director
Subject: Solar Opportunities Work Session

Date: October, 2024

I. INTRODUCTION

As part of the city's continuing efforts to find additional cost savings and revenue opportunities, city staff has been evaluating the benefits of utilizing solar to offset electricity costs. The work session is intended to provide an overview of the city's current electricity cost burden, types of solar installations, and options for the council to consider.

II. CURRENT REPORT

On average, the city expends over \$800,000 annually across all funds for electricity, with the expected increase year over year based on utility rate increases set by the private utility companies.

At the mayor's request, staff began evaluating solar energy as a revenue generation concept. City staff has researched the types of solar installations, including commercial, utility-scale, and community solar. These types of solar installation, along with the cost-benefit analysis, potential locations, grant opportunities and tax credits, and cost savings, will be discussed at the October 23rd council meeting.

The goal of the discussion is to introduce the Council to the possible solar options for the city and to get direction on which option to pursue further. We are still in the initial phases of this concept, so additional research, site analysis, and assistance from consultants may be needed moving forward.

III. RECOMMENDED ACTION

Receive and file the report and provide staff with direction.