

PRESS RELEASE

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CHECK FOR \$113,238 PRESENTED TO THE CITY OF BENICIA FOR NET ENERGY METERING OF SOLAR PANELS

BENICIA – June 21, 2016. Tuesday night, the Benicia City Council received a check from Marin Clean Energy (MCE) in the amount of \$113, 238.64, which is payment for the excess solar energy sold to MCE from the City's solar panels. This result exceeds initial projections by more than \$53,000. The Council gave direction for the funds to be used to establish a replacement reserve and for ongoing operation and maintenance of the panels.

Community Development Director, Christina Ratcliff states, *“Currently, Operations and Maintenance for the City's solar facilities are about \$22,000 annually. The money given to the City will be a tremendous step forward in continuing to keep Benicia both economically and environmentally sustainable.”*

When the City joined MCE last year, the City's solar panels were added to the Net Energy Metering (NEM) program, which allowed the City to sell any excess solar energy to MCE. After the first annual solar true-up (when all credits and charges are reconciled), the first year's funds equaled \$113,238.64.
