



FACT SHEET

King County Parks Solar Energy

Overview

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Cost savings:

\$35,800 per year

Greenhouse gas savings:

229 metric tonnes of CO₂ per year

Partnerships/Grants:

WA Department of Commerce Clean Energy Fund, Seattle City Light

Project Summary: King County’s Parks Division installed 241kW of new solar in 2017 and 2018 on three heavily used facilities: 135kW on the King County Aquatic Center in Federal Way, 60kW on the Steve Cox Community Center in White Center, and 49kW on a Marymoor Park maintenance facility in Redmond. An additional 104 kW of solar was previously installed on the aquatic center in 2015.

King County Project: These combined systems are generating over 358,000 kWh each year, saving King County over \$35,800 in annual utility costs, and reducing regional CO₂ emissions by 229 metric tons equivalent each year. Utility savings, tax credits and annual solar production incentives are resulting in a 9 year simple payback for the 2017-2018 projects.

Detailed Description: The total \$919,000 cost was supported by a \$453,000 grant from the Washington State Department of Commerce’s Clean Energy Fund and a \$119,000 grant from Seattle City Light. The \$347,000 balance was funded by King County’s Fund to Reduce Energy Demand (FRED) program. The FRED program provides an internal loan for King County agencies to invest in energy efficiency or renewable electricity projects, with the savings used to repay the loan over a ten-year term. This program enables County agencies to overcome the need for up-front capital for investments that meet performance criteria.

Solar Panels on top of the King County Aquatic Center



This work is important; it aligns with the Joint County – City Climate Commitments to reduce dependence on fossil – fuel based energy sources, and it also supports the county – wide goals to reduce carbon emissions 80% from 2007 levels by 2050.



Through focused, coordinated action, we will maximize the impact of our individual and shared efforts.