



Perris Press Release

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Solar-Powered Bus Stops Come to Perris

The City of Perris, long-known and recognized for its commitment to renewable energy projects and policies, has approved construction of several state-of-the-art bus shelters powered by the sun.

Funding for the shelters totals \$75,000, which comes in the form of a grant to the City by the Riverside Transit Agency.

Planning Manager Clara Miramontes said the City has identified six locations with high ridership that would benefit from the new bus shelters.

The cost of each solar-powered bus stop is about \$17,000 while the cost of a traditional shelter ranges from \$7,000 to \$17,000. Miramontes said installing the new shelters helps "promote the City's goal to go green while providing better transit services to bus riders."

Work on the new shelters is expected to begin in about 60 days. Amrita Holden, senior managing partner of Greencrest Energy Solutions, the company working with Perris officials on the project, says the roofs of the shelters contain energy-absorbing panels. The panels collect the sun's energy, which lights the shelter and powers nearby traffic signals.

At night, stored energy is taken from a battery.

Perris one of two cities in Riverside County to make use of this type of shelter, Holden said. The other is Corona. She said the cost savings will be significant.

"The City will save not hundreds, but thousands of dollars in electricity costs per shelter," she said. "The sun is paying for that electricity."

Holden praised the City of Perris for once again taking the lead in energy conservation and sustainability.

"This is a City that is forward thinking and one that uses taxpayer money in a wise way," she said. "The City is doing something good, innovative and is ahead of the curve. It's providing solutions that are cutting edge. To me, it sends a powerful statement. Perris is leading the municipalities of California."

Perris Mayor Daryl Busch said the decision to install solar-powered bus shelters continues the commitment made several years ago to "go green" with sustainable energy.

Since then, Perris officials have installed solar panels on carports throughout the City, a project that earned Perris honors from the League of California Cities.

The City also fast-tracked construction on the HanesBrands Inc. distribution center, one of the largest green buildings in the world.

A solar-collection array atop the Whirlpool building is one of the largest in the U.S. Recently completed City projects, like the new Emergency Operations Center and Mercado Park Apartments, take advantage of solar panels and skylights. Busch said the City remains committed to sustainable energy projects.

"We continue to follow the path we embarked upon years ago," Busch said. "We will continue to do what we believe is best for the City of Perris and all our residents."

Perris City Councilman Mark Yarbrough said the solar-powered bus shelters represent "one more way of reducing energy costs while bringing innovation to our City."

"You would expect nothing less from the City of Perris," he said. "We are always looking for cutting-edge solutions to the challenges we face."



This bus stop near Webster Avenue and Morgan Street is being considered for a state-of-the-art solar-powered bus shelter.