



**CUPERTINO**

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## NEWS RELEASE

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### CUPERTINO “FLIPS THE SWITCH” ON RENEWABLE ENERGY

Cupertino, CA – At 4PM, on Wednesday, March 18, 2015, the City of Cupertino is “Flipping the Switch” on a newly constructed 103 kW solar carport at its Service Center, 10555 Mary Avenue, Cupertino. The City’s first municipal solar project is the first to go live of the 186 proposed [Regional Renewable Energy Procurement Project \(R-REP\)](#) systems within 19 Bay Area communities. The solar project is the first of many projects to help Cupertino achieve its greenhouse gas emissions goals in its recently adopted [Climate Action Plan](#).

Cupertino’s first solar canopy will generate enough electricity to offset 74% of the site’s energy use across three unique meters located at the Don Burnett Bicycle-Pedestrian Bridge and the Public Works Service Center, including a dual charging station for the City’s hybrid electric fleet vehicles. The solar installation will save the City approximately \$25,000 per year. The solar carport further delivers communitywide environmental benefits, by eliminating more than 115 tons of annual carbon dioxide emissions over the 25-year life of the system, equivalent to planting 95 acres of forest or removing 25 passenger vehicles from the road each year<sup>1</sup>.

“This solar facility enables Cupertino to join residents, businesses, our high school district, and community college in installing local solar so we can begin to address climate change through local actions that more sustainably serve our community and maintain our residents’ quality of life.” said Cupertino Mayor Rod Sinks.

For more information about the project please contact Erin Cooke at [erinc@cupertino.org](mailto:erinc@cupertino.org) or 408-777-7603. To learn more about the Regional Renewable Energy Procurement Project (R-REP), which was led by the County of Alameda, please visit [www.acgov.org/rrep/](http://www.acgov.org/rrep/).

#### About Cupertino

Cupertino, CA, is on the western edge of Silicon Valley against the foothills of the Santa Cruz Mountains. With a population of 60,000 within 13 square miles, Cupertino is 42 miles south of San Francisco and home to many high-tech companies, most notably Apple Inc.

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<sup>1</sup> Environmental Protection Agency. Greenhouse Gas Equivalencies Calculator. Accessed March 17<sup>th</sup>, 2015 via: <http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html>.