

City Council**Notice of Motion**

MM25.36	ACTION			Ward:22
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Supporting the Economy and the Environment through Rooftop Solar Panels - Lonsdale Road - by Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*

** This Motion is subject to referral to the Executive Committee. A two thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Josh Matlow, seconded by Councillor Mary-Margaret McMahon, recommends that:

1. City Council endorse and support the construction and operation of rooftop solar projects by BrightRoof Solar II LP at the following location in the City of Toronto under the Province of Ontario's Feed-In Tariff (FIT) Program:
 - a. 200 Lonsdale Road, Toronto.

Summary

BrightRoof Solar II LP (BrightRoof) is a developer and long-term owner of rooftop solar projects based in Toronto. BrightRoof has raised \$100 million of funding to invest in building rooftop solar projects in Ontario. The capital is provided by a large Canadian institutional infrastructure fund manager (Connor, Clark and Lunn Infrastructure).

BrightRoof currently has 1 project under development in Ward 22 under Ontario's Feed-In Tariff (FIT) program.

The Ontario Power Authority (OPA) has promulgated new rules which establish a point system to determine the priority for offering of FIT Contracts for rooftop solar projects. Points will be awarded to applications that have a Municipal Council Support Resolution from the municipality in which the project is located. Projects with more points will be more likely to receive FIT Contracts from the OPA.

A resolution from Toronto City Council endorsing and supporting BrightRoof's applications for FIT Contracts at the properties listed above would significantly help towards obtaining the OPA's approval for these projects. BrightRoof requests this resolution from Toronto City Council as soon as possible in order to meet the OPA's impending FIT application submission timelines.

The projects that BrightRoof is developing deliver significant benefits to the City of Toronto, including the following:

- Solar systems will provide 20 years of clean energy. On average, the systems BrightRoof is building in Toronto produce 400kW of power. A 400kW rooftop system will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 104 metric tonnes per year, equivalent to taking 19 cars off the road or planting 24 acres of forest.
- These solar systems produce clean energy locally, reducing the need for new transmission lines and/or large power generation facilities within the City of Toronto.
- Rooftop solar projects will help enhance the community's reputation for responsible environmental stewardship.
- Since these projects are on commercial rooftops, they do not occupy prime land (agricultural, industrial, commercial) that could be used for other purposes, are not visible from the street, and do not damage pristine views of the landscape.
- These systems will be built to municipal building codes with all plans stamped by an independent, third party structural engineer.
- Each project represents a significant capital investment into the property and the community. BrightRoof is investing approximately \$1.5 million into each rooftop solar project that it is building in Toronto, creating jobs for local tradespeople.
- The landlord of the property on which the rooftop solar project is built will receive rent from BrightRoof for 20 years.
- The income stream derived from the rooftop solar project (both rental income and investment returns) will increase the value of the property.

(Submitted to City Council on July 11 and 12, 2012 as Motion MM25.36)

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM25.36