

City of Wauwatosa Solar PV Proposal: Fire Stations and Hart Park Administration Building

September 23, 2025
Financial Affairs Committee Meeting



Wauwatosa's Sustainability Goals



Photo: Arch Electric

Clean Energy Commitments in Wauwatosa

*The goals of the **Energy Resolution** passed by Common Council in 2020 include:*

Source at least **25% of all energy** used for municipal operations from local renewable sources by 2025

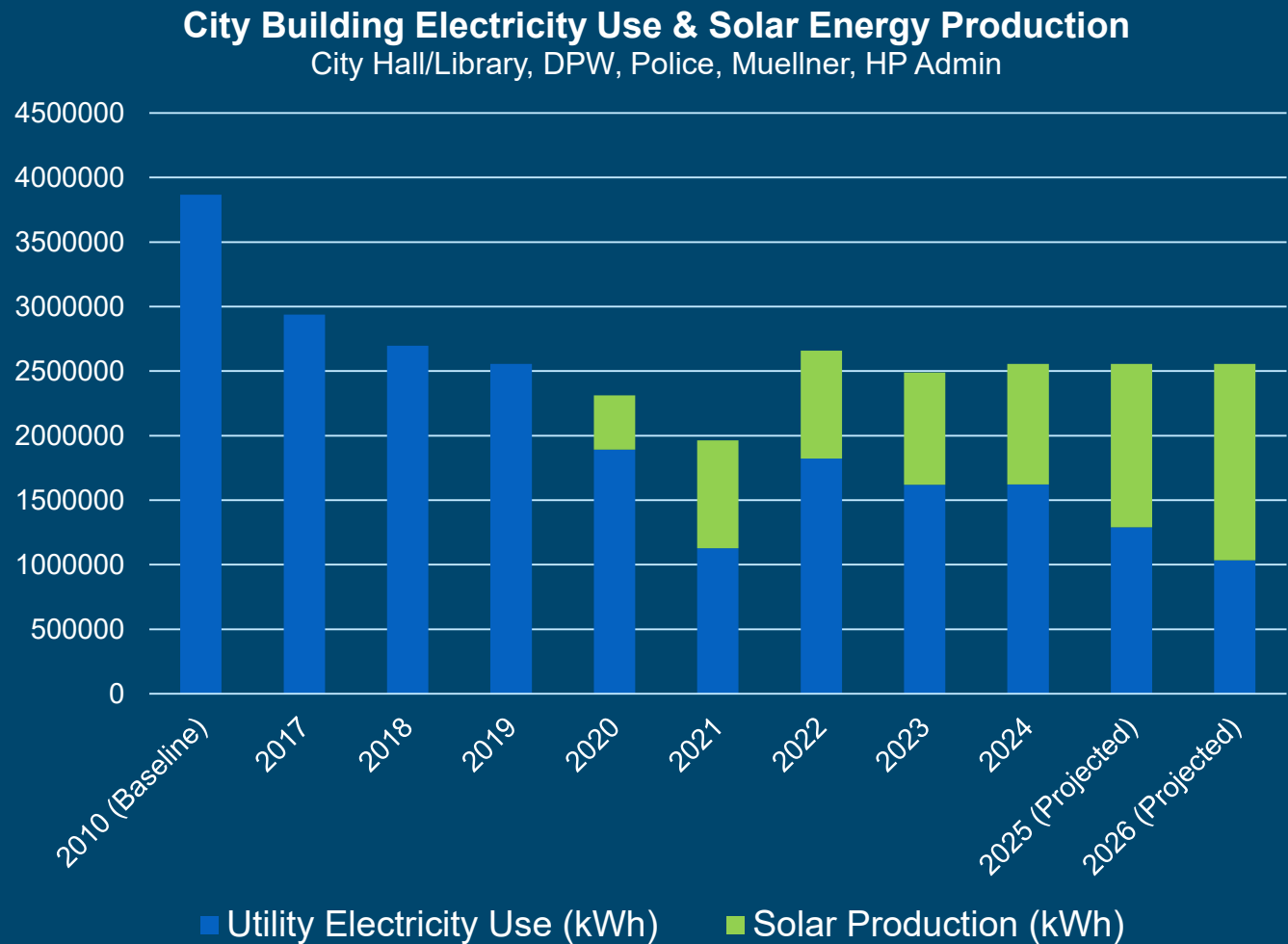
Reduce municipal greenhouse gas emissions **50%** by 2030

Achieve **community-wide carbon neutrality** by 2050

Renewable Energy | GHG Emissions Reduction and Cost Savings

Wauwatosa has already seen **energy and cost savings from existing rooftop solar installations** on the City Hall and Library building, Department of Public Works, Police Station, and Muellner Buildings, as well as other facilities like the Potter Road Pumping Station and Firefly Grove Park.

Adding solar photovoltaic systems to Fire Station 51, Fire Station 52, Fire Station 53, Fire Training Building, and Hart Park Administration Building would be a **significant achievement for the City with on-site renewable energy on all solar-feasible municipal facilities.**



Solar PV Project Proposal – Arch Electric

	Fire Station 51	Fire Station 52	Fire Station 53	Fire Training Building	Hark Park Admin
Arch Electric Project Cost	\$212,034.00	\$131,353.00	\$146,571.00	\$34,749.00	\$60,084.00
Federal Credit*	(\$63,610.20)	(\$39,405.90)	(\$43,971.30)	(\$10,424.70)	(\$18,025.20)
Focus on Energy Incentive	(\$5,002.00)	(\$2,691.00)	(\$3,393.00)	(\$643.50)	(\$1,122.00)
Net City Cost	\$143,421.80	\$89,526.10	\$99,206.70	\$23,680.80	\$40,936.80
Annual Elec. Savings (Yr 1)**	(\$11,538)	(\$7,490)	(\$10,056.00)	(\$1,206)	(\$3,232)
Payback Period	11.1 years	10.7 years	9 years	16.5 years	11.3 years
Array Size (kW)	100.04	53.82	67.86	12.87	22.44
Electricity Use Covered	36.99%	100%	93.85%	100%	59.63%

Total Project Summary

Project Cost:	\$584,791.00
Federal Credits*:	(\$175,437.30)
Focus Incentives:	(\$12,851.50)
Net City Cost:	\$396,502.20
Annual Electricity Savings (Year 1)**:	(\$33,522.00)
Solar PV Size:	257.39 kW
Elec. Use Covered (across 5 buildings):	59%
Warranty	25 years

**The end-date for IRA Clean Energy Investment Tax Credits has been accelerated with the passing of OBBBA/HR1. The City of Wauwatosa will need to commence construction on remaining solar projects by the end of 2025 to receive these credits.*

***Annual savings calculated from 12-month historical energy usage and current electricity rates, savings are expected to increase with approved utility rate increases*

Why Now?



Photo: Hart Park Muellner Building

The **federal budget bill (OBBBA/HR1)**, effective July 4, 2025, made **significant changes** to the Clean Energy Investment Tax Credits that provide 30% of solar photovoltaic project costs to municipalities and other public entities through the elective pay mechanism.

While solar would still be cost saving measure for the City over the life of the system without federal funding, there is an **opportunity for substantial savings (over \$175,000) through meeting these accelerated deadlines.** Additionally, PSC-approved electricity rate increases will drive up utility costs again next year, increasing taxpayer savings with on-site renewable energy generation.

In order to remain eligible for federal Clean Energy Investment Tax Credits without supply chain restrictions, **commercial solar installations must commence construction before January 1, 2026.**