

October 22, 2024
City Council Meeting

Written Public Comments

General Public Comment

Jennifer Connally

From: Janice Brownfield ·
Sent: Monday, October 21, 2024 5:36 PM
To: City Council Public Comment
Subject: Public Comment Non-Agenda Item

Help spread the news! Rebates and tax credits up to \$8,000 and \$14,000 are becoming available to improve our homes and slash our energy bills through the federal Inflation Reduction Act, under which the California Energy Commission is launching the Home Efficiency Rebates (HOMES) and the Home Electrification and Appliance Rebates (HEEHRA). California plans to allocate 60% of its HOMES funding to low-income residents; low- to moderate-income households are eligible for HEEHRA.

Installing a heat pump, which replaces a heating, ventilation and air conditioning system, can provide a rebate up to \$8,000 and is cheaper to use in the long run. Electrifying home appliances such as replacing a gas flame stove with a magnetic induction stove, which cooks faster, is cheap to maintain, won't contribute to indoor air pollution that can cause asthma, can also provide a rebate of \$840.

The IRA is designed to address atmospheric pollution, unlocking \$8.8 billion for homeowners to save on the latest technologies while also improving our health and environment by cooling the air we breathe. We continue to breathe "poor" and, even worse, "unhealthy" air contributed to by hot weather and fossil fuel emissions. Summer is over, but air quality alerts are still warning us to limit outdoor time because of the danger to our health. Taking advantage of these incentives will help provide a cleaner and healthier future for generations to come.

Weatherizing a home is estimated to save households at least \$372 annually and provides \$1,600 in rebates for low- to moderate-income households. Air-sealing around windows with caulking or weather stripping will keep moisture out and improve interior air quality. Upgrading home insulation and improving ventilation can also reduce heating and cooling costs while reducing energy waste. Energy-efficient heating and cooling systems make inside air healthier while limiting exposure to harmful air pollution.

The nonprofit Rewiring America can assist in accessing the rebates, showing how much can be saved on electric appliance upgrades, eligibility for tax incentives, and finding contractors to install the new appliances. Edison offers income-qualified homeowners and renters savings assistance with energy-efficient home improvements and appliances. Sharing this information with the residents of Orange, your constituents, can help improve the air quality for all of us.

City Council

Meeting Time: 10-22-24 18:00

eComments Report

Meetings	Meeting Time	Agenda Items	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
City Council	10-22-24 18:00	29	3	3	0	0

City Council

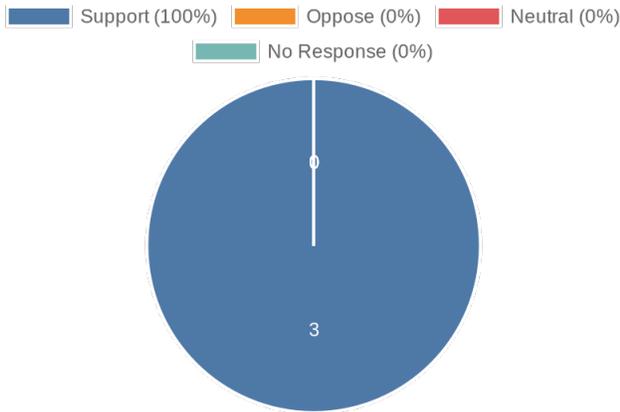
10-22-24 18:00

Agenda Name	Comments	Support	Oppose	Neutral
2. PUBLIC COMMENTS At this time, members of the public may address the Council on matters not listed on the agenda within the subject matter jurisdiction of the City Council, provided that NO action may be taken on off-agenda items unless authorized by law. Public Comments are limited to three (3) minutes per speaker unless a different time limit is announced.	3	3	0	0

Agenda Item: eComments for 2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

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Overall Sentiment



Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 4:17pm 10-22-24

Hello Mayor Slater and Councilmembers,

I urge you to authorize a feasibility study with the Orange County Power Authority so that Orange residents have more choice in where they get their energy. OCPA Basic Choice is currently cheaper than SoCal Edison's rates, which are only slated to increase by 42% in the next five years. SoCal Edison's monopoly status has cost residents dearly: nearly 17% of SCE customers are behind by an average of \$978 on their bills. By joining OCPA, Orange can return local control over our energy, and bring back funding to the city that would otherwise be lost to shareholders. Costa Mesa and Stanton have already authorized feasibility studies, and Fountain Valley has voted to join the agency. Please bring energy choice to Orange by agendizing a feasibility study!

Tomas Castro
Co-Leader, Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) OC Central Chapter

Guest User

Location:
Submitted At: 12:17pm 10-22-24

PUBLIC COMMENT in support of allowing OCPA to produce a FREE feasibility study.

To Mayor Slater and City Councilmembers,

I am writing this letter to express support for the City of Orange opting into Orange County Power Authority Community Choice Aggregation program. Community Choice Aggregation programs give residential and commercial electricity customers the choice to select the amount of renewable energy they want. Giving

community members the option to contribute to a cleaner energy future is an important step in advancing sustainability in the City of Orange.

Right now, we can take all of the individual steps to stop using greenhouse gas (GHG) producing products but if we live in Orange, we cannot control our electricity source so we are stuck with electricity produced with a fair amount of dirty energy. Not everyone can put up solar panels on their housing and add batteries to capture it when the sun is not shining so we are stuck consuming GHG generating products. We need an option to help our residents breath cleaner air and stop adding to the GHGs that are warming our planet.

The OCPA has come to talk to council and I heard nothing in their presentation or the dialog with the councilmembers that would seem like a barrier to preventing the council from moving forward.

PLEASE allow the OCPA to do a free feasibility study!

The more you know, the more you will see that this is a win-win for the city's budget crisis, the air in our city and the planet overall.

Thank you for reading this and hopefully taking an important step forward to bring a clean electricity option to Orange.

Suzanne Tani, Orange Resident and member of the Orange Sustainability Group

Guest User

Location:

Submitted At: 12:04pm 10-22-24

I ask for the City Council to express its intent to explore membership with Orange County Power Authority (OCPA) and authorize the city manager to sign a non-disclosure agreement with SCE so that they can access their electric load data. This action toward cheap, safe, and healthy renewable energy is critical for protecting our way of life in Orange for ourselves and our future generations. Jill Hargis, Orange resident