



C I T Y O F
RENO
Memorandum

DATE: July 9, 2026

TO: Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Jackie Bryant, City Manager

FROM: Suzanne Groneman, Environmental Services Manager
Cynthia Esparza, Director

DEPT: Community Engagement & Services

SUBJECT: Moana Springs Community Aquatics and Fitness Center Solar Project

As part of the Moana Springs Community Aquatics and Fitness Center design process, the City proactively incorporated infrastructure and design considerations to accommodate a future photovoltaic system (solar) to support long-term operational efficiency and sustainability goals. This memorandum is intended to provide a summary of the solar project's process and next steps.

Project Proposal Process

An Energy Performance Contract (EPC) is a project delivery and financing mechanism authorized under Nevada law that allows local governments to implement energy efficiency, renewable energy, water conservation, and related infrastructure improvements through a guaranteed energy savings model. EPCs are commonly used to modernize public facilities while leveraging operational savings and external funding sources.

Pursuant to Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 332.351 to 332.360, the City issued a Request for Proposals (RFP) to eligible Energy Service Companies (ESCOs) listed and maintained by the State of Nevada. Following an evaluation process, Ameresco was selected.

Project Funding

The project cost is \$1,598,000 and will be paid for by three sources:

1. Community Project Funding (CPF) through HUD for \$800,000. Council adopted the CPF grant on July 26, 2023.

2. Investment Tax Credit (ITC) Direct Payment for \$758,813. The federal government gave this credit for completing the solar and battery storage project at the Public Safety Center. The ITC Direct Pay allows tax-exempt organizations and government entities to receive a cash refund from the IRS for installing clean energy projects.
3. Green Energy Fund for \$40,000. This fund is City-maintained and uses rebates and incentives received from clean energy and energy efficiency projects to fund new projects.

Project Timeline

Past	
Early 2025	Request for Proposals (RFP) issued to qualified ESCOs pursuant to NRS 332.351–332.360.
June 2025	Ameresco (and others) submitted an initial EPC proposal for consideration by the City. Ameresco was notified of selection on July 22, 2025.
February 2026	Ameresco completed and submitted the Investment Grade Audit (IGA), which refined project scope, costs, and projected savings.
Current and Future	
June 2026	Staff requested the draft Energy Performance Contract from Ameresco.
July 2026	Staff anticipates bringing the IGA and Energy Performance Contract to Council.
August 2026 to February 2027	Final project completion timelines remain dependent upon approval of the IGA and final project scope; however, implementation is currently estimated to require approximately six (6) months following project authorization.
Federal Deadline	The project must be complete by December 31, 2027, to be eligible for the federal tax credit (direct pay).