

## Future of Energy Conference Notes

### Creating a sense of momentum toward a united effort for sustainability

- Now is the perfect time to reexamine your business model regarding power, partnerships, and possibilities.
- Addressing energy needs through choice-based models while encouraging local “green” business development is economically sound, environmentally responsible, and the right thing to do.
- At a time when citizens feel:
  - There is little they can do to affect the economy
  - Nothing they can do to control their circumstances
  - And no one of authority who actually cares about them
- It is our onus as community leaders to change all this.
- Empower your citizens.
- Show them that you support sustainability.
- Open doors you’ve never opened and genuinely invest in the future of your community.
- Think “yes” before you say “no.”
- Do something different to grow your local economy and gain buy-in from your constituents.
- When the City of Lancaster forms public/private partnerships, we examine more than their ability to add jobs and increase local revenue streams.
- We carefully consider the economic and environmental ripple effect each partnership will have. (i.e., KB Homes and Build Your Dreams)
- We can do this because local government calls the shots at the city and regional levels.
- Our decisions take effect in a matter of days ... hours ... minutes.
- And our communities reap the benefits in a matter of days, not years.
- Owning this type of power and influence — and utilizing it for the betterment of one’s community — takes courage.
- It takes a willingness to absorb the hits from naysayers.
- Lancaster took the risks, endured the flack, learned from our mistakes, and embraced every success as an opportunity to ignite several more.
- We don’t have unlimited resources to wager and lose.
- We **do** have leaders brave enough to let staff do their jobs and staff smart enough to use our resources in the most creatively efficient manner possible.
- What are you brave enough to do for your community?

- Can you nurture growth, encourage innovation, embrace new technology, and advocate for a healthier community?
- Do you?
- If your answer is “no” to any of these ...
  - Stop cowering behind tradition and succumbing to the old ways of doing things.
  - Great things come from taking risks.
  - Lancaster has formed its own power authority (LPA) and joint powers authority (CCEA).
  - We have embarked on a journey to achieve Net Zero status.
  - We have traveled internationally to establish a presence among alternative energy leaders worldwide.
  - We have initiated partnerships to propel our sustainability agenda forward (Beautiful Earth Group, Topco, eSolar, KB Home, BYD, SunPower, Solar City, and more).
  - We implemented the Solar Lancaster program, among other energy initiatives, which has resulted in:
    - Lancaster being ranked as the number one City per capita in Megawatts installed, with two of the top five solar-energy-producing zip codes in the State.
    - \$470,000 in Annual Electricity Savings
    - More than 32,000 Solar Panel Installations at Local Schools
    - 2,070 Single Family Residence Solar Permits
    - 215 megawatts City’s Peak Load
    - 52 Percent of City’s Peak Demand
    - More than 1,000 Local Jobs Created
    - 355 megawatts of Photovoltaic Power in Total (Completed, Under Construction, Approved – pending construction, and Under Review)
- If a mid-sized desert community recovering from the same economic crisis as the rest of this country can achieve these results:
  - Imagine what your community is capable of with its resources
  - Imagine what we can accomplish nationally with a cohesive charge toward sustainability
- Through bold leadership, we can change seemingly disparate and challenging efforts into a vast united front, unshaken by the waning cries of green climate antagonists.
- Bold leadership will change your life, the lives of those you work with, and the lives of those you lead.
- Be an advocate for positive change, and join me in creating a sustainable world community.