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## **GoSolarSF Program Pays for Itself, Boosts Property Values**

*Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting's Analysis Demonstrates Another Benefit  
to Fully-Funding GoSolarSF*

**[San Francisco, CA]** – Assessor-Recorder Phil Ting today announces solar energy units installed on City homes – the outcome GoSolarSF was created to achieve – boosts the value of those homes by an average of approximately \$18,000 and that the program more than pays for itself as a result of the additional property tax revenue generated from increased home prices.

There are currently 2,331 homes in San Francisco with solar photovoltaic (PV) systems and these homes will generate an additional \$14.6 million in property tax revenue over the next 30 years, according to analysis done by the Assessor-Recorder's office. Since GoSolarSF began in 2007, the City has spent only \$13 million to incentivize the installation of solar energy systems on homes and buildings.

“The GoSolarSF program was developed to increase the number of solar rooftops in San Francisco and make our city a global leader in green technology, and by this measure the program has been a tremendous success,” says Assessor-Recorder Ting. “The fact that going solar increases home values and the program pays for itself is further evidence the City needs to continue its commitment to GoSolarSF and fully-fund it.”

To arrive at the \$18,000 premium solar houses sell for – and the subsequent property tax revenue the City will collect as a result – the Assessor-Recorder's office is utilizing an April 2011 study by Lawrence Berkeley National Labs which shows California houses with solar energy systems sell for a premium ranging from \$3.90 to \$6.40 per watt of installed PV. The average size of a PV system from the Lawrence Berkeley Lab study is 3,100 watts.

The Assessor-Recorder's analysis for San Francisco documents a \$5.00 per watt premium and an average PV system size of 2,700 watts.

In 2002, San Francisco set a goal of 10,000 homes and buildings with solar energy systems. Reaching the goal of 10,000 homes with PV systems would yield \$58.7 million in additional property tax revenue over 30 years.



In addition to the 2,331 solar homes in San Francisco, there are 154 commercial buildings with solar energy systems as of March 2011.

The overall tax revenue Assessor-Recorder Ting is projecting will be generated in today's announcement will no doubt be higher because commercial buildings were not included in the analysis.

Studies on the increase to property values a solar energy system provides a commercial building has yet to be conducted.

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