



Community solar projects will help cut carbon emissions

Developing our renewable energy sources is one way we can help curb global climate change, whose effects we're already seeing: from higher temperatures and rising sea levels to more powerful hurricanes and flooding.

That's why I introduced a zoning change that the County Council unanimously approved in May that will allow community solar projects in the county.

These solar installations will be able generate up to 2 megawatts of electricity, enough to power 200 homes. Other counties, such as Prince George's, Baltimore and Anne Arundel, already have approved as many as 38 community solar projects under new state regulations.

These projects have many benefits:

- They allow people who want to use solar energy but can't have their own rooftop panels to become part of the green economy and save money on their electric bills. Many residents want to use solar power but can't because their roofs are too shaded by trees, or they live in condos or apartments.
- Each 2MW project is the equivalent of getting 310 passenger vehicles off the road and preventing more than 5 million pounds of carbon from entering the atmosphere annually.
- Each project will generate 75 to 100 temporary and permanent jobs, \$300,000 in personal property tax and up to \$4 million in private investment.

More information is here: <https://bit.ly/2t6N1ky>