



CITY OF BOSTON • MASSACHUSETTS

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR
THOMAS M. MENINO

October 25, 2010

TO THE CITY COUNCIL

Dear Councilors:

I hereby transmit for your approval an order reducing building permit fees for the construction of solar photovoltaic systems in Boston.

The City continues to be a national leader in renewable energy policy including the City's Solar Boston initiative and the 2007 designation by the U.S. Department of Energy as an inaugural Solar America City. By eliminating the costs of photovoltaic panels and inverters from the calculation of building permit fees, we can further advance our 25 megawatt solar goal by the year 2015, stimulate our local green economy, and create good paying green jobs.

I urge your Honorable Body to adopt this order as soon as possible.

Sincerely,

Thomas M. Menino
Mayor of Boston

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING BUILDING PERMITTING FEES FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF SOLAR PHOTOVOLTAIC SYSTEMS

WHEREAS, Renewable energy, and solar energy in particular, can significantly contribute to the City's climate action strategy, energy independence, and green economic development goals; and,

WHEREAS, The City has been a national leader in developing and implementing renewable energy policy including the City's Solar Boston initiative, the 2007 designation by the U.S Department of Energy as an inaugural Solar America City, green building zoning (Boston Zoning Code, Article 37), and wind energy zoning (Boston Zoning Code, Article 88); and,

WHEREAS, The Mayor Thomas M Menino has set a goal of increasing the installed capacity of solar to 25 megawatts by 2015 in an effort to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, stimulate our local green economy, and create jobs; and,

WHEREAS, Building permit fees that are charged based on the high costs of solar panels and other photovoltaic system components can impede the development of a robust solar energy installation market in the City; and,

WHEREAS, It is in the in the interest of the City of Boston to encourage residents and businesses to install solar photovoltaic systems;

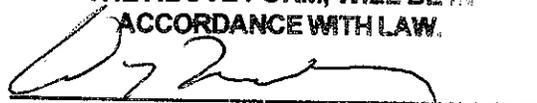
NOW THEREFORE,

Be it ordained by the City Council of Boston, as follows that the City of Boston Code be amended by adding the following ordinance:

Section 1. CBC Chapter XVIII (Fees and Charges) is hereby amended in section 18-1.2 (27) by inserting after the first sentence:--

"Effective immediately upon passage and through December 31, 2020, the fair cost of work for the construction of a solar photovoltaic system shall exclude the cost of all solar panels and inverters. All other fees and installation permits are still applicable "

**I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT
THE FOREGOING, IF PASSED IN
THE ABOVE FORM, WILL BE IN
ACCORDANCE WITH LAW.**


WILLIAM F. SINNOTT
CORPORATION COUNSEL *SPN*