



February 4, 2016

## **ONE NEW YORK: WORKING FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOODS SOLAR POWER IN NYC**

Mayor de Blasio has made a major commitment to reducing citywide greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050, including by retrofitting every public building by 2025. Solar energy capacity on city government buildings has increased seven-fold since the Mayor took office. The Mayor recently announced that the City will increase that capacity five-fold over the next three years.

### **Details**

- There are now 4.97 megawatts of solar energy capacity installed on City buildings. An additional 19 megawatts of solar energy capacity will be added to government buildings by the end of 2018. These 24 megawatts are enough to power more than 1,700 homes, the emissions reduction equivalent of taking 4,000 cars off the road.
- Aiding this effort are purchasing agreements bringing solar paneling to 88 City-owned buildings – including 66 schools, Bellevue Hospital, and the Queens Museum. Thirty-five buildings owned by the City are currently fitted with solar paneling – including City Hall.
- The Mayor’s progress puts the City on track to meet its goal of generating 100 megawatts of renewable energy on public buildings by 2025. The Mayor is ultimately looking to power the entirety of City government with renewable energy, and he has committed to reducing citywide greenhouse gas emissions 80% by 2050.
- Building solar energy capacity provides savings to taxpayers by reducing the amount of energy that needs to be purchased from the grid. The City has already identified \$1.2 million in annual taxpayer savings from solar panels already installed at public facilities.
- In addition to adding solar energy capacity to public buildings, private solar energy installations have more than doubled since Mayor de Blasio took office. The City recently

cut solar permitted red tape to further speed these efforts, and launched the Retrofit Accelerator to help building owners go green.

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