



MEMORANDUM

TO: Mayor and City Council

THROUGH: Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager *JF*

FROM: Stuart Reilly, Interim General Manager *SR*

DATE: June 23, 2025

SUBJECT: **Commercial Demand Response Update to City Council Resolution 20240404-039**

On April 4, 2024, City Council approved [Resolution No. 20240404-039](#), directing the City Manager to enroll all appropriate City of Austin buildings into Austin Energy's Commercial Demand Response Program. As Austin Energy enters into summer Demand Response season, this memo provides an update on the City of Austin's implementation of steps necessary to enroll as many government facilities as possible into Austin Energy's Commercial Demand Response Program.

Demand Response refers to the request that Austin Energy makes to customers to reduce electric usage when the need on the electric grid is greatest. The Austin Energy Resource, Generation and Climate Protection Plan to 2035 calls for achieving 270 MW of Demand Response by 2035, with a stretch goal of striving for 470 MW by 2035.

Austin Energy worked directly with relevant staff across departments to enroll facilities and provide guidance for participation in the program. Prior to this effort, 41 City of Austin facilities participated, and we have added 154 suitable buildings. This total of 195 City of Austin buildings now enrolled in Austin Energy's Commercial Demand Response Program results in an estimated demand response potential of 6.372 MW if all buildings are able participate in a Demand Response event when called.

Throughout the Demand Response season from June to September, facility contacts will be notified prior to each event, and facility personnel will curtail energy usage during the event timeframe via an online platform. City departments will receive an end-of-season scorecard showcasing each facility's performance and estimated incentive earned for that season. Austin Energy will provide support by scheduling annual coaching opportunities to assist with strategy improvements and by offering training for department personnel.

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In addition, Resolution No. 20240404-039 directed the City Manager to engage all government entities with buildings in the Austin Energy service area for potential enrollment in Demand Response. To date, another 100 government accounts are currently contributing 1.8 MW to the Demand Response program, including Travis County, State of Texas, and federal government facilities.

If you have any questions, please contact Richard Genece, Vice President, Customer Energy Solutions, at (512) 322-6327 or richard.genece@austinenergy.com.

cc: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Jon Fortune, Deputy City Manager
Erika Brady, City Clerk
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