A Resolution of the City of Plano, Texas to authorize participation in the Solar Ready II Project and adoption of Solar Energy Best Management Practices and providing a repealer clause, a severability clause and an effective date.

**FINANCIAL SUMMARY**

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**COMMENTS:** This item has no fiscal impact.

Strategic Plan Goal: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Plano, Texas to authorize participation in the Solar Ready II Project and adoption of Solar Energy Best Management Practices relates to the city’s Goal of a Financially Strong City with Service Excellence and a Safe Large City.

**SUMMARY OF ITEM**

Authorizes participation in the Solar Ready II Project and adopts Best Management Practices
Date: February 24, 2015

To: Bruce D. Glasscock, City Manager
    Frank Turner, Deputy City Manager

From: Selso Mata, Chief Building Official

Subject: Solar Ready II – Solar Energy BMP

On January 22, 2015, The North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board approved a resolution endorsing the goal of the Solar Ready II initiative to achieve measurable improvements in market conditions for solar photovoltaics across the North Texas region.

For the past two years, COG staff and regional solar stakeholders have been working to evaluate and develop solar energy Best Management Practices (BMP) and develop solar energy policies that accommodate growth of new innovative technologies such as solar energy.

Plano’s adoption of solar BMP’s as part of this regional effort and participation will achieve workable solutions, conserve resources, and support efforts to attain ozone standards.

Please let me know if you need additional information.
A Resolution of the City of Plano, Texas to authorize participation in the Solar Ready II Project and adoption of Solar Energy Best Management Practices and providing a repealer clause, a severability clause and an effective date.

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has designated the ten-county area of Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall, Tarrant, and Wise Counties as a moderate nonattainment area under the 2008 8-hour ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards, which may require additional significant emissions reductions; and,

WHEREAS, emissions inventories from the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality indicate that in 2018, approximately five percent of ozone-forming nitrogen oxides emissions in the Dallas-Fort Worth (DFW) ozone nonattainment area are expected to be attributable to Electric Utility Point sources; and,

WHEREAS, increases in the amount of electricity generated by low-emitting, renewable energy sources, such as solar energy, have the potential to help reduce emissions that lead to ozone formation, improve the reliability of the Texas electrical grid, and facilitate more sound local energy reliability in cases of natural disaster or preparedness planning; and,

WHEREAS, the North Central Texas Council of Governments (NCTCOG), in partnership with the National Association of Regional Councils, the Mid-America Regional Council, Meister Consultants Group, the Council of State Governments, and other regional planning agencies, is administering the Solar Ready II project in the DFW area; and,

WHEREAS, the goal of the Solar Ready II project is to achieve measurable improvements in market conditions for solar photovoltaic (PV) across the region by providing local government representatives with information and best management practices (BMPs) that will enable local government policies and processes to be updated in a way that accommodates growth of new, innovative technologies, such as solar energy; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PLANO, TEXAS THAT:

Section I. The City of Plano endorses the goal of the Solar Ready II initiative and will participate in the preparation of policy and market changes associated with growth in solar PV deployment.

Section II. The City of Plano will join ongoing discussions with other partners regarding implementation of solar BMPs in the DFW region.

Section III. The City of Plano will review current permitting and planning processes and consider revising and adopting solar BMPs, including regional products developed in the Solar Ready II project or other solar initiatives, as appropriate.

Section IV. The City of Plano will strive to notify the NCTCOG of changes made with regard to solar permitting and planning processes to help inform further regional coordination.
Section V. All provisions of the Resolutions of the City of Plano in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution are hereby repealed, and all other provisions of the Resolutions of the City of Plano not in conflict with the provisions of this Resolution shall remain in full force and effect.

Section VI. It is the intention of the City Council that this Resolution, and every provision hereof, shall be considered severable, and the invalidity or unconstitutionality of any section, clause, provision, or portion of this Resolution shall not affect the validity or constitutionality of any other portion of this Resolution.

Section VII. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

DULLY PASSED AND APPROVED this the 17th day of March, 2015.

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Harry LaRosilliere, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Lisa C. Henderson, CITY SECRETARY

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

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Paige Mims, CITY ATTORNEY