



# **PRESS RELEASE**

**Office of the City Manager**

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**For Immediate Release**

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## ***The City of Saratoga Makes Greater Strides Toward Energy Efficiency***

Saratoga, CA. On September 12, 2012 at 4:00 p.m., the City of Saratoga will host a ribbon cutting ceremony celebrating the installation of the solar roof panels at the Saratoga Library and eight electrical vehicle charging stations throughout Saratoga. By leveraging resources, the City has been able to implement sustainable features to reduce both its green house gas (GHG) emissions and its operational costs.

“Our investment in the Saratoga Library Solar Panel is another example of the City taking cost-effective steps by using capital dollars to lower operational costs,” said Mayor Chuck Page. “I also believe that the electrical vehicle chargers at the Village are a great feature, especially as the Village becomes more visible as a visitor destination in the Bay Area.”

In April 2012, the City contracted with Central California Solar Electric in the amount of \$220,000 to install solar panels on the Saratoga Library roof. The contract included installing a new roof for the solar panels and tying the solar system into the City’s power meter. The solar panels supply energy for the electrical vehicle chargers and parking lot lights at the library and the well and irrigation pumping system at Heritage Orchard. The project was paid for by the remaining renovation funds for the Saratoga Library.

In June 2012, the City installed a total of eight charging stations throughout Saratoga. Of the eight stations, six were given to the City at no cost by Coulomb Technology’s ChargePoint America Program. The Program is partially funded by a federal grant administered by the Department of Energy as part of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act. The City paid Coulomb Technology, Inc \$7,855 for an additional dual charging station for the Saratoga Library parking lot. The City paid REJ Electric Company, a certified installer for Coulomb Technology, Inc, \$50,312.96 for the installation of all eight electrical vehicle chargers.

The chargers have been placed at four different locations throughout the City. Two dual EV chargers were installed at the City Hall parking lot and another dual charger was installed at the Saratoga Library Parking lot. The two remaining single EV chargers were installed at the Village Parking District 3: one at 14493 Big Basin Way, and the other at 14413 Big Basin Way. The location of the electric vehicle chargers depended on available power source and currently, the Village Parking District does not provide adequate power for additional chargers.

Other recent sustainable efforts the City has completed in the last year include the solar roof installation at the City's Corporation Yard, smart irrigation controls at City Parks, and the purchase of hybrid city fleet vehicles.

Mayor Page is available for comments and is reachable by mobile phone at (408) 839-9555.

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