



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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Contact: Saki Indakwa  
281-725-3246  
[saki.indakwa@fortbendcountytexas.org](mailto:saki.indakwa@fortbendcountytexas.org)  
Contact: Ben Delman  
202-888-3602  
[ben@solarunitedneighbors.org](mailto:ben@solarunitedneighbors.org)

**Ft Bend County Commissioner Dexter L. McCoy Teams Up with  
Local Non-Profit Solar Co-Op to Help Residents Save Energy and Money**

***Great Earth Day photo opportunity with Commissioner McCoy and representatives from the solar co-op at Harvest Green Farmer's Market located at 8939 Harlem Rd, Richmond, TX 77406 today at noon***

**Richmond, Texas, April 22, 2023** – Fort Bend County Commissioner, Precinct 4 Dexter L. McCoy is collaborating with local non-profit [Solar United Neighbors \(SUN\)](#), to announce a newly created solar co-op serving central Fort Bend County. The Richmond Solar Co-op can help individuals and businesses partner to meet the communities shared energy needs, receive bulk discounts, while helping to improve air quality, reduce greenhouse gas emissions, and mitigate climate change

“Our electricity rates in Texas are among the highest in the country, and solar panels can reduce monthly costs. I am committed to combating the climate crisis and believe that the Richmond Solar Co-op will help expand clean energy in Fort Bend County,” said Fort Bend County Commissioner, Precinct 4 Dexter L. McCoy. “I am willing to do my part to help make energy more sustainable for our families and businesses while lowering carbon emissions and ensuring reliability and affordability.”

The co-op is free to join and open to homeowners and business owners in the central Fort Bend area. Joining the co-op is not a commitment to purchase panels. Once the group is large enough, it will solicit competitive bids from area solar installers.

Co-op members will select a single company to complete all of the installations. They will then have the option to purchase panels individually based on the installer’s group rate.

Together, we’re building a movement to transform our electricity system into one that is cleaner, fairer, and shares its benefits more broadly,” said Dori Wolfe, Houston area program coordinator for Solar United Neighbors. “

Partnering on the co-op are [Houston Renewable Energy Group](#), [Texas Interfaith Power & Light](#), [Houston Electric Vehicle Association](#), [Sierra Club Houston](#), and [Citizens’ Climate Lobby Houston](#).



As the President of Houston Electric Vehicle Association Dave Hanson says, “What could be better than driving on sunshine!”

“If you would like to have a cleaner electricity grid and help reduce carbon emissions to address climate change, one of the best steps you can take is to install roof-top solar,” according to Frank Blake of the Sierra Club Houston chapter.

“All faiths emphasize a human responsibility to care for the earth we all share. Using renewable energy, like solar panels, is one way we can care for our common home,” offers Lisa Brenskelle, team lead for the local chapter of Texas Interfaith Power & Light.

SUN has hosted 16 solar co-ops in Texas since 2018. According to the group’s estimates, the 257 homes and businesses that now have solar panels because of co-ops represent: 2,340 thousand kW of solar power, \$7.4 million in local solar spending, and more than 67.3 million lbs. of lifetime carbon offsets.

SUN will host several free information sessions to educate community members about solar energy and the co-op. Individuals interested in going solar can sign up for the co-op or one of the upcoming information sessions at the [Richmond Solar Co-op web page](#).

Information meetings are planned for:

Saturday, April 29, 3:00 pm ([RSVP HERE](#))  
George Memorial Library, Room 2C  
1001 Golfview Dr, Richmond, TX 77469

Wednesday May 3, 5:30 pm - Webinar ([RSVP HERE](#))

### **About Solar United Neighbors**

Solar United Neighbors is a nonprofit organization that works in Texas and nationwide to represent the needs and interests of solar owners and supporters. Solar co-ops are part of the organization’s mission to create a new energy system with rooftop solar at the cornerstone. Solar United Neighbors holds events and education programs to help people become informed solar consumers, maximize the value of their solar investment, and advocate for fair solar policies.

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