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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **Olympia Community Solar opens enrollment for Hummingbird Community Solar Project**

Olympia, WA -- Enrollment is now open for Thurston County's largest community solar project called, "The Hummingbird Project." The 100-kilowatt solar array will be located atop the Hands on Children's Museum in downtown Olympia and installed in November 2020. The project features 297 Sunpower solar panels and a 100kW Solaredge inverter.

The Hummingbird Community Solar Project has 800 solar units available for purchase. Each unit costs \$300 and allows individuals, businesses, and organizations to own a piece of the solar project. You can purchase units for yourself, for a friend, or donate them to a non-profit. Each year Olympia Community Solar will send you the value of your unit's electricity production. Once you are paid back for your units, the project will be donated to the museum.

Community solar addresses common barriers to solar energy such as renting, tree shading, unsuitable roofs, and financial burdens. Over the 40 year life of the project it will save the Hand's On Childrens Museum more than five hundred thousand dollars in electricity costs, and prevent more than five million pounds of CO2 emissions. The Museum plans to install a clean energy educational exhibit to teach children and their families about the benefits of solar energy.

"Hummingbird" was inspired by a story told by Wangari Maathai, a Kenyan social, environmental and political activist. One day a terrible fire broke out in a forest. Frightened, all the animals fled their homes and ran from the forest. As they came to safety at the edge of a stream they stopped to watch the fire and they were feeling very discouraged and powerless. They were all bemoaning the destruction of their homes when a little hummingbird flew out of the woods. It swooped into the stream and picked up a drop of water and flew away to put it on the fire. The other animals watched in disbelief and one asked "What are you doing?" And the hummingbird looked back and said, "I am doing what I can." We named the project Hummingbird because it's something we each can do.

About: Olympia Community Solar is a 501(c)3 non-profit that is stewarding an equitable and accessible transition to clean energy through community solar education, policy, and project development.

Learn more & enroll at **[www.olysol.org](http://www.olysol.org)**.