



February 1, 2016

To Whom It May Concern,

At Center for Spiritual Living San Jose, we provide spiritual tools to transform personal lives and contribute to making the world a better place. Converting to solar power was a natural fit in our vision of “A World that Works for Everyone.”

We are blessed with board leaders that are both fiscally and environmentally responsible. As our power bills steadily increased, our board aggressively evaluated the short-term costs and the long-term savings (of both money and greenhouse gas emissions) of going solar. Our system would cost over \$116,000 and we were unable to access solar tax incentives because we are a tax-exempt organization.

Thanks to the diligence of our Vice Chair, Larry Larder, who explored innovative funding options, we found the valuable partnership with CollectiveSun. A social enterprise that does qualify for tax incentives, CollectiveSun invested the value of those rebates into our project, reducing the cost to our congregation by nearly \$30,000.

CollectiveSun provided outreach messages and materials and a platform for our community to invest – not donate! – to our solar power project. The appeal was highly successful. We completed our crowd-lending efforts before the 40-day campaign ended due to the great collaboration between our Center and CollectiveSun’s team members.

On December 31, 2015, our solar power system installation was completed and turned on. With a fixed rate for our power, we have already seen a significant reduction in our electric bills.

Center for Spiritual Living San Jose is a busy center, hosting events for the community, groups, and our congregation 7 days a week. By using the power of the sun to help reduce escalating energy costs, we can use our savings to help serve both our community and the planet. Over the 25-year life of the solar power system, we stand to save over \$271,000, which we can use to fuel our purpose to transform lives, build dreams, and reveal God.

It was a pleasure working with CollectiveSun to achieve our goal of going solar at Center for Spiritual Living San Jose.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "David Bruner". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Rev. David Bruner, DD