

DRIVE ELECTRIC OHIO AND SOLAR UNITED NEIGHBORS TO BRING SOLAR & EV CHARGER CO-OP TO COLUMBUS AREA

In remarks given to the press on Thursday, February 6, 2020, Drive Electric Columbus chapter leader, Mryia Williams, helped announce a new co-op that will leverage group bulk-buying power to provide discounted pricing and installation for Columbus residents interested in rooftop solar panels and electric vehicle charging stations.

“Thank you to Solar United Neighbors for inviting Drive Electric Columbus here today.

You might be surprised to learn that transportation is the largest source of carbon emissions in the United States, with personal and light duty vehicles making up about half of those emissions, but today Drive Electric Columbus, an initiative of Clean Fuels Ohio, will take key steps with Solar United Neighbors to make our Columbus neighborhoods greener and cleaner through decarbonization efforts which will provide our members with the option to drive on sunshine.

As the chapter leader of Drive Electric Columbus, I am pleased to bring the opportunity of the Columbus Solar and EV Charger Co-Op to our members. The Co-Op will offer its members support throughout each step of the process of going solar, the advantage of working together to gain bulk pricing, and for those members that have not yet added a Level 2 charger to their home, the Co-Op will also help them to afford this crucial piece of equipment.

In my own life, my husband and I are the owners of 2 Electric Vehicles. We bought our first EV, a Nissan Leaf, in 2017 to be our commuter car. In the summer of 2018, we continued to green our garage with the addition of battery electric lawn equipment. Then in April 2019, we rounded out our Zero Emissions collection with a Kia Niro EV as our long range vehicle. And in 2020, we are looking forward to adding Solar Panels to our home so that we can create our own clean power to fuel all those items.

According to SmartGrid Consumer Collaborative, roughly one-half of consumers who have either solar or EV technology have both. Similarly, consumers who are interested in one of those technologies have interest in the other. In the greater Columbus region, from 2016 to 2019, over 3000 Plug-In Electric Vehicles were registered. Imagine for a moment a future where all those vehicles can be fueled at home on solar. Now let's do more than imagine by joining the Columbus Solar and EV Charger Co-Op with our partners at Solar United Neighbors so that all of us are driving on sunshine.”

Drive Electric Columbus is one of six Drive Electric Ohio electric vehicle owners' groups across the state. These locally-based EV education and advocacy groups work to conduct consumer education activities, encourage development of EV charging, and address local and state policy. [Contact Drive Electric Columbus.](#)

About Drive Electric Ohio

Drive Electric Ohio (DEO) is an initiative of [Clean Fuels Ohio](#). DEO is a comprehensive approach to accelerating electric vehicle adoption. In addition to the state-side network of EV owners and advocates, DEO engages auto dealerships, community organizations, utilities, utility regulators, and government leaders on EV-related policy and market issues. **Contact:** Brendan Kelley, Director, Drive Electric Ohio, brendan@cleanfuelsohio.org