

Success Stories



Project Details:

Location:

416 Kenmore Boulevard
Akron, OH 44301

Project Contact:

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Technologies:

488.8 kW photovoltaic solar array

Funding Source:

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act –
State Energy Program

Incentives:

\$1 Million

Total Project Costs:

\$1,535,654

Energy Impacts:

- Producing more than 500,000 kWh of energy per year
- Offsets annual energy use by 15 percent

Economic Impacts:

- \$60,000 cost savings per year
- Jobs created or retained: 9.8 FTE's*

Environmental Impacts:

- Reduced CO₂ emissions by more than 760,000 pounds per year, which is equivalent to taking 67 cars off the road.

METRO Regional Transit Authority



Background:

In 1882 public transportation began in Akron with a mule and 12 passenger carts that were pulled over rails on the thoroughfares. From its humble beginnings, Akron METRO has continued to prosper, providing transportation to more than 6 million people a year.

Challenge:

METRO Regional Transit Authority is committed to promoting energy conservation and efficiency. A 133 kW solar array was installed in 2009 at the Authority's intermodal building. The transit center features geothermal heating and cooling, recycled building materials, and rainwater storage for cleaning and landscaping. To build upon the previous work, METRO wanted to increase its green footprint.

Solution:

An additional 488.8 kW of American made solar panels were added to the bus barn roof, bringing the total installed panels at Akron METRO to more than 3,500 panels. This installation is one of the largest single rooftop solar arrays in the state and produces enough electricity to power 42 homes.

"By design, METRO and all public transportation is green and has been since our wheels hit the road. In Akron, we want to be environmentally responsible outside the bus, as well."

-Robert Pfaff, Executive Director, Akron METRO

*Job creation numbers are based on direct jobs created or retained using Full-Time Equivalent (FTE) hours.



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