

**Ash Institute Summer Fellowship in Urban Policy  
Project Description | 2009**

**San Diego, California**

**AB 811 – Solar / Renewable Energy Program**

Despite the existence of State and Federal tax credits, rebates and incentives for those who purchase solar energy systems many home owners still have difficulty coming up with the \$20,000 to \$30,000 needed to purchase a system for their home. New State legislation, AB 811 authorized cities and counties to provide up-front financing to property owners to install solar or other renewable energy-generating devices or make specified energy efficiency improvements to their properties through the use of contractual assessments.

San Diego is one of the first cities in California to begin working on an AB 811 program. The Mayor's office is currently working to design the program and implement a pilot project sometime in the fall of 2009.