

SOLAR STATEMENT



Wednesday, July 19, 2017

International City/County Management Association
777 North Capitol St. NE, Ste. 500
Washington, DC 20002

The Solar Foundation
600 14th St. NW, Ste. 400
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Emily Dodson and Philip Haddix:

On behalf of the City of Ashland, Wisconsin, I am proud to announce our commitment to become a SolSmart-designated community. To realize this vision, the City of Ashland seeks to partner with the Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA) solar market in our community by making it faster, easier and more affordable for our residents, business owners and municipality to install solar energy systems. These efforts will also increase the efficiency of local processes related to solar development, which may save our local government time and money; while also increasing job retention and creation, and economic development in our community.

The City of Ashland will leverage SolSmart to achieve the following goals:

- Further define our guidelines for solar permitting and inspections,
- Develop and execute another solarize campaign,
- Work with local partners to expand and communicate solar finance options for residential, commercial, municipal and nonprofit sectors.

These efforts demonstrate that our community is committed to advancing the development and expansion of our solar market, to streamline our permitting and inspection processes; to encourage local investment in renewable energy, and to spur economic development across the region. We view the SolSmart Advisor Program as an encouraging opportunity to advance our goals, in partnership with the MREA serving as our SolSmart Advisor to provide us with the necessary technical assistance needed to become a SolSmart Bronze designation community.

In order to measure progress along the way, the City of Ashland, Wisconsin will track key metrics related to solar energy deployment, such as installed solar capacity the and number of installations across sectors.

Please direct all inquiries associated with the City of Ashland, Wisconsin participation in the SolSmart Program to Rose Spieler-Sandberg at rspieler@coawi.org or 715-682-7041.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "Rose Spieler-Sandberg", with a large, stylized flourish at the end.

Rose Spieler-Sandberg
City of Ashland Assistant Planner