

SOLAR STATEMENT

Thursday, August 15, 2024

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

Brandy O'Quinn
Interstate Renewable Energy Council
125 Wolf Road, Suite 100
Albany, NY 12205

Dear Debra Perry and Brandy O'Quinn:

On behalf of The City of Altoona, I am proud to announce our commitment to become a SolSmart-designated community. In partnership with the SolSmart team, our dedicated staff members will work to improve solar market conditions, making it faster, easier, and more affordable for our residents and businesses 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.

We will leverage SolSmart to achieve the following solar goals:

- **Develop a streamlined process for solar permitting or inspections.**
- **Expand and communicate solar finance options for residential or commercial properties.**
- **Demonstrate Altoona's commitment to implementing the goals of its Energy Action Plan and resiliency targets.**

These goals demonstrate that our community is committed to making continual improvement in our solar market. This includes ensuring solar development is inclusive and equitable. We're looking forward to learning more from the SolSmart program how to expand access to solar for all our residents and support solar energy adoption for those that are under resourced or underserved.

The SolSmart program will build on our solar efforts, such as our 2022 Comprehensive Plan, Energy Action Plan, and city facility lighting / energy upgrades.

To measure progress along the way, we will track key metrics related to solar energy deployment, such as installed solar, permitting processing time, and growth in residential installations.

We understand that the SolSmart program has criteria and point requirements as outlined in the SolSmart Program Guide needed to achieve each tier of designation. We're excited to submit this solar statement to complete the first requirement of the program.

Inquiries related to our SolSmart participation can be directed to Taylor Greenwell at taylorg@ci.altoona.wi.us.

Sincerely,



Taylor Greenwell, AICP
Planning Director