



Clay County, Missouri

Planning and Zoning

234 W. Shrader Street, Suite C
Liberty, Missouri 64068-2448

Thursday, January 4, 2018

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

In re: Clay County, Missouri Solar Statement

Dear SolSmart review staff:

Clay County, MO is pleased to acknowledge its commitment to solar-friendly best practices. Clay County has been a long-standing partner with Mid-America Regional Council (MARC) and twenty-five other local governments in the Kansas City metropolitan region as part of the Solar Ready KC and Solar Ready II initiatives funded by the U.S. Department of Energy's SunShot Rooftop Solar Challenge. As part of the Rooftop Solar Challenge, MARC developed a program to recognize local communities for their efforts implementing solar best management practice (BMPs.) Over the course of the last five years, 2012-2016, coordinated efforts have been underway to make the Kansas City region solar ready.

Clay County is further committed to become a SolSmart-designated community. In partnership with the SolSmart team, Clay County staff will work with MARC and our region's peer cities and counties to improve solar market conditions, making it faster, easier, and more affordable for our county 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 county time and money.

The SolSmart designation program builds upon our community's participation in Solar Ready II, which resulted in the identification, codification and implementation of solar BMPs. As part of the Solar Ready designation program, Clay County received the Gold level honor by:

- Addressing solar energy in its zoning ordinance;
- Making solar-ready construction guidelines available on its website;
- Creating a solar landing page; and
- Providing links to MARC's solar mapping website
- Providing solar provisions in its Green Build Incentive Program

These efforts demonstrate that Clay County is committed to driving continual improvement in our solar market, and in the process of doing so, all of the related areas identified as community priorities in the Kansas City region. Clay County is willing to measure its progress by tracking key metrics related to solar energy deployment, such as installed solar capacity and number of installations across sectors.

Inquiries related to Clay County, MO SolSmart participation can be directed to Kipp Jones, Planning and Zoning Manager at kjones@claycountymo.gov or 816.407.3380.

Sincerely,

Kipp Jones
Planning and Zoning Manager

Kipp Jones
Manager

Debbie Viviano
Planner

Carla Umland
Building Inspector