

April 3, 2019

Dear Members of the Planning Board,

Thank you, again, for your continued effort to develop and refine the proposed Solar Energy Systems ordinance.

Having listened to the interests and concerns presented so far at the various public hearings on this subject, I've attempted a revision of the ordinance that I believe incorporates many of the thoughtful and helpful suggestions that have been made to date.

Attached for your consideration are two versions of the revision; one version ("Tracked Amends – Solar Energy Systems") includes your original version within which are "tracked" my specific recommended changes; the second, ("Proposed Amendments April 1 – Solar Energy Systems") is a "clean" version that excludes the tracked edits. In essence, the two versions are identical. Hopefully, reading the two versions, side-by-side, will diminish any possible confusion.

The content of most of your proposed draft is intact. You will see that I've re-positioned some of the sections for the purpose of improving continuity. For example, I moved "Authority" and "Purpose" to page 1 with minor edits. I've deleted some definitions which become either redundant or unnecessary if you accept the proposal that solar systems should be, for the sake of simplicity, considered as either Accessory (on-site) or Principal (off-site) systems. Finally, I've proposed language that simplifies matters related to positioning of freestanding systems that should satisfy most citizens.

I have left yellow highlights in the "clean" version of suggested amendments based on testimony given at various hearings to date. These highlights are meant to draw your attention to what may be considered consequential and may require discussion.

It is my hope that this consolidation of suggestions will be helpful to you in your effort to develop an effective and efficient ordinance that will encourage and facilitate the installation of solar systems, protect the community in accordance with the Master Plan and prevent unintended commercial exploitation. As a work in progress, I expect further improvements will be suggested.

If I may be of assistance, please feel free to contact me personally to discuss these or other proposed amendments. I can be reached by phone or email. Planner Behrendt has my contact details. Also, I plan to attend the hearing on April 10 and will be pleased to respond to questions or address concerns.

Respectfully,

Malcolm Sandberg