

RESOLUTION NO. 2024-087

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF COLUMBIA HEIGHTS, MN TO PARTICIPATE IN THE SOLSMART DESIGNATION PROGRAM AND APPROVE THE SOLAR STATEMENT

BE IT RESOLVED BY the City Council (the "Council") of the City of Columbia Heights, Minnesota (the "City") as follows:

WHEREAS, on November 20, 2024, the Sustainability Commission heard a presentation on SolSmart and reviewed the City's statement to participate in the program before giving a positive recommendation to the Council Liaison to introduce the proposal at the next City Council meeting; and

WHEREAS, on November 25, 2024, the City Council reviewed the solar statement, online checklist for permitting and inspection information, and the program guide identifying various actions that are recognized and celebrated by Bronze, Silver, Gold and Platinum Designations after achieving a number of points in Permitting and Inspection, Planning and Zoning, Government Operations, Community Engagement, and Market Development, and provided staff with direction to authorize participation in the SolSmart Designation Program; and

WHEREAS, the City has indicated interest in SolSmart's program to make progress on the goals identified in Minnesota's Climate Action Framework, expand the services and programs available to commercial and residential tenants and property owners, and enhance the overall health of the built community; and

WHEREAS, the City has determined that participation in SolSmart will advance goals of the 2040 Comprehensive Plan and Partners in Energy as well as core city strategies such as healthy and safe communities, strong infrastructure and public services, sustainable, and trusted and engaged leadership; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the City does hereby approve Resolution No. 2024 – 087 authorizing the participation in the SolSmart Designation Program with the following requirements:

1. Provide a Solar Statement demonstrating the City's commitment to pursue SolSmart Designation.
2. Post an online checklist detailing the required permit(s), submittals, and steps of the permitting process for residential rooftop solar PV.
3. Review zoning requirements and identify restrictions that intentionally or unintentionally prohibit solar PV development such as height restrictions, setback requirements, screening and visibility, etc. and have these compiled in a memo.

ORDER OF COUNCIL

Passed this 25th day of November, 2024

Offered by: James

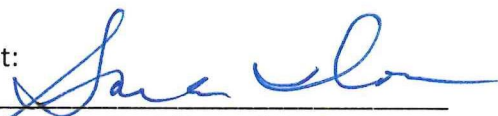
Seconded by: Spriggs

Roll Call: All Ayes, Buesgens absent



Amada Márquez Simula, Mayor

Attest:



Sara Ton, City Clerk/Council Secretary