

Upper Midwest SolSmart Cohort

City of Racine Technical Assistance Plan

As a part of the Upper Midwest SolSmart Cohort, **Racine** is one of over 40 communities working to remove barriers to solar development through SolSmart designation. Townships, cities, and counties across Minnesota, Iowa, and Wisconsin are a part of this cohort.



Timeline: If Racine is aiming for silver or gold designation, you must submit for bronze by **June 28**. After bronze designation, MREA will continue working with you to reach silver or gold. If bronze is your final goal, you must submit for it by **October 11**.

The sooner you submit for bronze, the more likely you are to achieve it. If there are any actions that need additional documentation, we will have the time to gather that and resubmit.

Racine needs to meet all 3 prerequisites (PR-1, P-1, and PZD01a, as well as earn 60 total points to meet the requirements for **bronze** designation! 20 points have already been earned, you're half way there!

1. The below memo details the actions needed to reach bronze designation.

Prioritization	Action	Suggested Documentation	Points	Status/Notes	Next Steps
Permitting Category Prerequisite	P-1: create and post online a solar permitting checklist to Village website	Add " streamlined solar permitting checklist " or a one-page summary of the solar permitting process to website and/or create 1-page permit process document to be added to Village website.	Prerequisite	Example: City of Sheboygan " getting started with solar " – solar checklist. Example: City of WI Rapids " Wisconsin Rapids Solar Permitting " permitting process.	Provide MREA with link to online solar permitting checklist. NOTE: most effective to interview permitting and inspection team using survey form to document the process, then write into summary.
PZD Category Prerequisite	PZD-1a: review zoning review memo	Review Racine Zoning Review	Prerequisite	Print, review, sign and return copy to MREA	Send signed copy of zoning



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					review to MREA
High	P-2: Post online statement confirming < 3-day sm rooftop solar permit approval	If City permitting process currently approves solar permits in < 3-day, adding a one-sentence statement to the City's website will earn required 20 points in Permitting	20 points	Examples: City of Sheboygan (* Ordinance, Permitting & Process *) and La Crosse (" Solar Permitting Checklist ")	Provide MREA with link to website
High	PZD-2a: codify in zoning ordinance solar PV is accessory use in all major zones	Add "solar PV" to accessory use definition AND allow AC structures to be in all major zones (Consistent w/ Statute 66.0401.	20 points	City of Wauwatosa – Ordinances is a great demonstration of how to integrate solar into ordinances	Provide MREA with City's ordinance link
High	PZD-1b: present PZD-1(Zoning Review) memo to planning commission	Meeting agenda, minutes of the meeting when PZD-1a memo was presented to PC	5 points	Provide link or copies of the meeting agenda and minutes of the meeting that the PZD-1a memo was presented to PC	Post link or copy of documents to PZD-1b folder
High	PZD-1c: draft zoning findings with recommended code changes based upon zoning review (PZD-1a memo)	Draft a memo outlining recommended zoning changes to reduce solar barriers, based upon the Zoning Review. Present memo at Planning Committee meeting	5 points	Provide link or copy of the zoning ordinance change memo	Post link of copy of mem to PZD-1c folder
Essential	CE-2: post a solar landing page to County's website w/information about solar development resources	Use the CE-2a template or City of La Crosse or Sheboygan examples	10 point	Refer to the CE-2 template link or the www.cityoflacrosse.org/solar	Create website. Post link to the CE-2 folder .
Simple	P-8, I-1, and PZD-9: train permitting, inspections and planning staff in solar best practices	Have at least one staff person watch 2.5 hour training session recorded April 2, 2019 . Hosted by Upper Midwest SolSmart Advisor Cohort.	P-8 – 10 pt; PZD-9 – 10 pt; I-1 – 20 pt	Watch video, complete form stating name/title, date, return form to MREA	Post form to link .
High	SR-1: post WI State solar rights statutes (66.0401 and	Post statute links and inform the public of their protected solar rights (SR-1 folder) sample statement	5 points	Reference Sheboygan or La Crosse examples	Post information to website. Next, provide MREA



	66.0403) to County website				with a link to the website.
High	MDF-6a: Provide PACE financing in community	Refer to link in CE-2a template - WI PACE link to solar landing page	10 points	Reference Sheboygan or La Crosse examples	Post link to website. Next, provide MREA with a link to the website.
High	MDF-1: Provide link to incentives and local installers	Refer to links in the CE-2a template Renew Wisconsin , and Clean Energy Project Builder	5 points	Reference Sheboygan or La Crosse examples	Post link to website. Next, provide MREA with a link to the website

