

RESOLUTION NO: 2021-62

RECOGNIZING THE CITY OF LARAMIE'S COMMITMENT TO SOLAR INITIATIVES THROUGH THE PARTICIPATION IN THE US DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY'S SOLSMART PROGRAM

WHEREAS, SolSmart is a national program led by the International City/County Management Association and the Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) which provides technical assistance to improve a municipalities' solar friendly practices; and,

WHEREAS, energy and electricity consumption are the highest sources of CO₂ emissions in Wyoming since 1990; and,

WHEREAS, the City of Laramie is interested in improving energy efficiency and incentivizing the creation and use of alternative forms of energy; and,

WHEREAS, this commitment is supported by council priorities, including an environmental stewardship goal adopted via resolution 2021-12, a milestone which is to "continue renewable energy installations and/or efficiencies at city facilities", and via resolution 2020-14 which seeks to "immediately reduce carbon emissions from municipal government operations and to pursue a net zero, carbon neutral future for the City of Laramie"; and,

WHEREAS, this commitment is supported by council priorities, including maintain and improve city services to residents goal adopted via resolution 2021-12, a milestone which is to "continue technology efficiency program, specifically enterprise resource planning software replacement, to improve customer service and lower cost-of-government"; and

WHEREAS, this commitment is supported by the 2007 Laramie Comprehensive Plan, including Housing Goals and Action Statements via Chapter 5: Housing and Neighborhoods, a goal which is to "encourage development of energy efficient housing or LEED certified housing in the community. Similar methods of 'fast tracking' done for affordable housing should be considered for energy efficient housing"; and,

WHEREAS, The City of Laramie has improved energy efficiency of its own buildings through the installation of solar panels through Rocky Mountain Power's Blue Sky Grant Program; and,

WHEREAS, The SolSmart Initiative focuses on improving Permitting and Inspection, Planning and Zoning, Governmental Operations, Community Engagement, and Market Development which provides benefits for solar customers, local governments, and solar companies; and,

WHEREAS, The commitment to this initiative further promotes the policy goals and objectives by the Governing Body of the City of Laramie which promotes the overall efficiency and effectiveness of City services and facilitates community building for current and future generations.

THEREFORE, THE LARAMIE CITY COUNCIL DOES HEREBY RESOLVE:

Section 1. That City Council shall approve and commit to the continued improvement of City processes to facilitate the creation and use of solar energy through the participation in the SolSmart Program

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED the 21st day of September 2021.

Paul Weaver, Mayor and President of the
City Council

Attest: _____
Nancy Bartholomew
City Clerk