

VILLAGE OF ST. JOSEPH

207 EAST LINCOLN STREET, P.O. BOX 716 • ST. JOSEPH, ILLINOIS 61873-0716
PHONE 217-469-7371 • FAX 217-469-7019

May 8, 2019

Champaign County Board
Environment and Land Use Committee
1776 East Washington Street
Urbana, Illinois 61802-4581

RE: Solar Farm Zoning Text Amendment

Dear Committee:

Please accept and place on record that we have reviewed and approve of the proposed changes to the Zoning Ordinance requirements for "Solar Farms".

The proposed amendments give our municipalities and the county an opportunity to continue working together within our shared jurisdictional limits that will mutually benefit and respect each agency's planning efforts. Replacing the full ETJ one and one-half mile distance when considering an application and the additional notification time will help our municipalities have the time to consider a resolution for the proposed solar farms in our jurisdictions.

Thank you for working with us on this issue and we look forward to our long-term intragovernmental cooperation for the future.

Sincerely,



Tami Fruhling-Voges
Village President of St. Joseph

Endorsed by Attached Emails:

Sean Widener
Village President of Mahomet

Joan Dykstra
Village President of Savoy

Charles Smith
Village Mayor of Rantoul

Gabe Clements
Village President of Ogden

John Finn
Village President of Sidney

MAYOR	CLERK	TREASURER	TRUSTEES
Tami Fruhling-Voges	Tiffany McElroy-Smetzer	Debbie Routh	Andrew Gherna Anthony Laubscher Roy McCarty Art Rapp Bob Rigdon Jim Wagner

Village Mayor

From: Janet Gray <J-Gray@village.rantoul.il.us>
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 3:23 PM
To: Village Mayor
Subject: Amendments to Solar Farm Zoning Ordinance

Good afternoon Mayor Fruhling-Voges,

Mayor Charles Smith, Village of Rantoul, asked me to contact you to let you know that he has reviewed the Proposed amendments to the solar farm zoning ordinance and endorses the changes.

Janet Gray

Janet E. Gray
Executive Assistant/Deputy Clerk
Village of Rantoul
333 S. Tanner St.
Rantoul, IL 61866
217-892-6802



Re: Proposed changes to solar farm requirements

gabeclements1982@comcast.net

Tue 5/7/2019 6:43 PM

To:Debbie Routh <debbie.routh@stjosephillinois.org>;

This looks good to me thanks, Gabe

Sent from Xfinity Connect App

----- Original Message -----

From: Debbie Routh

To: cksmith@village.rantoul.il.us, gabeclements1982@comcast.net, Villagepresident@villageofsidney.com, dykstrajean@gmail.com

Sent: May 7, 2019 at 3:21 PM

Subject: Proposed changes to solar farm requirements

Please review the attached documents regarding the changes to solar farm requirements in Champaign County Zoning Ordinance.

Once we get an approved letter regarding the amendment changes, I will forward it to you for your review and signature.

Thank You,

Tami Fruhling-Voges

Village Mayor

From: Joan Dykstra <dykstrajoan@gmail.com>
Sent: Wednesday, May 8, 2019 12:18 PM
To: Village Mayor
Subject: Solar Farm requirement changes

Tami,
Thank you for letting me review the latest changes for Solar Farm requirements to the CC Zoning Ordinance.
I agree that changing the time frame and the mile of jurisdiction requirement are reasonable and necessary for municipalities.
Thank you for your work on our behalf.

Regards,
Joan Dykstra
Savoy Village President
217-778-6111

Sean M. Widener
Village President

Village of Mahomet
503 E. Main Street
Mahomet, IL 61853
mayor@mahomet-il.gov
217.621.9094

Subject: Solar Farms Special Use Permit ordinance consideration

Hi Mayor,

You and other mayors indicated to Champaign County Board, through John Hall and the department of planning and zoning, a concern that the text amendments regarding solar farms did not apply to the standard ETJ of 1 ½ miles. The implications of only a one-half mile limit and the process outlined appeared to limit the standard collaboration between municipalities and the County. I agree that your request consideration of changes to assure our responsibilities in our planning jurisdiction was necessary.

Since that letter, we were invited to not only participate and review proposed text amendments TWICE in the Regional Planning Commission technical committee, but John Hall and his staff received emails and discussed options with us during the time from your letter up until the latest proposal. Additionally, we requested an extra month before the text amendment would be presented to assure you and the other mayors time for staff to inform on the implications.

Your request initially of 1 ½ miles versus ½ was a simple solution, however, I believe that the proposed text amendment goes farther to assuring the continuation of our collaborative efforts and cooperation with the County with respect to solar farms. The process changes with two meetings at the ZBA and the ELUC not approving until a second meeting, enable us to respond to actual detailed proposals and site specific concerns rather than early hypotheticals. The requirement in the ordinance of subdivision ordinance compliance achieves the planning responsibilities that are granted to us through the ETJ.

I could not be more pleased with how the planning staff worked with me and other planners and representatives during this process. I support the text amendment and feel that the issues that you were hoping to address by the extension of the limit to the ETJ, have been even better addressed by the proposed amendment that is now under consideration.

Thank you!

Kelly
Kelly Pfeifer
Planner and Development Director
Village of Mahomet

Fw: Solar Farm Text Amendment

Julie Hendrickson

Thu 5/9/2019 8:49 AM

To:Debbie Routh <debbie.routh@stjosephillinois.org>;

From: Village Mayor
Sent: Thursday, May 9, 2019 8:46 AM
To: Julie Hendrickson
Subject: Fwd: Solar Farm Text Amendment

Sent from my Verizon, Samsung Galaxy smartphone

----- Original message -----

From: Sean Widener <mayor@mahomet-il.gov>
Date: 5/8/19 5:19 PM (GMT-06:00)
To: mayor@stjosephillinois.org
Subject: Solar Farm Text Amendment

To whom it may concern:

The Village of Mahomet appreciates the opportunity to collaborate on recent revisions to the Champaign County Solar Farm text amendment. We find the said changes acceptable in terms of additional notification and considerations within our one and one-mile ETJ.

Sincerely,
Sean M. Widener
Village President

Village of Mahomet
503 E. Main Street
Mahomet, IL 61853
mayor@mahomet-il.gov
217.621.9094