



City of Coral Gables
CITY COMMISSION MEETING
October 12, 2021

ITEM TITLE:

Coral Gables Achieves “SolSmart Silver Designation” from the National SolSmart Program and the Department of Energy

SUMMARY OF ITEM:

Coral Gables has received silver designation from the national SolSmart program for making it faster, easier, & more affordable for homes & businesses to go solar. Coral Gables is taking strides to encourage solar energy growth and remove obstacles to solar development. SolSmart Silver signals that Coral Gables is “open for solar business.”

SolSmart is led by The Solar Foundation, International City/County Management Association (ICMA), and the U.S. DOE Solar Energy Technologies Office. As a SolSmart designee, Coral Gables is helping solar companies reduce the cost of installations and pass those savings on to consumers. This allows more local homes and businesses to obtain affordable, clean, and reliable electricity through solar. This will help encourage solar companies to do business in the area, driving economic development and creating local jobs.

City Solar Achievements:

- Developed a solar submittal checklist to help streamline the permitting process
- Waived City solar permit fees
- Provides PACE financing to help businesses and homeowners go solar
- Installation of 11 solar benches in City Parks
- Building Official, Electrical Inspector and Permitting Staff attended Solar Workshop Training.
- Evaluating city facilities for solar PV installations
- Posted letter online from Planning and Zoning stating accessory use solar PV is allowed.

This designation was made possible due to the collaboration between Public Works, Development Services, and Public Affairs with support from the City Manager’s Office and through the leadership of the City Commission.

SUBMITTED BY:

Matt Anderson
Resiliency and Sustainability Manager

ATTACHMENTS: