

CITY OF RED LODGE

1 PLATT AVENUE SOUTH, P.O. BOX 9, RED LODGE, MONTANA 59068



Tuesday, February 20, 2018

International City/County Management Association
777 North Capitol St. NE, Ste. 500
Washington, DC 20002

The Solar Foundation
1717 Pennsylvania AVE NW, Ste. 750
Washington, DC 20006

Dear Emily Sparks and Zach Greene:

On behalf of the City of Red Lodge, I am proud to announce our commitment to become a SolSmart-designated community. In partnership with the SolSmart team and the Montana Renewable Energy Association, Red Lodge's dedicated staff members will work to improve solar market conditions, making it faster, easier, and more affordable for our residents and businesses to install solar energy systems. These efforts will also increase the efficiency of local processes related to solar development, which may save our local government time and money.

The timing of this program works well for the City. A committee has recently been formed to prepare the City of Red Lodge Energy Conservation Plan, and conversations around solar energy have begun. The City also has an Energy Corps member serving as our Sustainability Coordinator, and she will assist city staff as they work to achieve SolSmart designation.

The City of Red Lodge will leverage SolSmart to achieve the following goals:

- Develop a streamlined process for solar permitting or inspections.
- Engage the community and educate them on options for installing and financing solar systems.
- Develop and execute a solarize campaign.

The City of Red Lodge intends to become a SolSmart designated community and will work to achieve at least Bronze level designation. In order to measure progress along the way, we will work with the SolSmart team to track key metrics related to solar energy deployment, such as installed solar capacity and the number of installations across sectors.

Inquiries related to Red Lodge's SolSmart participation can be directed to Kathryn Eklund, Sustainability Coordinator, at energycorps@cityofredlodge.com or at 307-620-1778.

Sincerely,

Bill Larson
Mayor, City of Red Lodge

406.446.1606



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