

Michael Zarum  
139 Northampton Street  
Warwick, RI 02888

October 12, 2021

Honorable Mayor Frank Picozzi  
c/o Susan Nahabedian Ayrassian, Esq.  
City of Warwick  
Warwick City Hall  
3275 Post Road  
Warwick, RI 02886

Subjects: 1) Developing Solar Siting and Regulatory Ordinances and;  
2) Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation Moratorium for the City of Warwick (draft attached)

Dear Mr. Picozzi:

Thank you and your attentive staff for hosting the Solar Renewable Energy information Workshop held on October 6, 2021 and for listening to the public's comments and concerns.

I also attended the very timely Solar Siting Roundtable Discussion at URI that was held on October 8, 2021. That roundtable was attended by planning professionals from around the state.

That URI roundtable discussion presented new research evidence regarding the negative impacts to home values from nearby utility scale solar energy power generation developments near residential zoned districts as well as aesthetic and other impacts. That roundtable of professionals also discussed issues similar to what was discussed at your October 6, 2021 information Workshop.

The consensus is clear that many Warwick residents have valid concerns regarding potential impacts of utility scale solar developments, that there is a need for new regulatory controls through first updating the Warwick Comprehensive Plan, then as a next step to implement new Solar Regulatory Ordinances to be consistent with needed updates to the comprehensive plan. It is impossible to do that within the desired time frame discussed at your Information Workshop.

The consensus at your Information Workshop for the Best Solution at this point in time is for the City of Warwick to implement A Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation Moratorium. Several other Rhode Island municipalities have done that and others are in the process of implementing moratoriums given the need to properly regulate new technologies in our city.

As mayor, please strongly consider submitting the attached Draft Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation Moratorium Ordinance to planning and legislative counsel to move this forward and to protect your constituents city wide.

I am willing to share a Microsoft Word format copy of the Draft Moratorium with your staff should you wish to advance the attached Draft Solar Moratorium for legislative counsel review.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Michael Zarum  
Warwick Land Trust Member  
Warwick Resident, Ward 2

Attachment: Draft Ground Mounted Solar Photovoltaic Installation Moratorium for the City of Warwick, Rhode Island