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Airlight Energy, a Swiss-based solar company, plans to make solar systems that are two to three times lower in cost than comparable solar systems by 2017. Airlight and IBM will also donate a system to two deserving communities. Applications from communities will be open in 2015 and the winners will be announced in December 2015, with installations ...

Join ICMA and APA for a deep dive on how local government policies and actions affect large-scale solar development outcomes. This nine-part webinar series will begin with an overview of key themes in the new Solar@Scale guidebook [download here] followed by several webinars that explore its eight related, but semi-independent, modules. Each webinar will feature real-world ...

Join ICMA and APA for a deep dive on how local government policies and actions affect large-scale solar development outcomes. This nine-part webinar series will begin with an overview of key themes in the new Solar@Scale guidebook [download here] followed by bi-weekly webinars that explore its eight related, but semi-independent, modules. Each ...

ICMA is the world's leading association of professional city and county managers and other employees who serve local governments. ... officers, their staffs, and other organizations throughout the world. ICMA has helped local governments transform their solar practices and markets since 2010 with DOE funded programs including Solar Outreach ...

WASHINGTON, DC--The International City/County Management Association (ICMA) and The Solar Foundation (TSF) today announced the launch of the SolSmart designation program. SolSmart will recognize leading solar cities and counties as well as empower new communities to advance through no-cost technical assistance. A core component of the ...

Solar technologies convert sunlight into a practical form . of energy, most commonly electricity or heat. Passive . technologies use site design and nonmechanical building materials to capture or direct light and heat. In contrast, active solar technologies use electrical or mechanical equipment to convert solar irradiance to electricity or

In late February, the Arizona Court of Appeals concluded that individual homeowners have the right to use solar energy, despite the rules and restrictions of homeowner associations. The ruling was made after two retired Arizona families, who installed solar panels on their roofs to heat their swimming pools, spent five years in litigation to fight off a legal ...

Lee's Summit, Missouri, was designated May 1, 2018, as SolSmart Gold, marking the 200th local government nationwide to be recognized under the SolSmart program, which provides no-cost technical assistance to help



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communities make it faster, easier, and more affordable to go solar. The 200 SolSmart designees are in 35 states and the District of Columbia and represent over ...

Join ICMA and The Solar Foundation to learn about the new U.S. Department of Energy-funded Solar Powering America by Recognizing Communities (SPARC) program. The SolSmart national community designation program is a new U.S. Department of Energy-funded effort to address solar soft costs with the objective of making it faster, cheaper, and easier to go solar.

Solar maps are innovative tools that can provide easy answers to these questions. They can help inform policy decisions, educate consumers, drive technological development, increase manufacturing capacity, and improve marketing methods. This briefing paper explains what solar maps are, how they work, and how communities can benefit from ...

Earlier this month, the Solar@Scale webinar series wrapped its last of nine webinars that began in January 2022. The webinars focused on how local government policies and actions affect large-scale solar development outcomes. ... ICMA and APA present a nine-part deep dive on how local government policies and actions affect large-scale solar ...

Solar energy is one of the fastest-growing sources of renewable energy in the United States, with the potential to provide clean, affordable, and reliable power to communities and businesses. However, developing and ...

Communities adopt local plans in order to chart courses for more sustainable and livable futures. Planners and public officials then use these plans to inform decisions that affect the social, economic, and physical growth and change of their communities. Given the potential economic and environmental benefits of local solar energy production, it is no wonder that an ...

Building on its great tradition of leadership, Chapel Hill is using solar photovoltaic (PV) to improve its environmental and economic performance on public facilities. Drawing upon the experiences of national and international networks, it has used their internal operations as examples for local business and residents to follow.

The energy crisis, in association with rapid population growth in the state, the cancellation of several proposed coal-fired power plants in the region, and several transmission issues, put pressure on Reno and Nevada to find new sources of electric power. The state, and especially the city of Reno, responded by significantly increasing solar capacity.

ICMA's new program Solar@Scale provides just that. Solar@Scale is a collaborative effort between ICMA and the American Planning Association that offers resources designed to help local government officials familiarize themselves not only with the landscape of the large-scale solar market, but also the many tools and strategies available to them.



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This guide explains multiple financing options available to homeowners considering the installation of a PV system. It includes a short overview of PV system design, the benefits of installing a rooftop PV system, and the elements of system cost. It also includes short descriptions and a table comparison of financing a PV system through a cash purchase, home ...

Communities adopt local plans in order to chart courses for more sustainable and livable futures. Planners and public officials then use these plans to inform decisions that affect the social, economic, and physical growth and ...

Supporting local solar energy leadership, ICMA launches the SolSmart City & County Challenge. By Marcus Travis | Sep 21, 2017 | Blog Post . by Marcus Travis, Outreach Communications Specialist. 2016 was a record-setting year for solar energy in the U.S., and there is no indication the current solar expansion seen in 2017 is slowing down. Data ...

To analyze changes in the priorities and activities of local governments relating to solar, ICMA conducted surveys of communities across the United States in 2010³ and 2016.⁴ Based on these survey data, ICMA identified significant growth in local government engagement with solar.⁵ SolSmart. In 2015, in an effort to build on these promising ...

As part of an ongoing effort to establish a balanced approach to bringing more solar to HOA-governed communities, ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability USA, in collaboration with The Solar Foundation and as part of the U.S. Department of Energy's SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership, hosts a webinar entitled Solar Powering Your Community ...

This interactive workshop, presented by the SunShot Solar Outreach Partnership, provided actionable information on creating a local-level solar program in Orlando, Florida on May 17, 2016. Areas of focus included: energy planning to facilitate solar installations; state and local incentives for solar energy; innovative financing options for solar projects; and why solar is ...

Project Details The Solar in Your Community Challenge (SIYC) was a \$5 million prize competition, funded by the U.S. Department of Energy (DOE), to expand solar access to underserved segments of the market, specifically low-and-moderate-income (LMI) households; non-federal governments (i.e. state, local, and tribal), and non-profit organizations.

ICMA Solar Survey of Local Governments 2011 The Solar Survey was conducted in the fall of 2011 and closed in January 2012. Surveys were mailed to all 10,423 city-type and county governments with a population 2,500 and above. An online option was also available. The survey response rate is 24%, with 2,507 local governments responding.

Since 2016, the SolSmart Program has recognized more than 390 cities and counties nationwide for taking key steps to encourage solar development in their communities. Administered by ICMA and The Solar



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Foundation, SolSmart ...

Organizationally, this paper covers the types of studies undertaken in relation to distributed solar generation (DSG) valuation and overarching issues in DSG valuation studies, followed by the benefits and costs considered in various studies, the rationale for them, and the authors' recommendations on how to approach them.

Here we provide a budget and finance officers at the local level with a brief primer on conducting cost-benefit analyses to assess the economic viability of municipal solar energy systems. Discussion centers on how to estimate system output and to properly value this output, the various incentives local governments can take advantage of and how the value of these ...

The Solar@Scale guidebook has been widely recognized as a valuable resource for organizations seeking to scale up solar energy deployment. The guidebook provides practical guidance on developing and implementing solar energy projects, covering everything from project design to financing and operations.

By harnessing the immense solar resources available to this High Desert community, Lancaster is making great strides to becoming the world's solar capital. Its culture to "go solar" is highly pervasive, as reflected by its ambitious goals to be one of the world's net-zero cities for electrical use by 2020. To support that effort, the city has created a pro-business environment, including ...

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