



Montgomery County Council  
Planning, Housing, and Economic Development Committee  
100 Maryland Avenue, 4th Floor  
Rockville, MD 20850

February 24, 2021

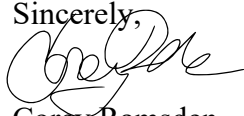
**Position: Support Washington Grove's Community Solar Amendment**

Committee Chair Riemer & Councilmembers Jawando, & Friedson

Thank you for allowing me the opportunity to submit testimony. I'm writing to express support for the amendments offered to the Shady Grove Minor Master Plan to lease the unforested portion of the vacant Parks Department property to the Town of Washington Grove to enable implementation of a solar collection system under the Maryland Community Solar Program. We respectfully ask that you support their request. This is a wonderful opportunity to advance the county's clean energy goals while increasing access to solar for county residents.

At Solar United Neighbors, we're committed to making sure everyone in Maryland can directly participate and benefit from the state's growing solar economy. As you are aware, the state's community solar program is designed for this purpose. An important, yet under-appreciated, part of the state's community solar program is that it enables communities and landholders to partake in solar deployment at scale by hosting projects and in some cases, helping to develop them. This puts communities more directly in control of where and how community solar deployment takes place. We highly value these types of projects and seek to support them whenever we can.

With this in mind, we have been working with Washington Grove's community representative, Ned Helme, since last July to provide advice and technical assistance in support of their vision. We look forward to continuing to support their efforts to bring a highly visible and desirable community solar project to life in the heart of Montgomery County.

Sincerely,  


Corey Ramsden  
VP, Go Solar Programs  
Solar United Neighbors