



# Franklin County

## Economic Development & Planning Department

### Guidelines for Installation of Solar Photovoltaic (PV) Systems in Historic Districts

These guidelines are meant to advise local communities and the public on the best ways to install solar PV Systems on historic buildings and in historic districts. These guidelines are not meant to replace codified ordinances that regulate the installation of PV Systems.

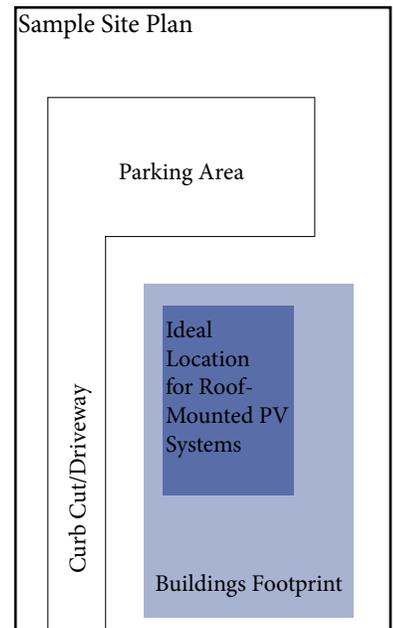
#### General Guidelines

- 1 Locate PV systems in a manner that will minimize impacts to the historic character of the resource.
- 2 PV systems should not damage, obscure or cause removal of significant features or materials.
- 3 Ensure that the historic character of the property is maintained.
- 4 Install in such a way that they can be readily removed and the original character can be easily restored.
- 5 Use materials which are environmentally friendly and that will not interact negatively with historic building materials.
- 6 Avoid obscuring significant features or adversely affecting the perception of the overall character of the property.
- 7 Size of PV systems to remain subordinate to the historic structure.
- 8 Exposed hardware, frames and piping should have a matte finish, and be consistent with the color scheme of the primary structure.

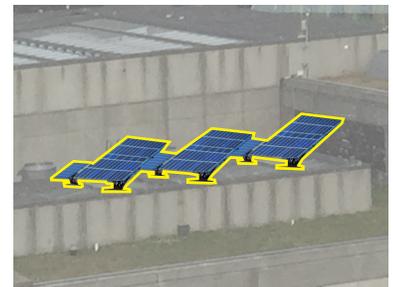
#### Site Planning Guidelines

- 1 Install in locations that minimize the visibility of the PV System from the public right of way.
- 2 PV Systems should be screened from the public right of way with materials in accordance with district requirements.

#### Example Graphics



*PV System should be flat against the roof of the historic structure or arranged so that the height of the system is not intrusive.*



*The above image shows a properly placed PV System, highlighted in yellow, in a non-intrusive location atop the historic structure.*

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## Example Graphics



*Roof-mounted PV Systems can be angled in a way that maximizes energy production without detracting from the historic character of a structure.*



*The above image illustrates the ideal placement of roof-mounted PV System on the rear slope of a residential structure.*



*Ground-mounted PV Systems can be properly located and effectively screened while achieving desired production.*

## Site Planning Guidelines continued

- 3 Design and placement should not detract from the historic character of the site or destroy historic landscape materials.
- 4 Consider limiting the visibility of solar PV System from neighboring properties.

## New Construction Guidelines

- 1 When possible, solar PV System should be integrated into the initial design of new construction to assure cohesion of design that preserves the historical character of the district.
- 2 Solar PV System should be installed on rear slopes or other locations not highly visible from the public right of way whenever possible.
- 3 PV System should be installed flat and not alter the slope of the roof.
- 4 Flat roof structures should have solar PV System set back from the roof edge to minimize visibility. Pitch and elevation should be adjusted to reduce visibility from public right-of-way.
- 6 Solar PV System and mounting systems should be compatible in color to roof materials permitted in the district. Mechanical equipment associated with the system should be as unobtrusive as possible.
- 7 PV systems in windows or on walls, siding, or shutters should be installed with limited visibility from the public right-of-way.

## Accessory Structure Guidelines

- 1 Flat roof structures should have solar PV System set back from the roof edge to minimize visibility. Pitch and elevation should be adjusted to reduce visibility from public right-of-way.
- 2 Solar PV System should be installed on rear slopes or other location not highly visible from the public right-of-way.
- 3 PV System should be installed flat and not alter the slope of the roof.
- 4 Solar PV System and mounting systems should be compatible in color to roof materials permitted in the district. Mechanical equipment associated with the system should be as unobtrusive as possible.