

# SOLSMART

January 25, 2022

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# About SolSmart

## Funding

- US Department of Energy funds SolSmart
- Localities only pay for minimal staff time

## Goal

- Assist localities to reduce burdens for solar development

## Program Components

- Designation and Technical Assistance

# SolSmart Designations

## SolSmart designations

- Process similar to LEED
- Localities receive credits for policies, actions, and processes across 5 categories
- Bronze, Silver, Gold



- Complete 3 prerequisites
- 20 points in Permitting
- 20 points in Planning/Zoning
- 60 total points



- SolSmart Bronze
- Complete 3 prerequisites
- 100 total points



- SolSmart Silver
- Complete 2 prerequisites
- 200 total points

# General Designation Process

Consultation  
Call

Solar  
Statement

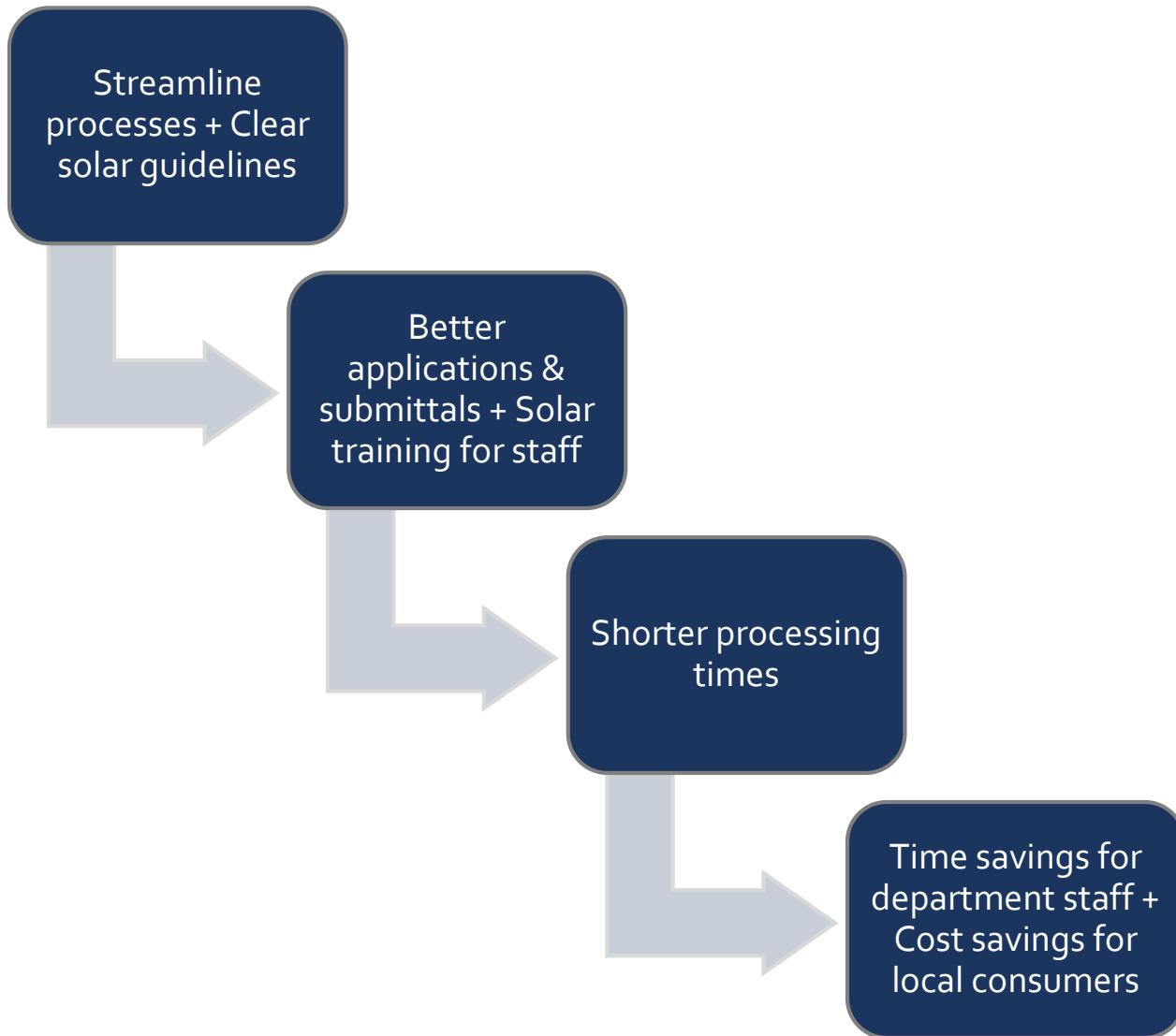
Complete  
the SolSmart  
Scorecard

Achieve  
Designation

# Technical Assistance



# Technical Assistance



# City Goals



Review current permitting processes



Review planning & zoning process



Review inspection processes and train staff



Public education and engagement efforts



Install solar energy systems on key local government facilities, as funding allows

# Cohort Participation

## What is the cohort

- Group comprised of staff members from 3-10 VA localities
- Meets periodically for about 6 months

## What are the benefits of participating in the cohort?

- Learn from other localities
- Economy of scale benefits
- Progress with others along the same pace



# Recommendation

- Authorize/sign Solar Statement
- Authorize City staff to participate in Cohort