

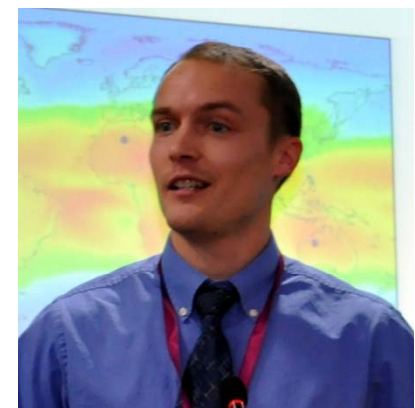
# Solar Power Hour

Roadmap Goal Z4 – Including Solar in Community Planning Documents



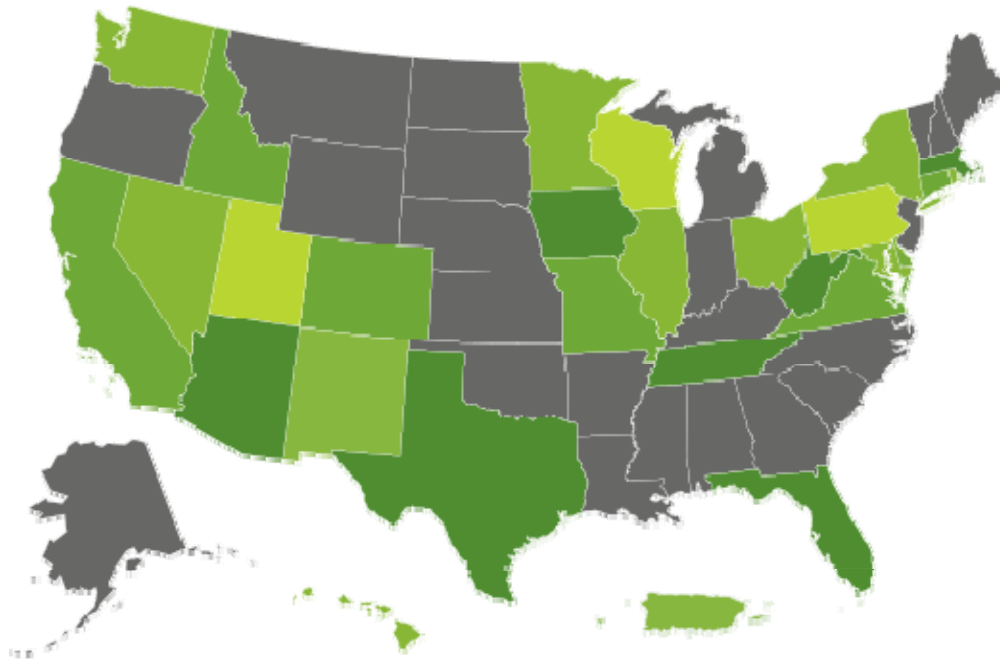
A Monthly Webinar by the  
American Solar Transformation Initiative  
April 24, 2014

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# About ASTI

Initiative to **reduce the total installed costs** of solar systems  
And **increase deployment** of solar power across the country



## Focus Areas:

- Utility Interconnection
- Local Permitting Process
- Planning & Zoning Regulations
- Education and Outreach
- Financing Tools and Resources
- Innovative Deployment Programs

*125+ Cities/Counties Across the USA*

# Agenda

Introduction to Topic (10 min)

Case Studies & Strategies (20 min)

Q & A (as needed)



*Currently 40 Cities/Counties  
in ASTI working on this goal!*

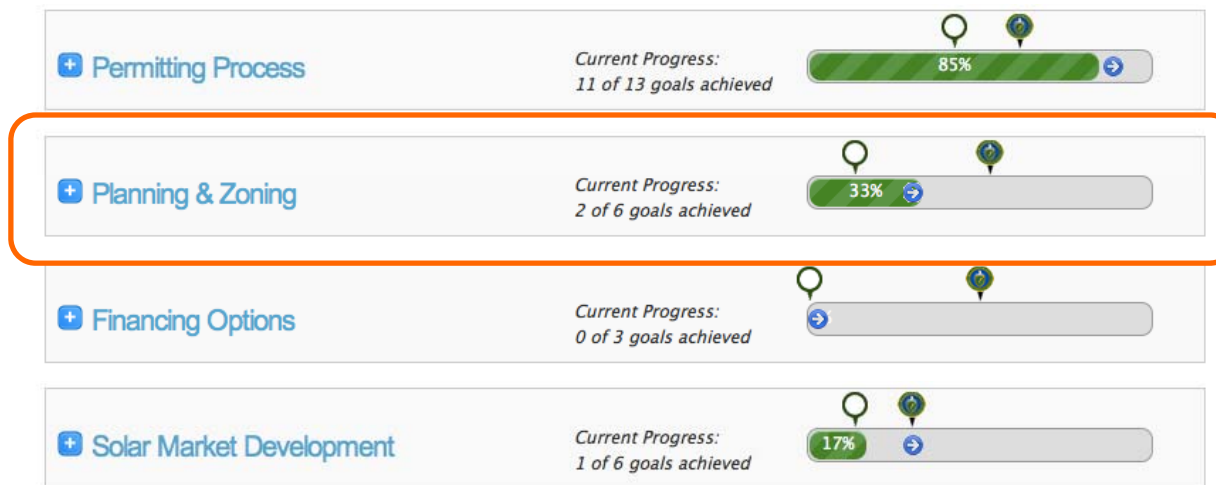


# Background >> Case Studies >> Getting Started

## How Does Solar Planning Fit into ASTI Program Goals?

Part of Core Focus Area: Planning and Zoning

Achieves Goal Z4: “Incorporating Solar Priorities into Comprehensive or Energy Plans”



## Why Plan for Solar?

Solar can help:

- Meet emissions reduction and environmental goals
- Encourage economic development and job creation
- Manage increasing energy demand

Long-term planning can:

- Establish solar as a viable energy option locally
- Set specific metrics and deadlines
- Affirm community's commitment and secure resources and political will to reach goals
- Positively influence future development
- Limit impacts of installation

# Background >> Case Studies >> Getting Started

## Typical Medium

- Climate Action / Energy Action / Sustainability Plans
- Comprehensive Plans
- alternatives . . .

## Typical Goals

- Deployment targets (municipal facilities)
- Deployment targets (community-wide)
  - ⇒ target can be # of systems, total capacity, % offset, or % of total buildings

## Typical Actions

- Land use planning updates
- Awareness and education efforts
- New finance programs
- Online solar information portals
- Solar installs on municipal buildings
- Solar-friendly development standards



## Berkeley, CA – Climate Action Plan (2009)

### Goals:

- Carbon reduction (80% by 2050)
- Energy independence and security
- Workforce development

### Actions:

- Develop innovative finance programs
- Provide personalized energy consultations
- Create and publish online solar map
- Host solar information on City website
- Youth job training and placement programs

### Other Key Features:

- Citizens invited to join working groups
- Plan and yearly progress reports published online

Available at [www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=19668](http://www.ci.berkeley.ca.us/ContentDisplay.aspx?id=19668)



## San Jose, CA – Green Vision Plan (2007)

### Goals:

- 100% of electrical power from renewable, clean sources by 2022

### Other Key Features:

- Goals and progress published online
- Work plan is updated yearly, with key actions for upcoming year listed
- Ambitious!

### Actions:

- Install solar on municipal sites using PPA's
- Offer PACE financing
- Develop the Silicon Valley Energy Map
- Streamlined solar permitting
- Solar information on City website
- Actively monitor and comment on state legislation

Available at <http://www.sanjoseca.gov/Index.aspx?NID=1417>

Silicon Valley Energy Map: <http://www.svenergymap.org/>





## Alameda County, CA – General Plan (2013)

### Goals:

- Maximize the production of solar photovoltaic energy to the extent feasible, while minimizing potential biological, agricultural, visual, and other environmental impacts

### New Policy Measures:

- Priority given to solar projects within existing built environment
- For solar proposed on valuable farmland, land of equivalent value must be placed under permanent easement elsewhere
- Includes decommissioning requirements

### Other Key Features:

- Amending the Zoning Ordinance to add solar energy combining district to prioritize areas best suited for solar (and discourage siting in environmentally sensitive areas)

<http://www.acgov.org/cda/planning/landuseprojects/documents/ECAP-amendments-revised-4-11-13.pdf>



## Pueblo County, CO – Strategic Sustainability Plan (2012)

### Goals:

- Advance Pueblo County as a Statewide Leader in Renewable Energy Generation

### Other Key Features:

- Sustainability Committee to become a permanent body
- Includes detailed description of how the Plan was developed

### Actions:

- Work with local utilities to provide net metering to all consumers
- Continue ongoing education efforts focused on efficiency and renewables, and serve as a resource for smaller communities
- Identify County-owned facilities for solar installations (minimum two facilities per year)
- Track individual solar installations within the County using an online tool

Available at <http://pueblo.org/government/sustainability>



## Action Steps

- Make commitment and organize team
- Assess current status and needs
- Contact ASTI team for assistance when needed
- Set goals
  - ⇒ then develop content, implement, and track



# Background >> Case Studies >> Getting Started

## Take Action!

Learn more online:

- [View Goal Z4](#) along with supporting resources
- [Search our library](#) with over 50 planning and zoning related examples
- <http://www.planning.org/research/solar/> visit the APA's solar library

Contact the ASTI team for support!

This presentation is also available online at <http://www.solarroadmap.com/webinar/z4/>



# THANK YOU!

For more information and to take action contact: [Thomas.Yurysta@optony.com](mailto:Thomas.Yurysta@optony.com)



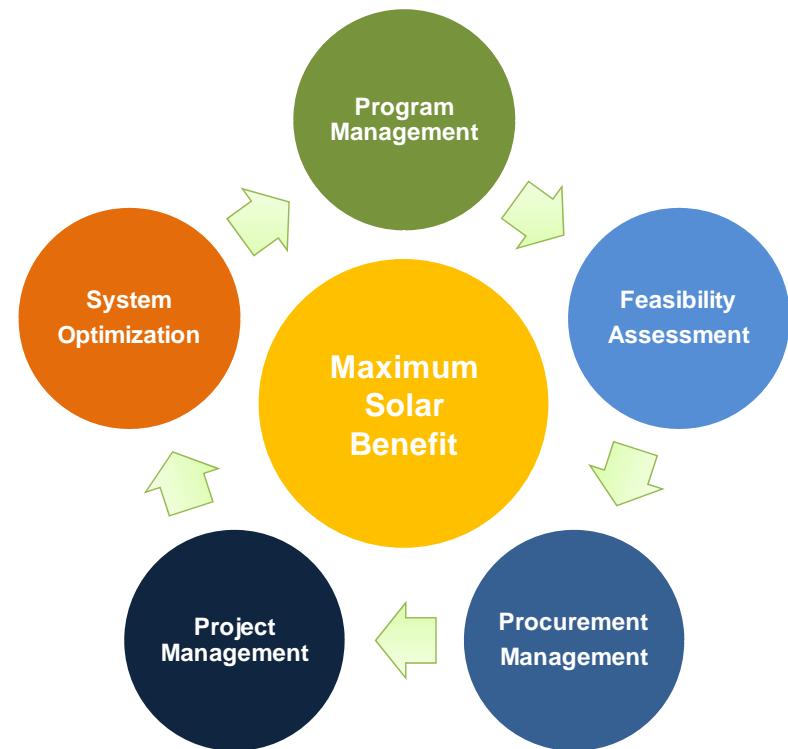


# About Optony

Optony develops and deploys solar best practices across the entire solar project lifecycle for government agencies, schools and commercial organizations.

Working with clients across all phases of solar projects creates deep insight into true performance drivers which is used to reduce costs and improve performance at any stage in the process.

[www.optony.com](http://www.optony.com)



*“Optony's consulting service is a must-have for any organization considering an investment in solar. Based on Optony's comprehensive analysis and recommendations, we now have a low-risk, high-return solar strategy.”*

