

PUBLIC NOTICE: INVITATION OF COMMENTS

Pursuant to *Section 45-22.2-9(c)(2) of the General Laws of Rhode Island*, the Division of Planning hereby gives public notice of the invitation of comments from regional and state agencies, contiguous communities, and other interested parties regarding the local comprehensive plan document listed below.

The City of Cranston, RI Cranston 2010 Comprehensive Plan - 2010

ID#: CRN-17-01

Posted June 9, 2016

Amendment to establish *Solar Performance Standards*.

Materials Attached for Review:

- Adopted ordinance detailing new text that has been inserted.

The comment period for review is thirty days from the date of posting. All comments should reference the **document title and identifier number**, and should be submitted to:

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THE CITY OF CRANSTON

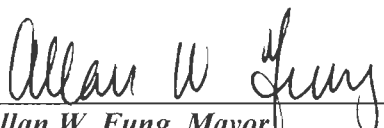
ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL
IN AMENDMENT OF THE 2010 COMPREHENSIVE PLAN
FOR THE CITY OF CRANSTON, AS AMENDED 2012
(Solar Performance Standards)

No. 2017-12

Passed:
April 24, 2017


Michael J Farina, Council President

Approved
May 2, 2017


Allan W. Fung, Mayor

WHEREAS, the City Council (the "Council") is the governing body of the City of Cranston and is authorized to promulgate Ordinances to promote the general welfare of the City;

WHEREAS, the Council has determined that it is in the best interest of the City to permit renewable energy production facilities to be located within the City; and

WHEREAS, allowing such renewable energy production facilities in the City is consistent with the directives of the Rhode Island Statewide Planning Council.

It is ordained by the City Council of the City of Cranston as follows:

Section 1: The Cranston 2010 Comprehensive Plan, as adopted by the City Council on September 24, 2012 and endorsed by the Mayor on September 25, 2012, is hereby amended

1. The (Element 1) Goals and Policies Statement is amended by adding the following:

- a. At the end of LUP-1.3, inserting, "Preserve existing farmland and developable land that is currently undeveloped, by temporally removing the development potential through land banking by allowing the land to be used for passive alternative energy generation such as solar power."

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- b. Adding, EDG-2.4: Encourage the development of renewable energy facilities.
- c. Adding, NRP-1.9: Encourage the development of renewable energy facilities in appropriate locations supporting economic growth while fostering low impact development.

2. The **Land Use Plan Element** is amended by adding the following

a. Under Key Strategies, add:

“Renewable Energy Production and Consumption

Cranston should actively encourage the availability and implementation of energy infrastructure throughout the City. For example, the Zoning Ordinance should permit the development of renewable energy production facilities in appropriate areas, including, without limitation, in the A-80, M-1, M-2 and S-1 zoning districts, and should promote the development of multiple renewable energy production facilities within the City. Development of such renewable energy production facilities can advance the City’s goals of developing the City’s economic resources while limiting the impact of development on surrounding areas and on municipal services. Such developments also further the City’s low-impact and green development objectives by improving air quality and reducing reliance on traditional energy sources.

The Zoning Ordinance should be modified to identify which types of renewable energy production facilities are to be allowed within the City, the zoning districts in which such facilities are to be located, and the standards by which such facilities are to be developed.

Ground-mounted solar power facilities are a main type of renewable energy production, and it is encouraged that the Zoning Ordinance be amended to allow this type of renewable energy production within the City, including within residential and commercial zoning districts.”

b. At the end of Preserve the agricultural lands along the Historic Farm - Concentrate development, inserting, “Temporarily removing the development potential of the land located in western Cranston [land banking] by allowing the land to be used for passive alternative energy generation, such as solar power.”

c. Table 2-4 (Smart Growth – Green Development Action Items), at the end of LU-10, inserting, “Temporarily removing the development potential of the

land located in western Cranston [land banking] by allowing the land to be used for passive alternative energy generation, such as solar power.”

- d. Table 2-5 (Summary of the Actions and Responsibilities for this Plan), at the end of LU-10, inserting, “Temporarily removing the development potential of the land located in western Cranston [land banking] by allowing the land to be used for passive alternative energy generation, such as solar power.”

3. The **Economic Development Element** is amended by adding the following in Part III Strategies and Actions:

“Renewable Energy Production and Consumption

Cranston should develop renewable energy infrastructure for the benefit of the private sector to spur economic activity in the City. Cranston aims to show a continued commitment to environmentally-friendly policies, which in turn will cause businesses to generate renewable energy and benefit from savings that will generate construction jobs, pay for better employee benefits and/or be reinvested in the community. Moreover, the development of renewable energy infrastructure within the City may result in additional tax revenue, jobs and overall economic activity within the City.

4. The **Implementation Program Element** is amended by inserting the following:

- a. Table 9-1 (Summary of the Proposed Actions, Time Frames, and Responsibilities for This Plan), at the end of LU-10, inserting, “Temporarily removing the development potential of the land located in western Cranston [land banking] by allowing the land to be used for passive alternative energy generation, such as solar power.”
- b. Table 9-1 (Summary of the Proposed Actions, Time Frames, and Responsibilities for This Plan), at the end of LU-17, inserting, “Encourage the development of renewable energy facilities- Short Term (1 Year)”
- c. Table 9-1 (Summary of the Proposed Actions, Time Frames, and Responsibilities for This Plan), adding ED-29, “Encourage the development of renewable energy facilities- Short Term (1 Year)”
- d. Table 9-1 (Summary of the Proposed Actions, Time Frames, and Responsibilities for This Plan),), at the end of NR-3, inserting, “Encourage the development of renewable energy facilities- Short Term (1 Year)”