

**AN ORDINANCE REGULATING SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS
WITHIN THE CITY OF MOUND**

The City Council of the City of Mound ordains:

SECTION 1. The City Council of the City of Mound hereby amends Chapter 129, Section 129-2. Definitions to add the following terms:

Building-integrated solar energy systems means a solar energy system that is an integral part of a principal or accessory building. Rather than a separate mechanical device, the building-integrated solar energy system replaces or substitutes for an architectural or structural component of the building. Building-integrated systems include, but are not limited to, photovoltaic systems that are contained within roofing materials, windows, skylights, and awnings.

Ground-mounted solar energy system means a solar panel system mounted on a rack or pole that rests or is attached to the ground. This shall not be construed to include an individual solar panel installed to serve a mechanical equipment such as, but not limited to a security light, gate, or boat lift.

Roof-mounted solar energy system means a solar energy system mounted on a rack that is fastened to or ballasted on a roof structure.

Solar access means an unobstructed access to direct sunlight on a lot or building through the entire year, including access adjacent parcel air rights, for the purpose of capturing direct sunlight to operate a solar energy system.

SECTION 2. The City Council of the City of Mound hereby amends Chapter 129, Section 129-99 to add the following to the Allowable uses (residential districts) table:

Use	R-1	R-1A	R-2	R-3
Solar energy system, building-integrated or roof-mounted	A	A	A	A
Solar panel for mechanical equipment (e.g. boat lift, gate, etc.)	A	A	A	A

SECTION 3. The City Council of the City of Mound hereby amends Chapter 129, Section 129-135 to add the following to the Allowable uses table:

Use	MU-D	MU-C	C-1	I-1
Accessory Uses				
Solar energy system, building-integrated or roof-mounted	P	P	P	P
Solar panel for mechanical equipment (e.g. security light, security camera)	P	P	P	P

SECTION 4. The City Council of the City of Mound hereby amends Chapter 129, to add Section 129-206 Solar Energy Systems containing the following text:

Sec. 129-206. Solar Energy Systems

- (a) Building-integrated and roof-mounted solar energy systems are allowed on principal or accessory buildings.
- (b) No ground mounted solar energy systems are allowed except for a individual solar panel used to provide power for equipment such as light, security camera, boat lift, etc.
- (c) No solar parking lot shade structures or carports are allowed.
- (d) Building-integrated solar energy systems shall be regulated similar to building elements, such as, but not limited to, roofing materials.
- (e) Roof-mounted solar energy systems.
- (1) Shall not exceed the maximum allowed height in any zoning district.
- (2) Shall be flush mounted on pitched roofs unless the roof pitch is determined to be inadequate, in which case the pitch of the solar collector may exceed the pitch of the roof by up to 5% and the collector and racking shall be set back from all roof edges by at least two feet. In no case shall the roof-mounted solar energy system be higher than ten inches above the roof.
- (3) May be bracket-mounted on flat roofs. Bracket-mounted collectors shall be certified by a registered architect or engineer and shall be permitted only when a determination is made by the building official that the underlying roof structure will support the solar energy system, wind, and snow loads.
- (4) Shall not extend beyond the exterior perimeter of the building on which the system is mounted.
- (f) Removal.
- (1) The removal of a solar energy system must include the entire structure, including the transmission equipment.
- (2) If a solar energy system remains nonfunctional or inoperative for a continuous period of one year, the system shall be deemed to be abandoned and shall constitute as a public nuisance. The owner shall remove the abandoned system at their expense after a demolition permit has been obtained unless the City Council grants an extension of time for its removal.

SECTION 5. This ordinance becomes effective on the first day following the date of its publication, or upon the publication of a summary of the ordinance as provided by Minn. Stat. § 412.191, subd. 4, as it may be amended from time to time, which meets the requirements of Minn. Stat. § 331A.01, subd. 10, as it may be amended from time to time.

Adopted by the City Council this 22nd day of October, 2024.

Mayor Jason R. Holt

Attest: Kevin Kelly, Clerk