Solar Ready Checklist

Version 01092023

Site Planning	Completed	Notes:
Determine anticipated solar array size to serve building (minimum 200 square feet for single family residential recommended) Resource: https://palebluedot.llc/solar-and-energy-calculator		
Check the zoning laws for the proposed site to determine the potential of shade from future neighboring construction		
Design site, landscaping, and buildings to avoid shading from trees, buildings, and other obstructions on the portions of the East, South, and West facing roof planes designated to receive solar PV		
Ensure landscape plan uses dwarf tree varieties, or locates trees sufficiently distant on East, South, and West sides of designated solar arrray location to avoid shading.		
Based on anticipated desired solar array, zoning, and site/building design determine location of future rooftop and/or ground mounted solar array. Designate locations on drawings.		

Building Form		Notes:
Ensure building form and design accommodate sufficient flat-roof or South-facing sloped roof space to meet anticipated solar array size for rooftop array locations		
Ensure building form and design do not create sun shading across designated rooftop or ground mounted solar array locations particularly durring prime solar energy generating hours from 10am to 3pm.		

Roof Design		Notes:
The roof of any rooftop designated solar location must be capable of carrying the load of the solar equipment. Evaluate roof for load capability of up to 6 lbs/SF (or as determined by structural engineer). Record structural specifications on drawings.		
Evaluate roof at designated rooftop solar array locations for wind load capacity, including solar pv impacts. Record structural specifications on drawings.		
Verify structure meets anticipated loading capacity of inverters at designated inverter locations (see Building Systems). Provide anchorage capacity at locations.		
Specify solar array anchorage locations on drawings.		
Minimize rooftop equipment to maximize available open area for solar array. Ensure no mechanical or electrical equipment, venting, or other mechanical obstructions will be placed within the designated solar array area. Place rooftop equipment to North of solar array or as needed to avoid casting shadows on designated solar array location(s).		

Building Systems		Notes:
Identify electrical panel location for convenient PV system inter-connections, and identify space available in the electrical panel for a PV circuit breaker. Verify required circuit capacity based on anticipated future array size (see Site Planning) and label circuits "Reserved for Solar PV"		
Designate locations for inverters and batteries (if planned). Specify locations on drawings		
Install electrical conduit at time of construction in order for the solar system to be routed to the building's electrical panel		
Run electrical conduit from designated solar array location(s) to anticipated inverter locations and electrical panel and label all conduit runs "Reserved for Solar PV". Consult solar PV electrical engineer and code official for minimum recommended conduit size.		

Other Solar Ready Considerations Implemented: