#### REDUCING PERMITTING BARRIERS FOR DISTRIBUTED WIND

Deb Perry Program Director



# **ICMA FACTS AND STATS**

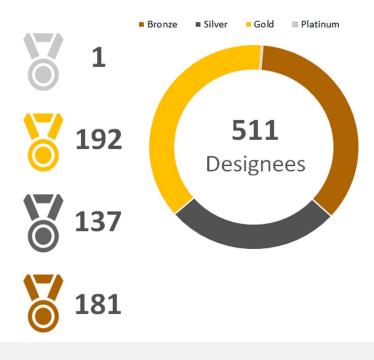
- Founded in 1914
- More than 13,000 local government leaders, managers, staff, and stakeholder members
- Core members are chief appointed executives that run cities, counties, towns, and townships
- Offer professional development, research, content, and peer to peer opportunities annually to thousands of local government professionals worldwide
- Deliver technical assistance and training to communities and professionals in the United States and internationally on topics that range from clean energy and sustainability to economic development and public health.



# **EXPANDING THE SOLSMART MODEL**

- Since 2016, SolSmart has helped more than 510 communities implement best practices that reduce solar soft costs
- SolSmart is a technical assistance and recognition program – communities earn points as they implement best practices and can earn bronze, silver, gold or platinum designation levels
- SolSmart has designees in 43 states plus the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. 177 million people (over 1 in 3 Americans) live in a SolSmart designated community.







# SUPPORTING LOCAL GOVERNMENTS IN KEY AREAS

SolSmart Communities earn points by taking action in five key areas:

- Permitting and Inspection
- Planning and Zoning
- Government Operations
- Community Engagement
- Market Development





## **OPPORTUNITIES TO IMPROVE LOCAL PERMITTING FOR DISTRIBUTED WIND**

We'll focus on:

- Clear, consistent, transparent, and efficient permitting and inspection processes
- Permitting practices that reflect best practices in terms of height, setback requirements, safety, etc.
- Permitting fees, submissions and timelines
- Trained permitting and inspection staff



### **BUILDING THE DEMAND FOR DISTRIBUTED WIND**

- Key issue is a lack of awareness many local governments don't think about potential for distributed wind
- We'll be working to raise awareness through education, outreach, training
- Partners include the National Association of Counties, National League of Cities, Interstate Renewable Energy Council, Great Plains Institute, Cadmus Group, World Resources Institute, NREL and DWEA



# **LET'S TALK!**

- We want to hear the DW industry perspective on the most valuable actions local governments can take
- What challenges do you encounter in different jurisdictions?
- What "selling points" seem to resonate with local governments?
- Know a community that needs help with permitting, inspection, planning or zoning? Please send communities to us!



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