



Notice: Town of Westfield Amends Ordinance Relating to Solar Energy Systems

On August 11, 2020, the Town of Westfield adopted [General Ordinance No. 2178](#), which amends the Town's Land Use Ordinance to allow for street facing solar panels when they meet the following requirements in addition to other requirements specified in the ordinance that apply to all solar panel installations:

1. No solar energy system shall be located on street-facing roof plane or street-facing facade if an SPR of at least one can be generated by installation of a solar energy system array on a non-street-facing roof plane or non-street-facing façade;
2. The solar panels must be flush mounted to the roof;
3. The solar panels must not interfere with character-defining roof features;
4. The color of the solar panels, trim and any visible mounting hardware must closely match the color of adjacent roofing material; and
5. No wiring, cables, conduit, etc., may travel from the front-facing roof to any front façade of the structure.

Front-facing solar panels are not permitted for locally historically designated properties.

Installation Process & Permitting

1. Permit application forms may be obtained from the Town of Westfield Building Department. Please see www.westfieldnj.gov/building for more information. Your application may be submitted to the Building Department at 959 North Avenue West.
2. In addition to the submission of required construction permit application forms, the Land Use Ordinance requires that the following be submitted for review by the Zoning Officer and which must be submitted along with your Building Department application:
 - a. All applications for solar energy systems shall be accompanied by a property survey showing the proposed location or locations of the solar energy system and distance from property lines.

- b. The applicant must submit photographs showing the property from the public view, and the location of the proposed solar energy system. These photographs must demonstrate compliance with the visibility and other provisions of this ordinance.
 - c. For front-facing solar panels, the applicant must submit the certification of a professional engineer or other individual deemed qualified by the Zoning Officer that no other solar energy system array on the property, other than a front-facing solar array, will generate an SPR of at least 1. This certification must include the SPR calculation for each roof plane on which a solar energy system array could be erected.
3. The Town Zoning Officer will review the application submission for compliance with Land Use Ordinance provisions. Once approved by the Zoning Officer, the application will be referred to the appropriate construction code officials for review and if approved, issuance of a construction permit.



Application Checklist

- Application requirements in all applicable construction codes and the Town Land Use Ordinance

- Property survey showing proposed location or locations of the solar energy system and distance from property lines.

- Photographs showing the property from the public view, and the location of the proposed solar energy system. Photographs must demonstrate compliance with the ordinance's placement, visibility and other related provisions.

- The certification of a professional engineer or other individual deemed qualified by the Zoning Officer that no other roof-mounted solar energy system array on the property, other than a street-facing solar array, will generate an SPR of at least 1. (Street-facing systems only) The certification must include the SPR calculation for each roof plane on which a solar energy system array could be erected.