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## **Amendment Report to the Board of Trustees**

### **Revise Rooftop Solar Panel Review Process**

Prepared: 10/22/2025

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**Project:** 2025-0820 – Land Development Code Amendment: Revise Rooftop Solar Panel Review Process

**Requested Approvals:** Revise the Solar Panel Review Process to remove the Appearance Review requirement for flush-mounted rooftop commercial solar panels.

### **PROPOSED AMENDMENT SUMMARY**

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The goal of this proposed amendment is to revise the Environmental Clean Technology (ETC) regulations to simplify the review procedure for non-residential flush-mounted rooftop solar panels. In 2023, an amendment was approved to remove the Appearance Review requirement for residential flush-mounted rooftop solar panels (Case No. 2023-0994).

Currently, Appearance Reviews for non-residential rooftop solar panels are conducted regularly, and staff has observed that they consistently meet the ETC code requirements. As a result, the need for Appearance Reviews for solar installations has become largely procedural rather than necessary.

The proposed amendment would streamline the process by allowing all flush-mounted rooftop solar installations to be approved administratively through the building permit review process. Ground-mounted or highly visible systems would continue to require an Appearance Review prior to building permit submittals to ensure appropriate design, adequate screening, and minimal visual impact.

### **PLAN COMMISSION SUMMARY**

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Present at the Plan Commission meeting were 7 Commissioners and Village staff. Following the Staff Recommendation, the commissioners commented that they encourage streamlining Village processes.

### **PLAN COMMISSION ACTION**

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Regarding Case Number 2025-0820, also known as "Land Development Code Amendment: Revise Solar Panel Review Process," the Plan Commission recommends that the Board of Trustees **approves** the Land Development Code Amendment for Section 6-314.B.1.

### **PLAN COMMISSION RECOMMENDED ACTION**

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Regarding Case Number 2025-0820, also known as "Land Development Code Amendment: Revise Solar Panel Review Process," I move to approve the Plan Commission Recommended Action for this case;

AND

I move to adopt an Ordinance entitled: AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE LAND DEVELOPMENT CODE OF THE VILLAGE OF ORLAND PARK, AS AMENDED