

# GLASSBORO IN THE NEWS

BOROUGH OF GLASSBORO  
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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PR 01010-Solar PPA RFP

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Solar Smarts:  
GLASSBORO EXPLORES OPTIONS TO HARNESS  
SOLAR POWER WITHOUT INCREASING TAXES

Glassboro— The Borough of Glassboro is looking for innovative ways to adopt solar power, protect taxpayers from rising electricity costs and protect the environment from polluting power sources. Through a Request for Proposals for a Solar Power Purchase Agreement (SPPA) issued last month, the Borough is hoping to initiate an agreement with an independent power provider that would require no upfront capital outlay for property or equipment on the part of the Borough.

In a solar power agreement, a local government entity pays a reduced monthly rate for electricity generated by the municipal solar system which is owned by the solar provider. According to Assistant Borough Administrator Greg Sawyer, a solar power provider in Glassboro would own the system and sell the electricity generated to the Borough, generally for 5-25% less than the grid rate. Generally an agreement will be contracted for 15 years. The solar power provider, a private company, would take advantage of tax incentives that are unavailable to the municipality and would also be responsible for maintenance and insurance.

“As a result of such an agreement, the Borough could expect to reduce its annual energy costs from the system’s first day of operation and for the duration of the PPA. We have been exploring solar option for more than a year, and are looking forward to helping convert this environmental vision into

tangible benefits for our residents, the community of Glassboro and the planet,” said Sawyer, who is overseeing the request for proposals.

Sawyer pointed out that additional benefits of such an innovative partnership to the Borough include predictable energy pricing over the term of the contract and no system performance or operating risk to the municipality. Also, such a project can produce savings for the Borough from day one and visibly demonstrates environmental commitment.

Glassboro officials are assessing municipal facilities with prospective solar providers through June 2 and are hoping to make a decision later that month as to which solar provider is the best for the Borough. The Borough’s SPPA initiative could be operational by the end of the year, according to Sawyer.

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