

LOCAL LAW NO. 2 OF 2023
A LOCAL LAW
IMPOSING A SIX-MONTH MORATORIUM ON
GROUND MOUNTED SOLAR PANEL AND SOLAR FARM INSTALLATION

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEWISTON TOWN BOARD AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. PURPOSE AND INTENT

The purpose of this Local Law is to amend the Code to place a six (6) month moratorium on the processing, permitting and/or construction of ground mounted solar panels and solar farms within the Town to allow time for the drafting and adoption of amendments to the Code of the Town of Lewiston affecting these types of uses. These amendments, among other things, will amend the location where ground mounted solar panels and solar farms may be allowed set design requirements and such other regulations as may be necessary to promote and preserve the health, safety and welfare of the Town of Lewiston and its citizens.

SECTION 2. FINDINGS

The Town of Lewiston Town Board does hereby find that without a temporary halt on the processing, permitting, and approvals for ground mounted solar panels and solar farms there is the potential that such uses could be located in unsuitable areas within the Town and/or on particular lots without adequate dimensional regulations for, such uses would have materially adverse and irreversible impacts on the Town.

The Town Board also finds that it is in need of time to perform the necessary analysis of the potential types of ground mounted solar panels and solar farms that could be located in the Town. By maintaining the status quo regarding such uses the Town Board can provide for the planned orderly growth and development of the Town.

SECTION 3. MORATORIUM IMPOSED; APPLICABILITY

For the period commencing on the effective date of this Local Law, and for six (6) months thereafter, there shall be a moratorium on the processing, permitting, and/or construction of ground mounted solar panels and solar farms within the Town of Lewiston, outside of the incorporated Village of Lewiston. This moratorium shall not effect an existing or proposed rooftop-mounted solar energy system that is designed and intended to generate electricity solely for use on said lot.

SECTION 4. TERM

This moratorium shall be in effect for a period of six (6) consecutive months from its effective date.

SECTION 5. SEVERABILITY

The invalidity of any word, section, clause, paragraph, sentence or part or provision of this Local Law shall not affect the validity or any other part of this Local Law which shall be in effect.

This law shall be effective upon filing with the Office of the Secretary of State.