



What:



This icon will be used across all materials to indicate State Law Updates, including Chapters, staff reports, etc.

Updates to state law for permitting commercial energy facilities necessitate an update to Chapter 19. The focus is on coordination and notification of key agency partners like ODFW, the US Military, and the Oregon Department of Aviation.

Citizens have also asked staff to remove permitting requirements for residential, roof-mounted solar panels.

Why:

- State law requirement
- Citizens want reduced barriers to solar panels

Who:

State law
Citizens

Where & When:

Drafts go live on the project website (<https://wasco2040.com>) along with a virtual open house on May 4th. There you can comment or ask questions in the draft or using the comment/ask a planner functions. The first virtual Ask a Planner event is scheduled for May 18th at 5pm. In-person open houses are tentatively scheduled for May 24th and June 8th.

Citizens can submit comments or questions via mail, email, or the website any time between April and September 12th. The first hearing is on September 13th.

Potential Impacts

The goal of the updates at the state level is to ensure early coordination and notification of impacted government agencies to reduce late comment or issues with large, commercial energy permits. The most significant impact should be improvement and transparency to the review process.

The optional update proposed, to remove permitting requirements for residential, roof-mounted solar panels should reduce the time and cost for property owners to install solar panels on their home. Because this is only being proposed for projects that are below the 35' height requirement, staff does not anticipate any impacts to adjacent property owners. The intent is to improve the resiliency and sustainability of residential development in Wasco County.

More info:

Ask a Question:

Submit a Comment:

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