



**BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS OF COOK COUNTY
BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS**

**Cook County Building, Board Room,
118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois**

New Items Agenda

Thursday, June 29, 2023, 10:00 AM

Sixth Set

[23-3872](#)

Sponsored by: BRIDGET GAINER and BRIDGET DEGNEN, Cook County Board of Commissioners

PROPOSED ORDINANCE AMENDMENT

ORDINANCE EXCLUDING SOLAR ENERGY SYSTEMS FROM ASSESSOR'S MARKET VALUATION OF STRUCTURE AND IMPROVEMENTS

BE IT ORDAINED, by the Cook County Board of Commissioners that Chapter 74, Article II, is hereby amended to add the following sections:

Sec. 74.49. Valuation of solar energy systems installed on commercial or industrial structures and improvements.

(a) *Purpose.* To reach its clean energy goals, the County Board finds that it is necessary to install solar energy systems on the roofs of commercial and industrial structures throughout the County. Owners of commercial and industrial property in Cook County should be encouraged to use otherwise unproductive roofs to help the County generate solar energy and create new jobs for County residents. When evaluating Cook County rooftops for solar energy system installation, owners and investors need certainty that the installation will not, on its own, increase property taxes.

(b) *Exclusion of solar energy systems from market valuation of commercial and industrial structures and improvements.* When determining the value of any commercial or industrial property listed for taxation in the County, the County Assessor shall ascertain and utilize the value of the property's structures and improvements without consideration of any solar energy system installed in or on such structures or improvements.

(c) *Application.* This section shall apply to assessments initiated after the effective date of this Ordinance.

(d) *Definitions.* For purposes of this Section, the terms are defined as follows:

Solar energy means radiant energy received from the sun at wave lengths suitable for heat transfer, photosynthetic use, or photovoltaic use.

Solar collector means:

- (1) An assembly, structure, or design, including passive elements, used for gathering, concentrating, or absorbing direct and indirect solar energy, specially designed for holding a substantial amount of useful thermal energy and to transfer that energy to a gas, solid, or liquid or to use that energy directly; or
- (2) A mechanism that absorbs solar energy and converts it into electricity; or
- (3) A mechanism or process used for gathering solar energy through wind or thermal gradients; or

- (4) A component used to transfer thermal energy to a gas, solid, or liquid, or to convert it into electricity.

Solar storage mechanism means equipment or elements (such as piping and transfer mechanisms, containers, heat exchangers, or controls thereof, and gases, solids, liquids, or combinations thereof) that are utilized for storing solar energy, gathered by a solar collector, for subsequent use.

Solar energy system means

- (1)
- i. a complete assembly, structure, or design of solar collector, or a solar storage mechanism, which uses solar energy for generating electricity or thermal energy;
 - ii. the design, materials, or elements of a system and its maintenance, operation, and labor components, and the necessary components, if any, of supplemental conventional energy systems designed or constructed to interface with a solar energy system;
 - iii. any legal, financial, or institutional orders, certificates, or mechanisms, including easements, leases, and agreements, required to ensure continued access to solar energy, its source, or its use in a solar energy system, and including monitoring and educational elements of a demonstration project;
- (2) Solar energy system does not include:
- i. distribution equipment that is equally usable in a conventional energy system except for those components of the equipment that are necessary for meeting the requirements of efficient solar energy utilization; or
 - ii. components of a solar energy system that serve only as structural, insulating, protective, shading, aesthetic, or other non-solar energy utilization purposes, as defined in the regulations of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity
 - iii. The solar energy system shall conform to the standards for those systems established by regulation of the Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity.

Effective date: This Ordinance shall be effective immediately upon approval and adoption.

23-3301

Sponsored by: Chief Judge, Cook County Board of Commissioners

REPORT

Department: Office of the Chief Judge, Circuit Court of Cook County

Report Title: Behavioral Services Mid-Year Report

Report Period: December 1, 2022 through May 31, 2023

Summary: Pursuant to the Cook County Board Resolution to assess needs and improve the quality and effectiveness of behavioral health provided by Cook County government, attached are the mid-year reports of behavioral health programs and services provided by the Circuit Court of Cook County.