FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: 09/10/2020

Normal Township Receives Funding For Solar

Press release from: Normal Township Activity and Recreation Center

Normal Township is excited to announce the solar array for the Activity and Recreation Center (ARC), located at 600 E Willow in Normal, has been approved for funding by the Illinois Solar For All (ILSFA) program. The solar array will be built by StraightUp Solar of Bloomington. Balance Solar is the finance partner who will facilitate the project. The array will provide at least 65% savings on electric costs at the senior center, with anticipated savings of \$24,934 in its first year, \$521,324 cumulatively over 15 years. The panels come with a 25-year warranty and life expectancy of 30-35 years. The Township will own the array outright at the beginning of year seven.

The grass roots education by the Ecology Action Center (EAC) was the spark that started this project. EAC Assistant Director Larissa Armstrong played an important role in educating the Township on the program and making the connection with a local installer.

"This solar project has been over a year in the making, and Normal Township is extremely excited to have the array approved for funding," said Normal Township Supervisor Sarah Grammer. "The solar array is an investment in the continued, long-term success of ARC, our senior center, which continues to be a top priority for the Township. This is yet another example of how the Normal Township board has worked to creatively improve finances for the senior center without raising taxes or membership fees."

The Township anticipates the installation to begin in the first quarter of 2021.

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