



City of Lawrence

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April 11, 2017

To Whom It May Concern:

Please accept this letter of support for the Lawrence Public Library's application to the EBSCO Solar Grant Program. The Lawrence Public Library is a key partner with the City of Lawrence as we work together to engage our community in our vision for a sustainable future.

In the City of Lawrence, we were recently awarded a 4 star rating from the STAR Communities rating system. This high score is in recognition of the sustainability policies and programs that our City and partners have been implementing to help us create a community that balances environmental protection, economic growth, and social equity.

Also, in early 2017, our Commission approved issuing municipal bonds for \$11.3 million to finance energy efficiency upgrades throughout our City facilities, buildings, and parks. We are upgrading HVAC systems, weatherizing buildings, and completing a citywide LED lighting retrofit. This will save the City over \$500,000 annually on our utility bills, and will reduce our green house gas emissions by avoiding 3,200 tons of CO₂ emissions annually.

As part of this energy efficiency project, we will be installing 100 kW of solar photovoltaic panels on our largest Fire Station. This will be a highly visible installation that will help us showcase our support for renewable energy while saving energy and money.

The Library's application to the EBSCO Solar Grant Program is well-timed to continue building upon our progress by adding another highly visible and accessible solar PV installation in our community. We look forward to partnering with EBSCO to continue to build a sustainable Lawrence, Kansas.

Sincerely,

Leslie Soden
Mayor

