



# City of Chattanooga

## Mayor Andy Berke

September 7, 2016

The City of Chattanooga is a true renaissance city, re-inventing itself not only out of necessity, but to sustain the quality of life that generations of Chattanoogaans have enjoyed and that is attracting many more.

Since being dubbed the "Dirtiest City in America" by the Environmental Protection Agency in 1969, Chattanooga has transformed its economy around preservation and enhancement of its natural beauty, including development of our 21st Century Waterfront. Chattanooga is home to miles of bike and pedestrian trails and open spaces characterized by an extensive tree canopy that blankets the ridges, hills and plateaus surrounding our city.

To that end, the City of Chattanooga supports the design, development, and installation of renewable energy that offers access to clean, affordable, and reliable electricity to all Chattanoogaans. In addition to taking the U.S. Department of Energy's (DOE) Better Buildings Challenge, the City of Chattanooga and our municipal Electric Power Board (EPB) are new partners in the DOE's Clean Energy for Low Income Communities Accelerator program. Beyond the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) awarding funding to EPB for its Community Solar program, the City and EPB are proactively reviewing ways to reduce barriers and increase affordability of renewable energy for people of all socioeconomic backgrounds.

In support of the SolSmart program, the City pledges to provide human capital, ingenuity, improvements in processes, and will identify and leverage other available resources. Through our commitment, we will facilitate measurable increases in solar installations on private and public properties within the City limits of Chattanooga. To achieve these results, the City will continue to partner with local foundations, not-for-profits, and businesses, as well as government agencies at all levels.

By way of this letter, the City of Chattanooga commits the above-mentioned resources to participate in the SolSmart designation process in order to assess, plan and measure our progress toward these goals.

Sincerely,

Andy

Mayor Andy Berke  
City of Chattanooga