To Members of the Iowa City Council:

It has come to our attention that the Council may be considering options for expanding solar use in Iowa City. This is indeed good news! This letter is to express our strong support for ‘community solar.’

Community solar makes it possible for more people to access solar power, participants in community solar projects lock in savings on their electricity bills every month, and community solar often benefits the utility companies with projects in their territories.

Community solar is obviously a win-win situation for all parties.  As we are sure you know, community solar functions similarly to conventional energy insofar as it provides energy remotely, requiring no installation or maintenance on the part of the consumer. Because of community solar projects' remote nature, the physical limitations of solar installation for consumers are addressed. Also, due to its opt-in availability, community solar can increase access to solar energy for low-income households and renters. As consumer rates for solar energy become lower through distributed generation of community solar, initial investment in community solar projects by the City experience higher returns in the long run.

As an organization dedicated to sustainable living, 100Grannies.org has long encouraged the use of alternative energies. We have been frustrated by the limitations that many Iowa City residents experience when they look into private solar installations. We wholeheartedly urge the City Council to establish community solar projects in neighborhoods throughout the City.

Please let us know how we can support City Council’s efforts to enhance and support community solar through our organization.

Respectfully,

The Steering Committee
100Grannies.org