

## City of Golden Community Solar Garden Evaluation Site #3: Rooney Road

### Site:

151 S. Rooney Road, Golden, CO 80401  
Jefferson County PIN: 300213776  
Roughly 10 acres of an 1880-acre parcel owned Jefferson County and leased by the City of Golden.

### Potential capacity:

Up to 2 megawatts or more in future phases  
(4,825 solar panels, 270 inverters)

### Potential progress toward the City's sustainability goals:

Generating about 3,000,000 kilowatt hours annually  
+2% toward 100% renewable energy target  
Producing equivalent energy for about 280 homes.

### Who can subscribe?

- ✓ Low-income households
- ✓ Renters
- ✓ Homeowners
- ✓ Business owners & tenants
- ✓ Commercial building owners
- ✓ Multi-family owners
- ✓ Municipal government

The City leases property at the closed Rooney Road Landfill from Jefferson County for recreational purposes, including five soccer fields. In 2017, City of Golden residents voted to allow renewable energy uses to the site, to allow for a potential community solar project.

A Colorado School of Mines study completed in 2017 included considerations for a ballasted ground-mounted system, needed to avoid penetrating the clay landfill cap. City staff and Jefferson County staff worked together to commission a 2017 drainage study that also included considerations for how a system would need to be built around existing gas extraction wells and to facilitate stormwater drainage off of the cap.

Grant funding may be available through the EPA brownfields program since the site is a former landfill.



**Opportunity:** Currently, the site is on hold for further actions while Jefferson County and City of Golden representatives assess the parcel for other potential uses, including revisions to the soccer fields and park uses in the larger Jeffco parcel. Additional research is needed for solar interconnection and feasibility.

**Cost/Benefit Analysis:** To be determined, but a preliminary analysis by CSM estimated a total cost of \$7.5M, including materials and installation.

**Next Steps:** Meet with Jefferson County officials to discuss the feasibility of a city or joint solar garden project and potentially pursue additional professional evaluation.