# *Thank you for your commitment to green initiatives at the University of Illinois. One of the ongoing requirements listed in the terms of the funding agreement for your project is the submission of semesterly reports with key information about your project. In addition to this form, please provide additional financial documentation and/or progress photos if available.*

# *Please be as accurate as possible in describing the project (including possible setbacks or challenges in meeting the initial goals of the project). Not fully meeting your project's goals will not disqualify you from making future funding requests as long as your reports are as complete and accurate as possible. If you have any questions, please contact the Student Sustainability Committee, at* *sustainability-committee@illinois.edu**.*

**Project Name:** Solar Farm 2.0 Landscape Buffer

**Date of Report Submission:** 6/9/2021

**Project Purpose:**

The goal of this project it to install a Landscape Buffer along Curtis Road from First Street to the railroad tracks. The plan includes a double row of ornamental trees; seasonal color in spring, summer, fall; bird and pollinator habitat and support; and a low row of shrubs, perennials and ornamental grasses, to provide further aesthetic and wildlife benefit.

**Detailed Accounting of Expenditures to Date:**

As we near the end of the project, we have spent a total of $246,824.84 which is well over the $55,000 contribution gratefully received from the SSC. This total cost includes the trees, shrubs, perennials, and turf restoration, both purchase cost and installation costs and a minor amount for coordination. Specifically, $53,000 went toward the cost of the ornamental trees. An additional amount is yet to be spent on a sign for the landscape buffer acknowledging the support of the SSC. That sign will be no more than the $2,000 that was estimated. With that final cost, all of the $55,000 of the SSC funding will be spent in FY21. If the sign comes in less, the remaining funds will be applied toward the ornamental trees.

**Project Progress to Date:**

The project took longer than the estimated 2/28/20 date to get a landscape contractor under contract. Unresolved site issues that came to light during this process slowed the contract to 4/17/20. However, all plants were ordered and installed on time, by the intended date of 6/26/20. This project is currently in warranty period and plants that did not make it through the winter 2020/2021 will be replaced soon, under the original contract.

**Student Involvement and Outreach to Date:**

We had students assist in the plant selection, landscape design and construction document preparation of the landscape buffer. We also have a student assist with inputting the new trees into the university’s online tree database this spring 2021.

**Marketing and Promotion Efforts to Date:**

Information on the landscape buffer for Solar Farm 2.0 can be found on both the F&S website and iCAP portal page dedicated to the Solar farms.

F&S Solar Farm page: <https://fs.illinois.edu/services/utilities-energy/production/solarfarm2>

iCAP portal link: <https://icap.sustainability.illinois.edu/project/solar-farm-20>

**Additional Comments:**

Any additional comments/relevant information for the semesterly report