

Renewable Energy Initiative

At YDSA Athens
January 24, 2019

Who Are We?

- ▶ We are a grassroots campaign, comprising local activist groups and concerned citizens, pushing for **100% Clean Renewable Energy in Athens by 2035.**





Citizens of ACC



Our Aims

- ▶ A just and equitable transition to 100% clean renewable energy for:
 - ▶ low-income housing
 - ▶ public municipal buildings;
 - ▶ ACC public transport fleet; and
 - ▶ private and industrial properties and vehicles.
- ▶ **Energy independence & resilience** for our municipality.

Who Else Is Doing It?

- ▶ Across the U.S. **100 cities and counting**, including **Atlanta** and **Clarkston** locally.



Source: Sierra Club (2018). "100% Commitments in Cities, Counties, & States". Available online at:
https://www.sierraclub.org/ready-for-100/commitments?fbclid=IwAR3elqfi8GRwAWhs7uJ_6_gCjk4sd9moWRbG4rQsUYXEIUyaypMWWKOReMU

Who Has Done It Already?



Aspen, CO



Greensburg, KS



Burlington, VT



Rock Port, MO



Kodiak Island, AK



Georgetown, TX

- **Six cities** in the U.S.—Aspen, CO; Burlington, VT; Georgetown, TX; Greensburg, KS; Rock Port, MO; and Kodiak Island, AK—have already hit their targets. These six cities now generate 100% of the energy used community-wide from clean, non-polluting and renewable sources.
- Atlanta's Office of Sustainability's plan is one local model we are looking at, which will include **“interim milestones, budget estimates, equity metrics, estimated financial impacts, financing mechanisms, and the percentage of clean energy that shall be locally distributed.”**

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How?

- ▶ **Resolution:** Propose a resolution by the ACC Unified Government to seek RE options and solutions wherever practicable *in perpetuity*.
- ▶ **A city commitment to 100% renewable energy is a mandate for action!**



How?

- ▶ **Special Tax Funding:** E.g. SPLOST, eSPLOST, TSPLOST: improving energy efficiency in low income housing, mandating net zero carbon emission targets for ACC public & administration buildings; and electrifying ACC bus & public service vehicle fleets.



- ▶ Federal grants
- ▶ Private donations
- ▶ Fundraising projects...

How?

- ▶ **Working with Sustainability Partners & Projects:**
E.g. ACC Office of Sustainability: Sustainable Energy Plan.



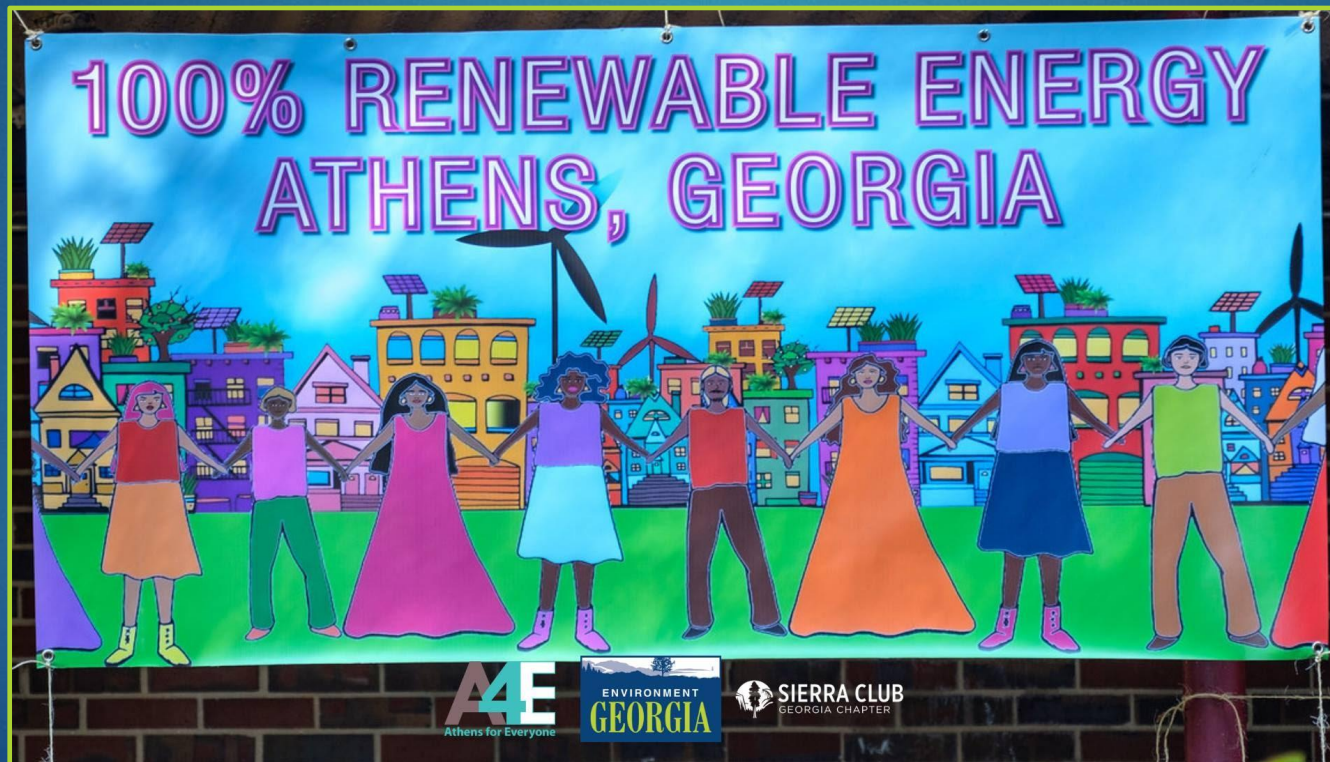
How?

- ▶ **Engaging Community Support:** Collaborating with local sustainable energy action groups such as CCL, GC3, Solarize Athens and 100% Athens with **community outreach & education.**



What Have We Done?

- ▶ **Rise for Climate Athens!** Event – September 2018.
 - ▶ Strong support from local elected officials & Athens residents.



Our Actions So Far Include...



- ▶ SPLOST Proposal for 100% Renewable Energy submitted – *November 2018*
- ▶ Petition for 100% RE in Athens-Clarke County – *December 2018*
- ▶ Community Policy Conversation on 100% Clean Energy – *December 2018*
- ▶ Working on Renewable Energy Resolution – *January 2019*
- ▶ Lobbying our elected officials - ongoing
- ▶ Media engagement to promote our cause – ongoing
- ▶ Community Outreach – ongoing & developing.

We Need Your Support



1. Please sign our **petition** tonight for 100% Renewable Energy in Athens-Clarke County!
2. You are all invited to attend the **presentation** of our SPLOST Proposal to the SPLOST 2020 Citizens Advisory Committee.
 - ▶ **Date:** Monday, February 18th, 2019
 - ▶ **Time:** 6:20PM
 - ▶ **Location:** Bobby Snipes Water Resources Center, 780 Barber Street, Athens, GA 30601.
 - ▶ Join our Facebook page *100% Athens* and receive an invitation.

What Else Can You Do?



- ▶ **Sign up** with *100% Athens*.
- ▶ **Follow** these and related pages on Facebook/Twitter: *100% Athens, Earth Strike, Georgia Climate Change Coalition, Sierra Club, Environment Georgia, Solarize Athens, Athens for Everyone*.
- ▶ **Sign up** for these organizations' newsletters to stay informed of meetings and events.
- ▶ **Lobby** your elected officials to act on climate change at the speed and scale needed; to treat this issue as a matter of urgency.
- ▶ **Join or create local chapters** for environmental action groups.
- ▶ **Start your own** Clean, Renewable Energy initiative!



100% Athens invites you to rise up
with us for real climate solutions!