

Questions for City Officials

1. Are there any updates or changes to the renewable energy commitment?
2. Why did your city make this commitment or what were the main motivating factors? (e.g., rising utility bills, climate, cost, local jobs, equity, environmentalism, environmental justice, etc.)
3. Does the city have an established plan for reaching this goal? If so, what are some key parts and how far along is your city in the planning and/or implementation process?
 - a. Does your city have any specific plans to alter the types of sources its energy comes from (i.e. the transition to solar or wind resources)?
 - b. What do you anticipate will be the costs, benefits, and/or barriers of this switch to renewable sources?
 - c. Were there any resources that you found particularly helpful while developing this plan?
4. Can you describe the relationship with the utility/utilities throughout this movement towards your goal? How has having private/co-op/municipal utility ownership helped or hindered your ability to reach your city's commitment?
 - a. What has the city asked of the utilities for reaching this goal, and how have they responded?
5. Are there plans to address equity as part of the commitment, including things like helping reduce energy costs for low-income residents, helping folks access clean energy regardless of their access to capital or credit, reducing energy burden, and addressing historical harms from polluting energy sources like power plants?
 - a. Are there any specific local government programs established specifically to assist low-income residents?
6. Is your city planning on broadening participation in decision-making around energy?
7. Have you found that the population size or location of your city has influenced your ability to meet this goal?
8. What is your advice for other communities that may be considering this? (Such as design of the policy or campaign, how to build the political will to pass a commitment and then act on it to get it done, etc.)

Questions for Community Organizers

1. How has the 100% renewable commitment been received by residents of this community?
2. How does your organization perceive the city's progression toward reaching this commitment?
3. What do you anticipate will be the costs and benefits of pursuing this commitment?
4. Do you feel that energy democracy issues are important to your community? Based on that, does your organization think the city is adequately ensuring energy democracy based on its relative importance to your community?
5. Has the city been working with low-income communities and communities of color to ensure a just transition? What steps specifically has the city taken, if any?
 - a. What would your organization like to see the city do?
 - b. What advice would you have for similarly diverse cities considering making this commitment?
6. How does this commitment help (or hinder) progress you hope to make in reducing energy burden? Or to broaden participation in decision-making around energy?
7. Do you feel that the local government has established adequate programs targeted specifically to assist low-income residents?
8. Are there any resources that you find particularly helpful in making this transition? (e.g. financial, informational, networking)
9. What is your advice for other communities that may be considering this? (Such as design of the policy or campaign, how to build the political will to pass a commitment and then act on it to get it done, etc.)