

# ALBEMARLE COUNTY & CLEAN ENERGY

Sierra Club Presentation  
To Albemarle County  
Board of Supervisors  
August 2, 2017

# 100% Renewable Energy by 2050

The time for 100% clean, renewable energy has come. Numerous studies show that it is possible to eliminate fossil fuels around the globe by the year 2050.

# Local Government Leadership

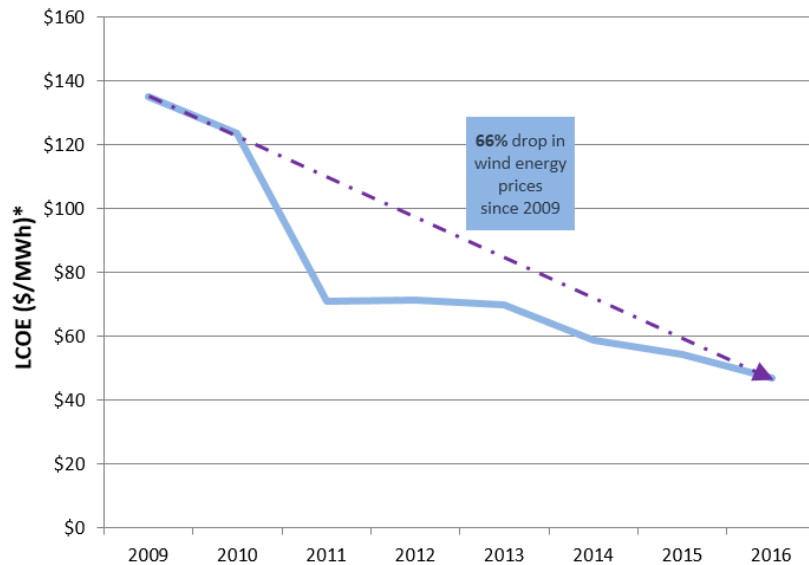
Local or regional governments can show leadership in our transition to 100% renewable energy by setting a target to move the entire community to 100% clean, renewable energy and then actively pursuing a path towards implementation.

# MAJOR CHANGES IN CLEAN ENERGY INDUSTRY SINCE 2009

- Dramatic decline in renewable energy costs
- New studies highlight numerous benefits of clean energy
- New and innovative financing approaches for clean energy (both energy efficiency and renewable energy)
- Numerous cities, counties and states have implemented aggressive clean energy strategies

# DRAMATIC DECLINE IN RENEWABLE ENERGY COSTS (2009 - 2016)

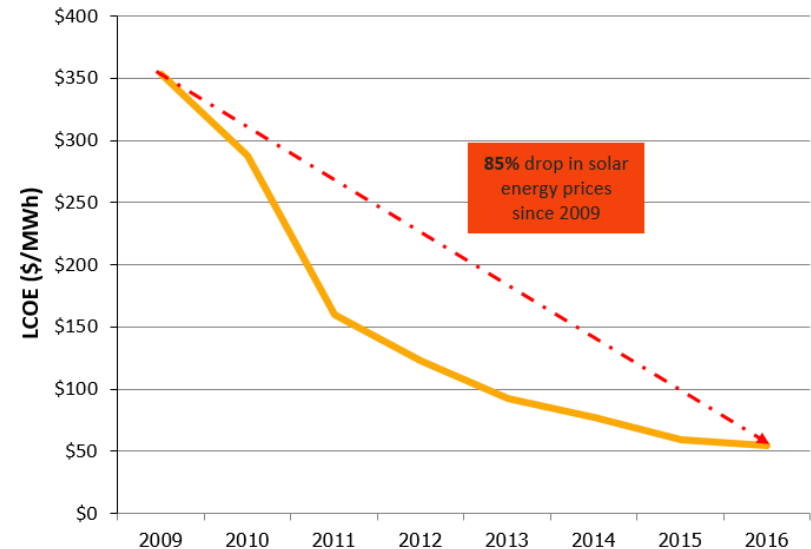
## Wind cost declines since 2009



\*LCOE - Lazard's Levelized Cost of Energy Analysis v. 5-10, avg. of high/low figures



## Solar cost declines since 2009



Lazard's Levelized Cost of Energy Analysis v. 5-10 tech.-weighted avg. of high/low ranges



# WHY COMMIT TO 100% RE?

It will help Albemarle County:

- Meet its Community Energy Plan goals
- Meet its economic development goals
- Enhance its energy security and resilience
- Become a clean, sustainable community

# Economic Growth

- Recently, Michael Bloomberg and Carl Pope released a new book titled “Climate of Hope: How Cities, Businesses and Citizens Can Save the Planet.” Here is an excerpt:
- “[M]ayors see fighting climate change as a spur to faster economic growth.” (p. 21) We learned that “[w]hat was good for people and job growth was good for fighting climate change.” (p. 28) “[M]ore and more cities had evidence to show the economic benefits of fighting climate change. In New York, the investments we made hadn’t just improved the quality of our air – they were leading to new jobs and businesses all across the city, and saving taxpayer money.” (pp. 32-33)

# Why 100% commitments matter



- Raises ambition – sets a new bar for local climate leadership
- Mobilizes diverse stakeholders
- Influences state and national progress
- Sends signal to utilities and investors
- Opens door for more equitable energy system



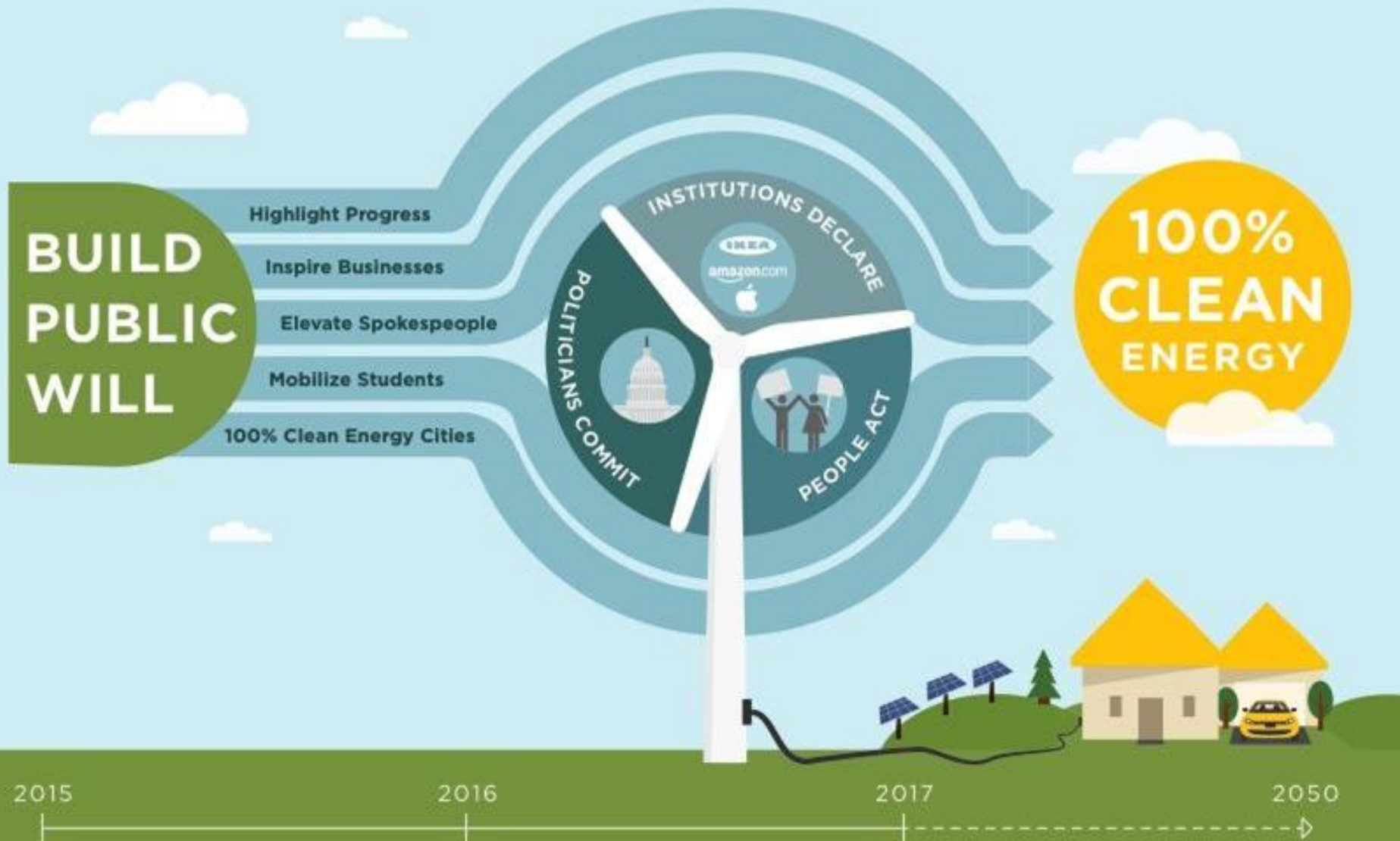
# Joining a Movement



- **26 U.S. CITIES COMMITTED TO 100% RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY**
- **6 ALREADY 100% RE**
- **605 JURISDICTIONS WORLDWIDE HAVE COMMITTED TO CLIMATE LEADERSHIP**

| City               | Renewable in |
|--------------------|--------------|
| Rock Port, MO      | 2008         |
| Greensburg, KS     | 2014         |
| Kodiak Island, AK  | 2014         |
| Aspen, CO          | 2015         |
| Burlington, VT     | 2015         |
| Columbia, MD       | 2015         |
| Georgetown, TX     | 2017         |
| Palo Alto, CA      | 2017         |
| Grand Rapids, MI   | 2020         |
| Nassau, NY         | 2020         |
| San Francisco, CA  | 2020         |
| San Jose, CA       | 2022         |
| East Hampton, NY   | 2030         |
| Taos, NM           | 2030         |
| Rochester, MN      | 2031         |
| Park City, UT      | 2032         |
| Salt Lake City, UT | 2032         |
| San Diego, CA      | 2035         |
| Del Mar, CA        | 2035         |

# Accelerate an equitable transition to 100%



# Energy Policy

## **COMMUNITY ENERGY PLAN BENEFITS**

- Greenhouse gas reduction
- Economic competitiveness
- Energy security and reliability
- Energy efficiency
- Environmental leadership

## Adopt a climate protection resolution

Adopt a sustainability/climate protection resolution and establish an active community wide energy and emissions reduction planning group that includes key community stakeholders with at least one County government representative.

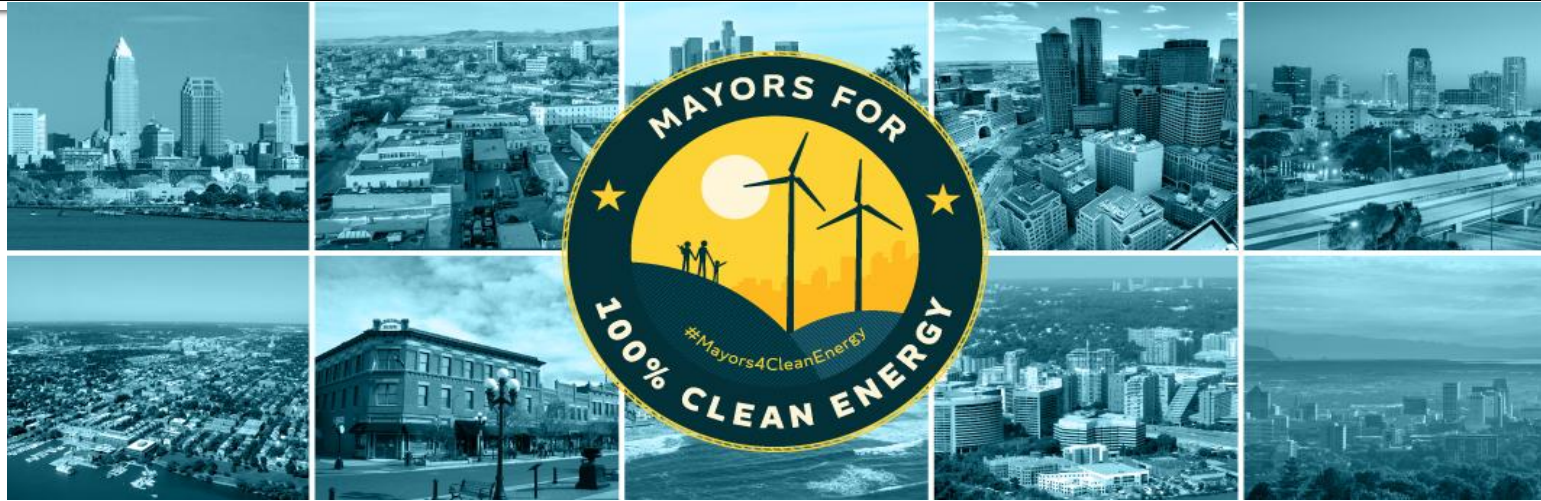
See Arlington County **Climate Action Resolution, June 20, 2017** at:

<https://countyboard.arlingtonva.us/climate-action-resolution/>

# DEVELOP THE 100% RE BLUEPRINT

- Map the energy landscape
- Identify available strategies
- Fix binding targets
- Organize for transformation

# Join Mayors for 100% Clean Energy



We need to change the narrative. Instead of a call-to-arms, we need a doctrine of “mutually assured survival” — a doctrine in which all commit to the goal of 100% renewable energy.