

Proposal to establish a 100 percent renewable energy goal for Buncombe County, North Carolina

Informational Presentation.
Formal consideration to be scheduled for County
Commission meeting on Aug. 15, 2017

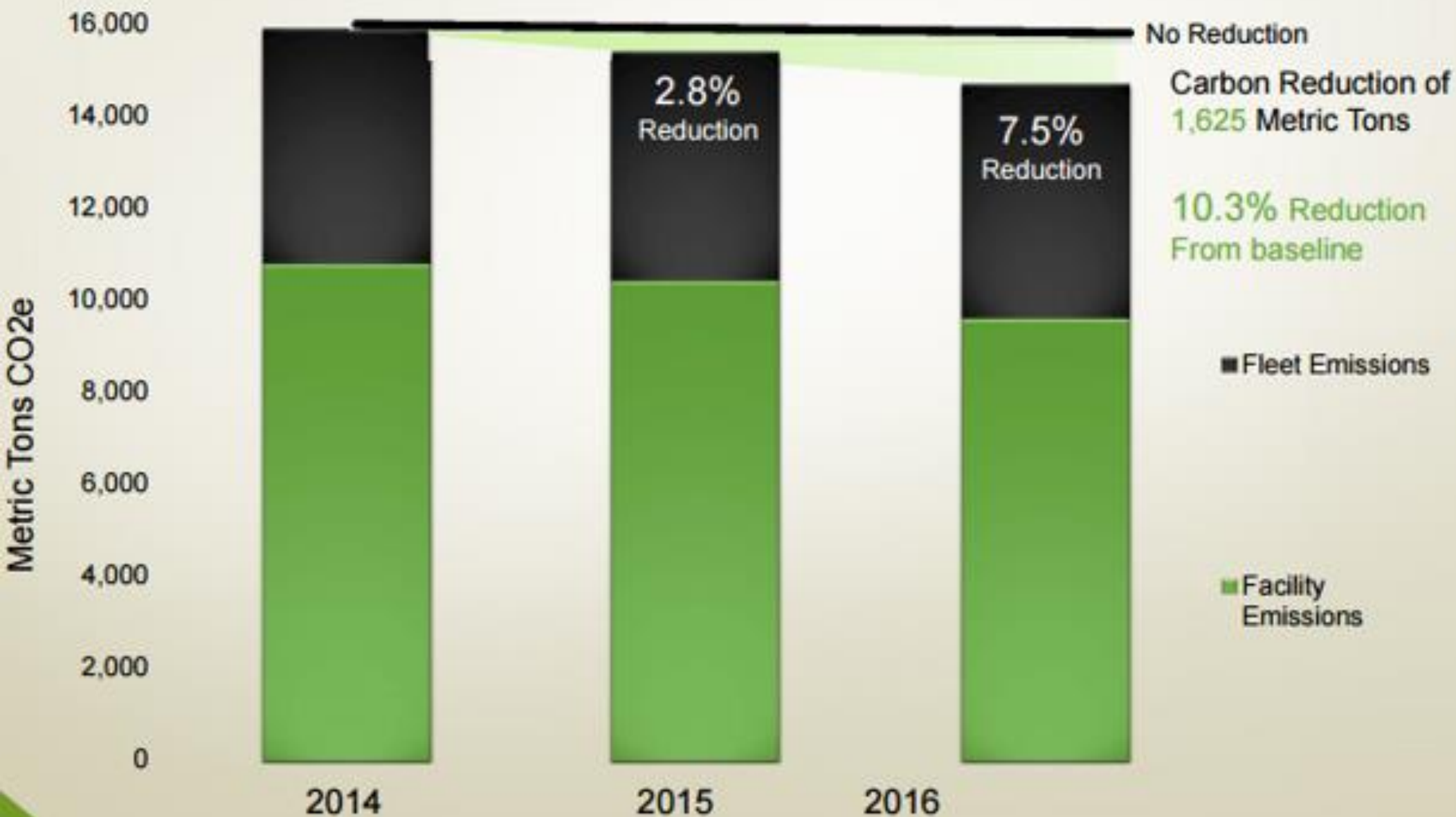
Buncombe County Commission
June 20, 2017

Current clean energy policy for Buncombe County

- ▶ Resolution adopted December 2013.
- ▶ Resolution establishes goal of 80 percent carbon reduction with an average annual reduction of 2 percent per year until the goal is achieved.
- ▶ Emissions for Fiscal Year 14 were set as baseline.
- ▶ Goal is inclusive of County vehicle fleet and facilities.



Emissions Reduction to Date



Off to a great start

- ▶ Buncombe Solar Farm could achieve as much as an 18 percent additional reduction in the county's carbon footprint.
- ▶ Up to 28 percent reduction may be achieved through existing actions already taken or underway.



Proposal for updated clean energy

- ▶ Current 80% carbon reduction goal at 2 percent per year will be kept as a conservative base case.
- ▶ Buncombe County establishes a new goal of powering its operations with 100 clean, renewable energy within the next ten years. The goal is to be carbon-neutral by June 20 of 2027.
- ▶ The County supports transitioning to 100 percent renewable for the larger community and country within 25 years and will actively support efforts to achieve that goal in Buncombe County.



Businesses that have committed to 100 percent renewable energy

Source: <http://there100.org/companies>



Corporate goal is 100% by 2020



Is on track to procure 100% of its energy from renewables in 2017.



Has already achieved a 93% use of renewables. Goal is 100 percent



A US textile company. Currently 85% powered with renewables. Goal is 100%



Goal is 100% by 2020



Committed to 100% renewable. Plans to procure 7,000 Giga-watt hours of renewables by the end of 2020.



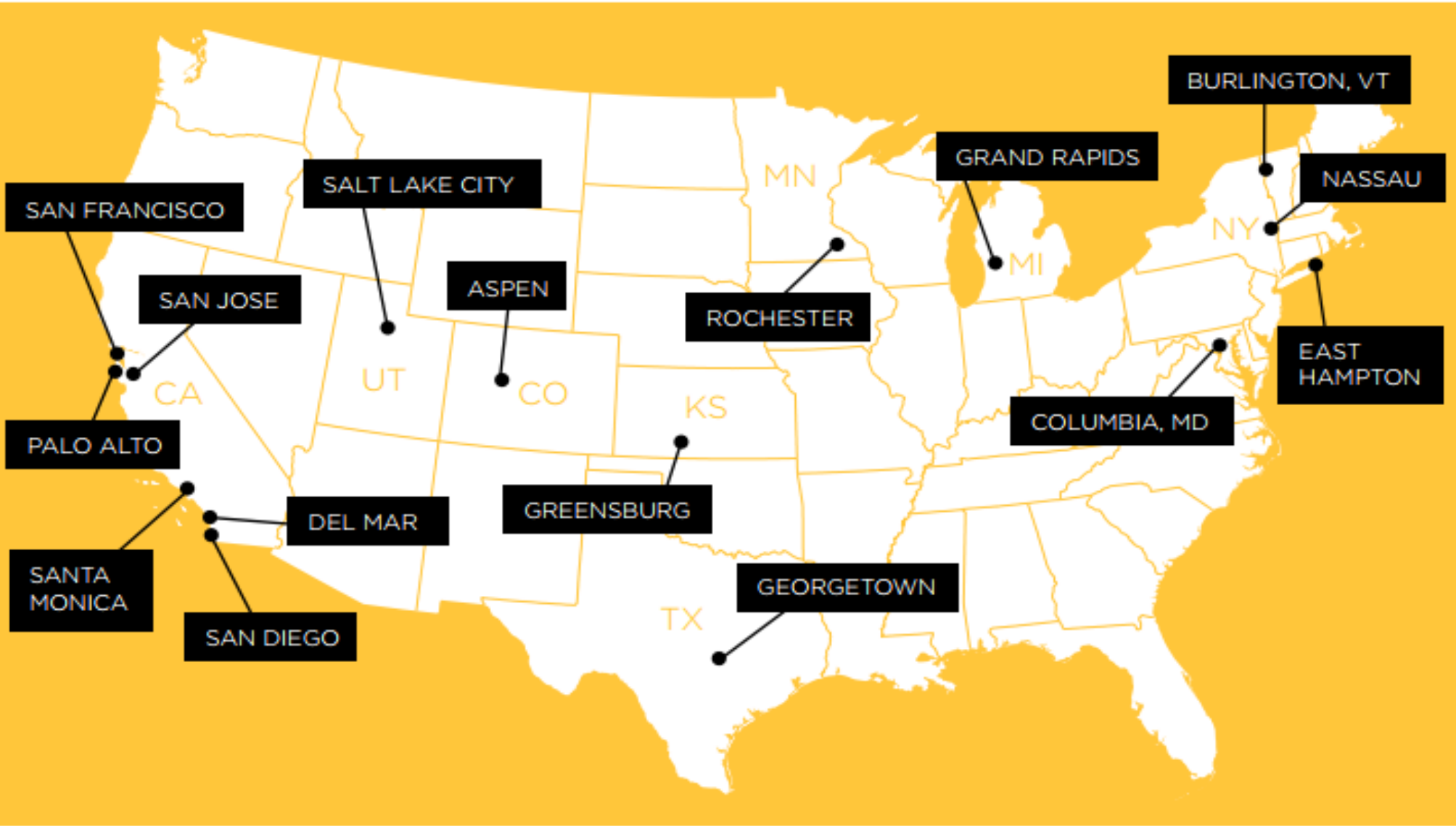
Goal is 100 percent renewable with 2/3 met by 2020.



Committed to 100 percent renewable by 2020.



Goal is 100 percent by 2020



U.S. CITIES WITH A COMMUNITY-WIDE 100% CLEAN ENERGY GOAL IN AT LEAST ONE SECTOR

Credit: Sierra Club

Public sector clean energy commitments

Burlington, VT – Pop. 42,452. Burlington Municipal utility achieved 100 percent use of renewables in 2014 through a combination of landfill methane, wind, solar, hydro and biomass.

Georgetown, TX – Pop. 54,256. Since 2014, Municipal utility procures 100% of its power from long-term wind and solar contracts, at a rate **lower** than its previous contracts for conventional fossil-fuel sourced electricity.

San Diego, CA – Pop. 1.3 million. Led by Republican Mayor Kevin Faulconer, the city has a goal of 100% renewable use by 2035.

Abita Springs, LA – Pop. 2,900. Led by Republican Mayor Greg Lemons, the town has a goal of 100% renewable by 2030.

Hawaii – The state is committed to 30% renewables 2020; 70% by 2040, and 100% by 2045.

Recommended next steps

- ▶ County Staff and Energy Innovation Task Force to review policy concept to provide input.
- ▶ Recommendation to be considered by Commission in 60- 90 days.