

Cities Initiative

Participants

- Asheville, Carrboro, Chapel Hill, Charlotte, Durham, Greensboro, Highlands, Hillsborough, Raleigh, Winston-Salem, Cary and Wilmington
- State of North Carolina

Description

The program was designed to help North Carolina municipalities reduce their greenhouse gas emissions. Just as importantly, it identified consensus action items that could reduce barriers and foster partnerships to enable faster and deeper GHG reductions. The program consisted of four half-day roundtables hosted in participating cities. Each session included experts, roundtable discussions and working groups. Sessions focused on identifying barriers, business needs, potential partnerships, innovative resources and collective action items. We conducted an initial survey to establish baseline information about goals, needs and priorities. The program rolled out in July and concluded its work in November of 2018.

Consensus Action Items

- Get additional locally-controlled revenue for transportation
- Adjust State Transportation Improvement Program (STIP) allocations
- Incorporate GHG scoring for state funded projects
- Develop a voluntary carbon credit tracking system
- Aggregate data access at a safe level to allow for program prioritization
- Create a utility billing platform that helps cities and customers understand energy use
- Allow for new renewable energy procurement options
- Increase speed and transparency of the interconnection process
- Address barriers to Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy (C-PACE) in North Carolina
- Develop a local government supported green energy bank
- Improve energy impact of building codes
- Change make up of the NC Building Code Council