



City of Wilmington

Ad Hoc Clean Energy Policy Task Force

Meeting 3

Meeting Summary

Zoom Virtual Meeting, Wilmington, NC

6 PM, June 23, 2020

The City of Wilmington held the third meeting for the Wilmington Ad Hoc Clean Energy Policy Task Force (Task Force) on June 23, 2020. All Task Force meetings continue to be conducted in accordance with North Carolina public meeting statutes. The meeting was held virtually over Zoom. The meeting objectives were to review and refine preliminary SWOC analysis and receive a demonstration on the City's International Council for Local Environmental Initiatives (ICLEI) tool.



SWOC (Strengths, Weaknesses, Opportunities, Challenges)

Julie Brenman, Fountainworks, presented an overview of the SWOC Analysis Clean Energy Technology drafts for each subcommittee to use when analyzing their areas of focus for the Task Force. The SWOC drafts provided a starting point and potential ideas for each subcommittee to use as a baseline. The subcommittees were placed into breakout rooms to review the draft SWOC noting any additions, revisions or questions.

Develop clarity on your subcommittee's charge

Highlight the opportunities

Identify additional resources

Select research or benchmarking



The draft SWOC's presented for each subcommittee are shown below.

CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY - Focusing on clean energy technologies and opportunities that are viable in North Carolina

- Decreasing cost of solar
- City council / public support
- State / Duke Energy clean energy goals
- NC #2 in the country for solar

- Green Source Advantage program
- Federal /State/Private Grants
- Partnerships
- Green Building Policy
- ClearPath tool for forecasting
- Other RE technologies (tidal, wind, methane, bio waste, etc)

- Fossil fuels still widely used
- Fossil fuels large part of grid mix
- Budget / funding
- Structural challenges for solar installs

- Budget / funding
- Public perception/understanding
- Reliability

SWOC ANALYSIS CLEAN ENERGY TECHNOLOGY

TRANSPORTATION & FLEET OPERATIONS – focusing on clean energy fuel, infrastructure, and alternative transportation opportunities

- EVs-Reduced GHG emissions
- EVs-Reduced O&M costs
- Decreased fuel cost volatility
- Increased alt-transportation options
- WMPO plans

- Subsidies, grants, incentives
- Lead by example
- Increasing # of EV availability
- Opportunities from diverse fleet
- Battery powered equipment

- Upfront cost higher for EVs
- Budget / funding
- Associated costs of Fleet transition
- Training

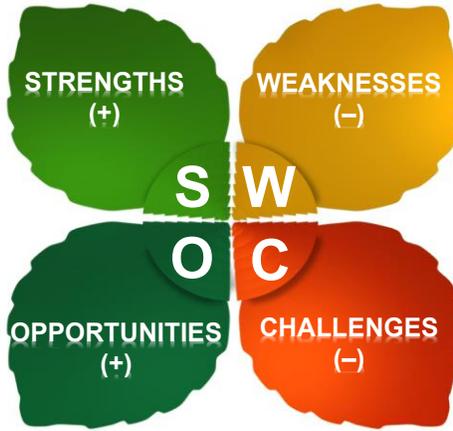
- Charging infrastructure
- Range anxiety
- Decreased \$ from gas taxes

SWOC ANALYSIS TRANSPORTATION / FLEET OPS



SOCIAL EQUITY & COMMUNITY-WIDE ADOPTION – focusing on community-wide engagement & education on clean energy, and partnership / grant opportunities

- Strong Community Dvlpmnt Program
- Comprehensive Plan goals



- Staffing/implementation
- Funding source
- Budget outlook

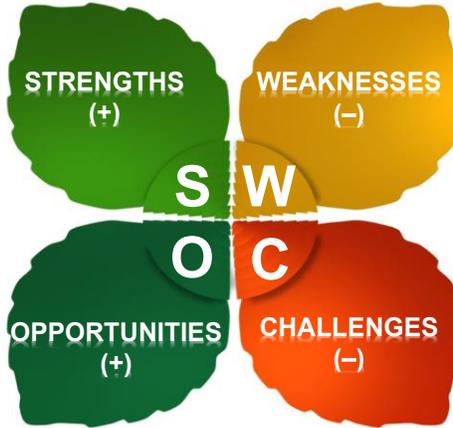
- Greater community equity
- Grants, federal funding
- Community/Non-profit partnerships
- Energy Efficiency programs
- Link to climate change/public health
- Address energy burdened community/structures

- Education of importance/benefit
- Public perception
- Outreach
- Political uncertainties

SWOC ANALYSIS SOCIAL EQUITY

CLEAN ENERGY POLICY & LEGISLATION – focusing on policy and legislation at the State or utility level which will impact clean energy planning / goals

- Supportive Mayor/City Council
- Current GHG goals/Resolutions
- Lead by Example
- Align with Comprehensive Plan
- Support Clean Energy adoption



- Convenience of current infrastructure
- Resistance to change
- Level of public engagement

- Align w/ other NC City 100% plans
- C-PACE legislation
- Green Building Policy
- Local incentives
- SolSmart Program
- Local Incubator for start-ups/new tech

- Political uncertainties (state & Fed)
- Lack of scientific faith
- Climate change denial

SWOT ANALYSIS POLICY & LEGISLATION



Subcommittees: Report Out on Discussions

The breakout groups for each subcommittee provided the opportunity to discuss the SWOC drafts and to dive into the details for the identified areas of focus. The membership for each subcommittee is made up of experts that will result in effective collaboration. The discussion was productive and aided in advancing each group's charge. The subcommittees will need to communicate information and concepts to the larger group to prevent duplication of effort and synchronize efforts for the final report to be presented to the City Council. As the weeks progress, the efforts from each member of the Task Force will result in identifying the means and recommendations to adopt clean energy policy for the City.

SWOC Analysis – a framework for analyzing strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, challenges within an organization to minimize risks and capitalize on advantages for success.

Clean Energy Technology

Charge *Focus on renewable energy (solar, wind, tidal, etc.) technology and opportunities that are viable in the Southeast North Carolina region*

- Understand clarity of role as a subcommittee related to clean energy policy
- Build a base level of data points for clean energy policy on the current standing for the City
- Decide how performance will be measured
- Include a comprehensive plan with utility partners
- Learn what current technology is being deployed by the City for clean energy
- Identifying similar cities to benchmark against effective clean energy policies
- Organize the framework to learn and continue to engage on clean energy technology

Transportation & Fleet Operations

Charge *Focus on clean energy fuel and fueling infrastructure technology and opportunities City fleet operations; and City clean energy fueling/charging infrastructure needs*

- Identified strengths and weaknesses surrounding transportation and fleet operations both at the state and federal levels
- Pinpointed opportunities to include subsidies, grants, and public/private partnerships
- Plan that helps both the City and citizens
- Understand that the primary obstacle will be cost



Social Equity & Community-Wide Adoption

Charge *Focus on community wide engagement & education regarding clean energy and its impact for all of Wilmington, as well as partnerships/grant opportunities*

- Recognized the connectivity between subcommittees and synchronizing efforts
- Create excitement for new opportunities through effective engagement and communication with the community
- Prevent planning “in a vacuum” or “stove piping” information between groups and with the community
- Identified funding as a challenge mitigated through effective grant writing and leveraging available funding
- Recommended policy that includes low income families as primary beneficiaries

NC Clean Energy Policy & Legislation

Charge *Focus on policy and legislation at the State or utility level which will impact Wilmington’s clean energy planning/goals (e.g. State Executive Order #80, Duke Energy net-zero emissions goal)*

- Separate the current policy from new proposed policy for clean energy
- Research present and proposed policy to recommend support or contest new legislation
- Identify incentives for the City, citizens, and organizations to support and use renewable resources

Presentation: ICLEI Clear Path Tool

David Ingram, Sustainability Program Manager, presented the City of Wilmington’s ICLEI Clear Path tool. It is a tool that is capable of tracking, forecasting, and predicting greenhouse emissions trends

ICLEI - Local Governments for Sustainability is a global network of more than 1,750 local and regional governments committed to sustainable urban development. Active in 100+ countries, we influence sustainability policy and drive local action for low emission, nature-based, equitable, resilient and circular development.

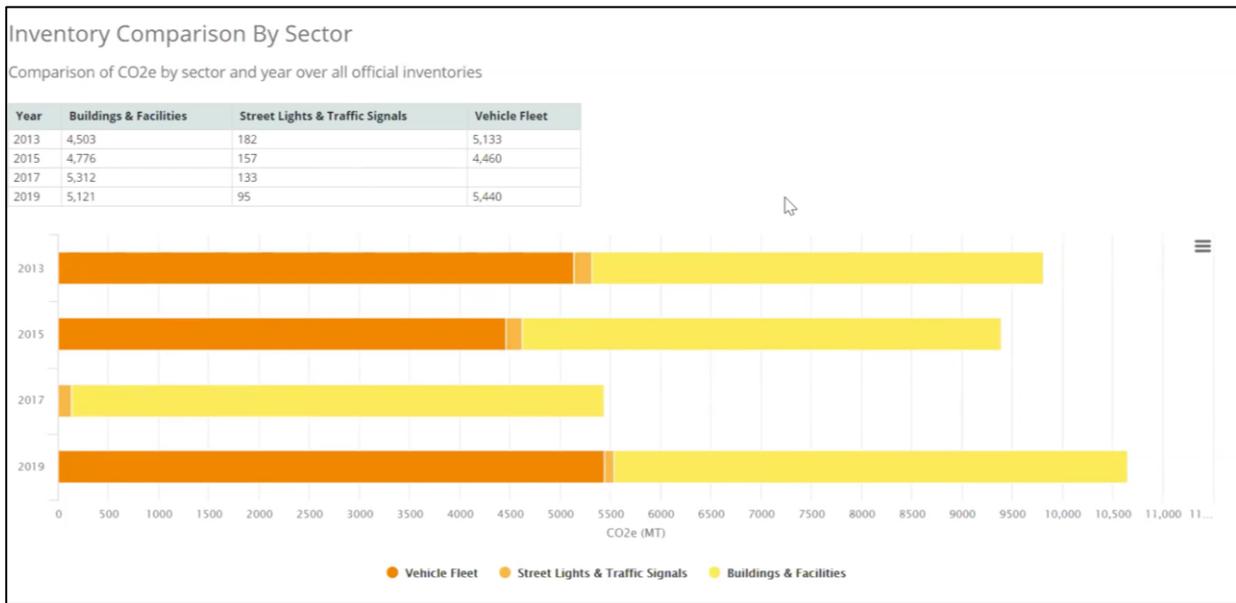
ClearPath - *is a powerful, advanced web application for energy and emissions management.*

- Cloud-based tool
- Stores all data for collaboration and sharing
- the most widely-used software tool for managing local climate mitigation efforts related environmental impacts



- Wilmington started using tool in FY 2019
 - Current inventory includes FY 2013, 2015, 2017, 2019
 - Inventory broken down by sections
 - Vehicle Fleet
 - Streetlights & Traffic Signals
 - Buildings & Facilities
 - Ability to look at local government or community-wide levels

Example of the capability of the ClearPath tool to track data by sector and compare CO2 emissions



- Helped identify portion of the fleet in transportation using the most energy
- Able to use forecasting model with growth factors to establish potential future trends

Depiction highlights the capability of the ClearPath tool to forecast projected CO2 emissions based on historical trends and data





- Greenhouse gas emissions are calculated using factor sets that multiply the effects base on implementation of clean energy changes
 - Data source for projected changes are sourced from Environment Protection Agency data set

Presentation Discussion

- Final presentation will need to be described for everyone to understand focusing on the public/non-experts
- Goal for the final presentation is to bring the public's mind up to the level of the science
- Maintain charts to demonstrate the ClearPath tool's capability
- Provide access to the ICLEI data, ClearPath tool, and Energy manager for understanding to the subcommittees on past and current energy uses

Next Steps & Other Announcements

David Ingram is finalizing the public survey to send out soon.

Upcoming meetings:

Subcommittee meetings in July:

- Wednesday July 8 @6pm: Clean Energy Technology (Zoom)
- Tuesday July 14 @ 7pm: Transportation and Fleet (Zoom)
- Tuesday July 14 @ 6pm: Social Equity and Community-Wide Adoption (Google Meet and in person at convention center)
- Tuesday July 14 @ 6pm: Policy and Legislation (Zoom)

July 28 6-7:30 pm: Full Task Force Meeting (Zoom)

Subcommittees meet

August 25 6-7:30 pm: Full Task Force Meeting

Subcommittees meet

September 22 6-7:30 pm: Full Task Force Meeting

Subcommittees meet

October 27 6-7:30 pm: Full Task Force Meeting

May be extended 3 months due to COVID-19

Task Force Initiative Dropbox Folder where we will be sharing documents and other updates throughout the process: [Dropbox](#)

- Consolidated Agendas and PowerPoints
- Consolidated Summary Reports

Preparation for next meeting: If participants have suggested ideas or background information in preparation for our next meeting, feel to contact:

- David Ingram, Wilmington Sustainability Manager (also a voting member of Task Force) david.ingram@wilmingtonnc.gov or 910-341-1602
- Fountainworks, meeting facilitators (Warren Miller, Julie Brenman, or Maddie Shea) warren@fountainworks.com, julie@fountainworks.com, or maddie@fountainworks.com