



“THE BIRTHPLACE OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK”
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

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For Immediate Release:

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**MAYOR ROACH ANNOUNCES SUPPORT FOR
100% CLEAN ENERGY IN WHITE PLAINS
Reaffirms City of White Plains Goal of Using Clean Energy
and Reducing Greenhouse Gas Emissions**

White Plains, NY – August 1, 2017. White Plains Mayor Tom Roach today announced support for a goal of powering White Plains entirely with clean and renewable energy by 2035. Mayor Roach joins a growing coalition of more than 120 [Mayors for 100% Clean Energy](#) who have similarly announced support for a goal of powering their communities with 100 percent renewable energy, such as wind and solar.

Mayor Roach said, “Moving in this direction will decrease pollution, thereby protecting the health of our residents, create new jobs in the growing clean energy industry, and help lower the burden of high energy costs placed on both residents and businesses.”

Mayors for 100% Clean Energy, an initiative of the Sierra Club’s Ready for 100 Campaign, represents a growing number of mayors from across the country who have endorsed a community-wide goal of transitioning entirely to renewable energy. The full list of *Mayors for 100% Clean Energy* can be found [here](#).

At the U.S. Conference of Mayors annual meeting in June, the organization adopted a resolution supporting 100% renewable energy in American cities. This endorsement serves as a powerful message to the broader mayoral community regarding the opportunity and benefit that city leaders see in the transition to 100 percent renewable energy.

“Supporting *Mayors for 100% Clean Energy* is a natural next step for White Plains,” said Mayor Roach. “We are already actively working on a number of clean energy initiatives which are consistent with the goal of this project ~ to transition over time to 100% clean energy.”

(More)



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The City of White Plains has been working to [Go Green](#) by undertaking initiatives to reduce the amount of pollution and waste generated. The City participates in [Westchester Power](#), a program that enables participating Westchester communities to join together and purchase electricity supply in bulk. Aggregating consumers on a large scale creates the buying power necessary to dictate the terms of our energy purchasing. Westchester Power has secured low fixed electric supply rates through 2018 for 20 Westchester municipalities, representing over 110,000 households and small businesses. White Plains chose to participate in the 100% renewable energy supply option. This product can be a mix of solar, wind, and hydro, and is backed by [Green-e](#) certificates. This means that just over half of White Plains Con Edison accounts now receive their electricity from renewable sources.

The City purchases power for city buildings and facilities through the New York Power Authority, which produces 70% of its power statewide from hydroelectric, a clean energy source generated without fossil fuels and their related emissions. With the assistance of the New York Power Authority (NYPA), White Plains is replacing all of its streetlights with energy efficient LEDs. We have installed 20 electric vehicle charging stations (the most of any Westchester municipality) in publicly accessible parking garages throughout the city and just received a New York State Department of Environmental Conservation grant for 6 more in 3 parking garages. The City has created over 4 miles of dedicated bike lanes, with more on the way, thanks to a recent Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP) grant for the White Plains Transit District, the area around the White Plains Metro-North station. We've also streamlined the solar permitting process for residential-sized solar arrays, which has led to a significant jump in solar installations. In May, White Plains was designated a Clean Energy Community by NYSERDA. The City will seek further assistance from NYPA to help us meet our 100% clean energy goals.

Mayor Roach said, “Our efforts to date have gotten us off to a good start. Our goal now is to keep moving the dial further toward the 100% mark. On a larger level, I believe that cities are in a unique position to help lead the transition away from dirty fuels to renewable energy, but it will require boldness and ambition to get it done. I'm starting locally, like many of my fellow mayors. I think that together we can create a groundswell for change.”

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