Louisville

Though the city still has room to improve in both categories, Louisville performed best in local government operations and transportation policies. The city’s asset management strategies, including its benchmarking of municipal buildings and telework policy for city employees, helped the city’s score for local government operations. Louisville’s launch of the LouVelo bike-share program in 2017 contributed to the city’s performance in transportation policies. The city has substantial room for improvement across all policy areas, most notably for buildings policies and energy and water utilities.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (3 OF 9 POINTS)
Louisville has energy-reduction and renewable electricity goals for local government operations. The city tracks building energy use and retrofits buildings using energy savings performance contracts. The city has few other initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from local government operations. To improve its score for local government operations, Louisville can establish a GHG emissions reduction goal, incorporate more fuel-efficient vehicles into its fleet, and set green building requirements for municipal buildings.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (4.5 OF 16 POINTS)
Louisville’s GHG emissions reduction and energy-savings goals provide the vision for its clean energy efforts. ACEEE does not project that the city will achieve its goal of reducing community-wide GHG emissions 80% by 2050. To inspire future clean energy efforts, the city can adopt a community-wide renewable energy goal and take steps to support the installation of clean, efficient distributed energy systems.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (4.5 OF 30 POINTS)
Kentucky requires all jurisdictions to comply with the 2018 Kentucky Building Code for commercial buildings and the 2018 Kentucky Residential Code, which reference the 2012 and 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) respectively. While Louisville cannot adopt its own building energy codes, the city can advocate for more stringent energy codes. The city promotes clean energy investment in existing buildings through the Energy Project Assessment District program, which provides financing for energy efficiency projects. The city could further encourage energy efficiency in existing buildings by implementing a benchmarking and transparency ordinance and enacting energy action requirements.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (1.5 OF 15 POINTS)
Compared to other utilities, Louisville Gas & Electric (LG&E) shows low savings for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. LG&E does not offer comprehensive programs for low-income or multifamily households. Based on available data, we did not find that Louisville encouraged LG&E to increase its utility-scale or distributed electricity generation from renewable sources; the utility does not offer incentives for the construction of new distributed solar or wind systems. Louisville could also improve the energy efficiency of water services.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (9 OF 30 POINTS)
Move Louisville sets a multimodal transportation vision for the city and adopts a goal of reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMT) to 500,000 miles daily by 2040. Louisville is not currently on track to meet this VMT goal. The city set another goal to increase bicycle ridership by 100% and increase public transit ridership by 25%. To better achieve this target, the city can adopt a more comprehensive complete streets policy and increase the number of bikes in the LouVelo bike-share program. Additionally, the city can increase the funding and accessibility of its transit system.