Nashville performed best in local government operations and community-wide initiatives. The city’s new Livable Nashville Recommendation set climate and energy goals community-wide and for municipal operations, and had scoring implication across the report. In 2017, the city leased a landfill at no cost to serve as a community solar farm, boosting Nashville’s community-wide initiatives score. The city can improve in all policy areas to advance its rank in the next edition, most notably in buildings policies, energy and water utilities, and transportation policies.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (4 OF 9 POINTS)**

Nashville has energy-reduction, renewable electricity, and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals for local government operations. ACEEE does not currently project that the city will achieve its goal of reducing GHG emissions 20% from 2014 levels by 2020. Nashville sets green building requirements, benchmarks approximately half of its public buildings, and retrofits select buildings. The city can ramp up its efforts by adopting fleet efficiency policies and converting streetlights to LEDs.

**COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (8.5 OF 16 POINTS)**

Nashville’s GHG emissions reduction, energy-savings, and renewable energy 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 20% by 2020. Nashville has provided city land towards the development of a community solar facility. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, the city has adopted a goal to plant 500,000 trees by 2050.

**BUILDINGS POLICIES (4.5 OF 30 POINTS)**

Tennessee requires Nashville to enforce the state’s energy code, which references the 2012 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for commercial buildings and the 2009 IECC for residential buildings. The city promotes clean energy investments in existing buildings through incentives and financing programs. For example, the Nashville Energy Works program provides low-interest loans for energy efficiency upgrades. The city supports local clean energy workforce development by offering training programs, including training offered in conjunction with the city’s Home Energy Uplift Program. The city could further encourage energy efficiency in existing buildings by implementing a benchmarking and transparency ordinance and passing policies requiring energy actions.

**ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (2.5 OF 15 POINTS)**

Compared to other utilities, Nashville Electric Service and Piedmont Natural Gas show low savings for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. Neither utility offers comprehensive programs for low-income or multifamily households. In 2017, Nashville Electric Service generated 10% of power from renewable sources. Multiple efforts also aim to increase energy efficiency in water services and wastewater treatment plants.

**TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (6.5 OF 30 POINTS)**

Access Nashville 2040 sets the vision for the city’s transportation future, although the city has adopted neither vehicle miles traveled (VMT) nor GHG emission reduction goals for the transportation sector. The Livable Nashville Recommendations establish a mode shift target to increase active transportation mode share to 30% by 2050. Relative to other city systems, Nashville’s transit system is underfunded and can improve in accessibility. Likewise, the city can work to increase the number of low-income households near high-quality transit, offer incentives to low-income residents for efficient transportation options, and encourage or require the creation of affordable housing units in transit-rich areas.