

RANK

69 / 75

2019 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Omaha

OVERALL SCORE

15.5 / 100

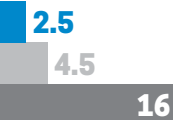
Omaha has a limited number of clean energy policies, so it has substantial room to improve across the board. To jump-start its efforts, the city can focus on its own operations by reducing energy waste in government assets. It also can pursue other foundational clean energy policies such as developing a community-wide greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goal, adopting a more stringent building energy code, and creating a sustainable transportation plan to reduce vehicle miles traveled (VMT) citywide. These actions could serve as stepping stones to a clean energy future in Omaha.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



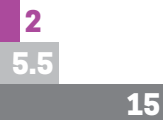
COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



BUILDINGS POLICIES



ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

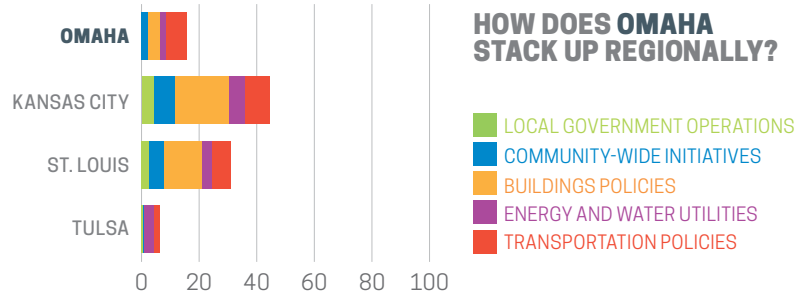


TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (0 OF 9 POINTS)

We did not find that Omaha had initiatives to reduce GHG emissions or energy use in local government operations. Omaha has several options for improving its performance for local government operations, including establishing climate change mitigation, energy-savings, and renewable energy goals for local government operations.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (2.5 OF 16 POINTS)

Omaha has energy-savings and renewable energy goals, and requires the use of low-impact development to mitigate the urban heat island effect. To inspire future clean energy efforts, the city can set a community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal. It can take steps to achieve this goal by involving marginalized communities in planning and implementing initiatives, supporting efficient distributed energy systems, and taking greater steps to mitigate the urban heat island effect.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (4 OF 30 POINTS)

Nebraska allows jurisdictions to adopt codes more stringent than those mandated by the state. Omaha has adopted the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) for residential and commercial buildings, but the code is not stringent. Omaha provides incentives to encourage clean energy investments through its property assessed clean energy (PACE) financing program. The city could further encourage efficiency upgrades in existing buildings by implementing a benchmarking and transparency ordinance, passing policies with required energy actions, and helping to grow the clean energy workforce.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (2 OF 15 POINTS)

In 2017, Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) generated 31% of electricity from renewable sources. Compared to other utilities, OPPD and Metropolitan Utilities District show low savings for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. Neither utility offers comprehensive programs for low-income or multifamily households. Omaha could improve the energy efficiency of water services.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (7 OF 30 POINTS)

Omaha's Master Plan includes efficient transportation provisions, though the city has not adopted vehicle miles traveled (VMT) or GHG emissions reduction goals for the transportation sector. The city has adopted a complete streets policy. Omaha has not adopted mode shift targets. Coupling VMT or GHG reduction goals with mode shift targets can help guide the city into a sustainable transportation future. Relative to other city systems, Omaha'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.