

RANK

39 / 75

2019 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

St. Petersburg

St. Petersburg scored best in community-wide initiatives. The city's recent Integrated Sustainability Action Plan contributed to the city's performance in the policy area as it adopted community-wide climate and energy goals. With the recent release of the Clean Energy Roadmap, the city is also taking steps to encourage Duke Energy Florida to increase its electricity generation from renewable sources; doing so helped the city's score in the energy and water utilities categories. St. Petersburg can improve across all policy areas to advance its rank in the next edition, but most notably in buildings policies, energy and water utilities, and transportation policies.

OVERALL SCORE

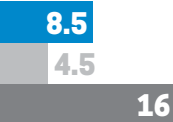
28.5 / 100



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



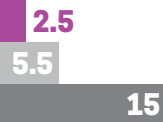
COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



BUILDINGS POLICIES



ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

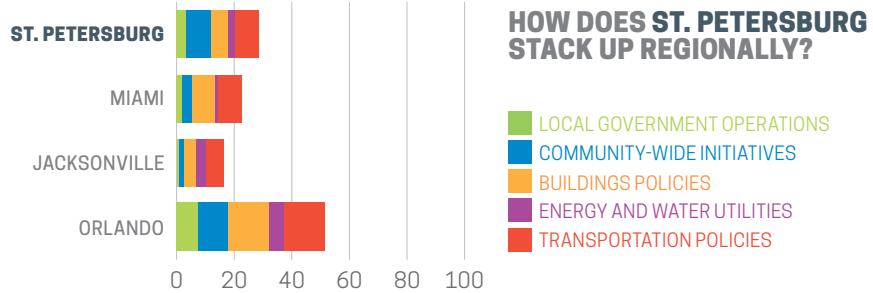


TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (3.5 OF 9 POINTS)

St. Petersburg has 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 local government GHG emissions 20% from 2016 levels by 2020. St. Petersburg requires city-owned buildings to meet LEED requirements and retrofits select buildings. The city has not yet established an energy-savings goal for local government operations.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (8.5 OF 16 POINTS)

St. Petersburg's GHG emissions reduction goal and renewable energy goal provide the vision for its clean energy efforts. The city has not adopted a community-wide energy-savings goal. ACEEE does not currently project that the city will achieve its goal of reducing community-wide GHG emissions 20% by 2020. St. Petersburg has overseen the creation of municipal CHP and on-site solar energy systems. To better mitigate the urban heat island effect, the city has adopted goals to achieve no net loss of wetlands, maintain natural resource acreage at 20 acres per 1,000 residents, and ensure that 85% of the city's population lives within one-third mile of a green space.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (6 OF 30 POINTS)

Florida requires all jurisdictions to comply with the Sixth Edition Florida Building Code for residential and commercial buildings. While St. Petersburg cannot adopt its own building energy codes, the city can advocate for more stringent energy codes. St. Petersburg promotes clean energy investments by offering permit fee refunds for new construction projects that achieve green building certification. The city could further encourage efficiency upgrades in existing buildings by implementing a benchmarking and transparency ordinance, passing energy action requirements, and building an equitable clean energy workforce through training programs and inclusive procurement policies.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (2.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, Duke Energy Florida and TECO Peoples Gas show low savings for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. Duke Energy Florida offers comprehensive programs for low-income households. St. Petersburg is taking steps to encourage decarbonization; the city's Clean Energy Roadmap emphasizes Duke Energy Florida's necessary role in transitioning toward renewable energy resources. St. Petersburg could improve the energy efficiency of water services.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (8 OF 30 POINTS)

St. Petersburg's Comprehensive Plan includes provisions to reduce transportation-related GHG emissions, although the city has not adopted quantitative vehicle miles traveled (VMT) or transportation-related GHG emissions reduction goals. St. Petersburg set mode shift targets to increase walking, biking, and transit trips. Relative to other city systems, St. Petersburg's transit system is both underfunded and could improve in accessibility. Likewise, the city can work to increase low-income household access to high quality transit, incentivize efficient transportation options for low-income residents, and encourage or require the creation of affordable housing units in transit-rich areas.