Grand Rapids performed best in the energy and water utilities category and moved up slightly in the rankings from the previous Scorecard. The city can improve its rank and performance across all policy areas, but particularly in community-wide initiatives, buildings policies, and transportation policies.

**COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (2 OF 15 POINTS)**
To mitigate the urban heat island effect, Grand Rapids aims to increase the urban tree canopy to 40% by 2021. It has not adopted citywide climate and energy goals or adopted a formal policy, rule, or agreement that supports the creation of community solar and the integration of emissions-reducing technology in distributed energy systems within the community.

**BUILDINGS POLICIES (9 OF 30 POINTS)**
Michigan requires that local jurisdictions enforce the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code and ASHRAE 90.1-2013 for residential and commercial buildings, respectively. Grand Rapids, due to zoning code amendments, allows solar energy use in all zones. The city does not have programs committed to developing a dedicated energy efficiency or renewable energy workforce. It takes an equitable approach to targeting energy reduction in existing buildings through its Housing Rehabilitation Program, which offers affordable repairs to income-eligible homeowners. To achieve energy reductions in existing buildings, Grand Rapids runs a 2030 District and offers PACE financing.

**TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (10.5 OF 30 POINTS)**
Of low-income households in Grand Rapids, 12.3% have access to high-quality transit. With 33.3 per 100,000 people, the city has a low number of EV charging station ports available for public use. Grand Rapids has neither a sustainable freight transportation plan in place nor any policies that address freight efficiency, nor has it codified either VMT or transportation-related GHG reduction targets. Transportation entities that serve Grand Rapids have received roughly $69.15 per capita on average in local transit funding annually between 2015 and 2019, a low funding level.

**ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (12.5 OF 15 POINTS)**
Compared to other utilities, Consumers Energy shows moderate savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs, and DTE Energy shows high savings as a percentage of sales for natural gas efficiency programs. Both utilities offer a portfolio of energy efficiency programs, which include comprehensive programs and health and safety measures, targeted at low-income customers as well as comprehensive energy efficiency programs for multifamily properties. The utilities provide energy use data to the city, which uses the data in its planning processes; however, this data is not available to the public. Grand Rapids advocates for increased energy efficiency and renewable energy with the Michigan Public Service Commission. Consumers Energy announced a moderate goal of achieving net-zero carbon emissions by 2040.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (4 OF 10 POINTS)**
Grand Rapids has a GHG emissions reduction goal for local government operations. Based on emissions data from past years, ACEEE projects the city will achieve its near-term climate mitigation goal to reduce GHG emissions 25% below 2009 levels by 2021. The city does not have an efficient fleet procurement requirement, but the municipal fleet is currently made up of 12.2% efficient vehicles. Grand Rapids requires the use of LEDs in outdoor lighting and is beginning to convert streetlights citywide to LEDs. The city has installed a small amount of solar on city facilities and strategically implements energy efficiency upgrades through the city’s asset management program. Grand Rapids has not established inclusive contracting policies.