

RANK

69/100 ↑

OVERALL SCORE

18.5/100

RECOMMENDATIONS

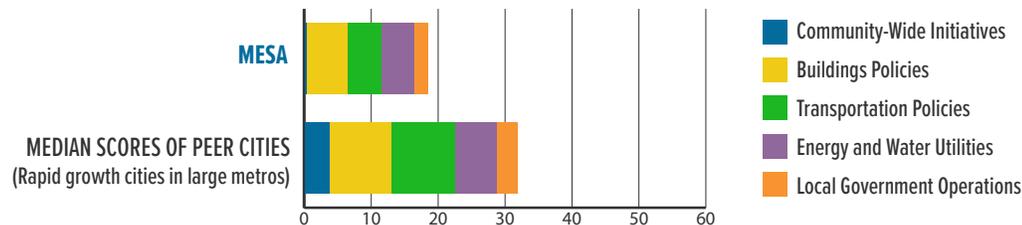
- Develop a strategic approach to conducting energy retrofits in municipal buildings.
- Adopt solar- and EV-ready requirements in building codes.
- Adopt policies and programs targeting energy efficiency in existing buildings, such as retrocommissioning and audit requirements and incentives, particularly targeting low-income housing.
- Contribute to the development of a clean energy workforce.
- Expand high-quality transit access for low-income residents.
- Increase the deployment of EV charging infrastructure.
- Adopt and track a goal for reduction in VMT or transportation-sector GHG emissions.

2021 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

MESA, AZ

Mesa made some achievements and moved up in the rankings from the previous *Scorecard*, but because the city has few clean energy policies, it has room for improvement across all categories, particularly in local government operations. The city can take several actions that could serve as stepping-stones to a clean energy future.

HOW DOES MESA STACK UP TO PEER CITIES?



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (0.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Mesa works to reduce the urban heat island effect by allowing for the transfer of development rights in certain zones, but it has pursued few other community-wide initiatives. It has not adopted citywide climate or renewable energy goals, taken an equity-driven approach to clean energy planning, 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 (6 OF 30 POINTS)

Mesa requires residential and commercial buildings to comply with the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code with local amendments. We could not find information on whether the city has adopted solar ordinances or policies requiring buildings to include EV charging infrastructure or to be EV ready. Mesa does not have programs committed to developing a dedicated energy efficiency or renewable energy workforce. The state of Arizona prohibits Mesa from adopting requirements that reduce energy use in existing buildings. The city's Energy Resources Department offers a solar incentive program for qualified residents and commercial properties.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (5 OF 30 POINTS)

Of low-income households in Mesa, 6.7% have access to high-quality transit. With only 8.1 ports per 100,000 people, the city has a very low number of EV charging station ports available for public use. Mesa has neither a sustainable freight transportation plan in place nor any policies that address freight efficiency, nor has it codified VMT or transportation-related GHG reduction targets. We could not determine the amount of local transit funding received by transportation entities that serve Mesa.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (5 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, the municipally owned Salt River Project (SRP) shows high savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs, while Southwest Gas shows low savings as a percentage of sales for gas efficiency programs. Southwest Gas administered a local low-income weatherization program for customers, and SRP offers a comprehensive multifamily program; however, neither utility offers a portfolio of multiple low-income programs. Mesa releases community-wide energy usage data for residential, commercial, and public sectors on an open data portal. We were unable to determine the carbon emissions per capita from SRP in 2019. Although SRP set a carbon reduction goal of 90% by 2050 in 2019, we were unable to determine the stringency of that goal due to lack of data.

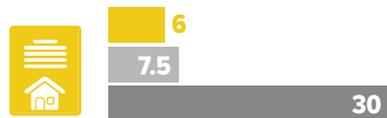
LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (2 OF 10 POINTS)

Mesa has installed 1.4 MW of renewable energy generation capacity on municipal buildings, has adopted an efficient outdoor lighting policy, and is converting streetlights to LEDs. The city has not established a goal for GHG emissions reduction or an efficient fleet procurement policy, and it has not instituted inclusive procurement policies or developed a comprehensive retrofit strategy.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



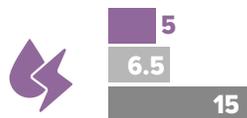
BUILDINGS POLICIES



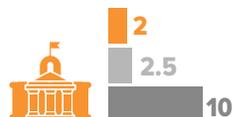
TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



■ MEDIAN SCORE OF ALL CITIES
 ■ MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE