Reno performed best in buildings policies. The city can improve across all policy areas to advance its rank in the next Scorecard, most notably in energy and water utilities.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (2 OF 15 POINTS)
Reno’s GHG emissions reduction, energy reduction, and renewable energy goals set the vision for a clean energy future. The city adopted a long-term GHG emissions reduction of 80% below 2008 levels by 2050. ACEEE was unable to project if the city will achieve its near-term climate mitigation goal of 28% below 2008 levels by 2025 because insufficient data were available for our analysis. The city has not 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 (13.5 OF 30 POINTS)
Reno requires residential and commercial buildings to comply with the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code, exceeding the state energy code. Reno has not yet adopted solar- and EV-readiness requirements. The city does not have programs committed to developing a dedicated energy efficiency or renewable energy workforce. To achieve energy reductions in existing buildings, Reno requires buildings to perform energy benchmarking and to achieve a performance standard or complete other approved measures, such as an energy audit or LEED certification. Reno runs the ReEnergize Reno challenge to encourage benchmarking in buildings not covered by the Energy and Water Efficiency Program. The city allows commercial building owners access to PACE financing for energy efficiency and renewable energy projects.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (5.5 OF 30 POINTS)
Of low-income households in Reno, 25.2% have access to high-quality transit. With only 30.9 per 100,000 people, the city has a very low number of EV charging station ports available for public use. Reno 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. Transportation entities that serve Reno have received roughly $59.00 per capita on average in local transit funding annually between 2015 and 2019, a low funding level.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (0.5 OF 15 POINTS)
Compared to other utilities, NV Energy shows low savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs and very low savings as a percentage of sales for natural gas efficiency programs. NV Energy doesn’t offer comprehensive energy efficiency programs targeted at low-income customers or multifamily properties. Reno does not regularly collect community-wide energy use data at the aggregate level or advocate for better access to utility data for ratepayers or the establishment of data-sharing agreements between the city and its utilities. We cannot confirm whether the city participates in activities or strategies to help spur or encourage more utility-scale or distributed renewable energy generation from its local electric utility. NV Energy does not currently have a carbon emissions reduction goal in place.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (0.5 OF 10 POINTS)
Reno requires benchmarking of municipal buildings over 10,000 square feet. Otherwise, the city has few initiatives to reduce GHG emissions and energy use in local government operations and has not established emissions reductions goals for municipal operations. We were unable to find information indicating that the city has an efficient fleet procurement or outdoor lighting policy or has converted streetlights to LEDs. Reno has not installed renewable energy systems on municipal facilities, established inclusive procurement policies, or developed a comprehensive retrofit strategy.