# rank **37/100**

## OVERALL SCORE **35.5/100**

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- → Incorporate participatory budgeting procedures in decision-making bodies.
- → Adopt solar- and EV-ready requirements in building codes.
- → Expand high-quality transit access for low-income residents.
- → Increase the deployment of EV charging infrastructure.
- → Develop a city freight plan that increases freight efficiency.

#### **COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES**





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#### 2021 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

### SAN ANTONIO, TX

San Antonio performed best in local government operations but moved down in the rankings from the previous *Scorecard*. The city still has several options for improving its score, with the most room for improvement in the energy and water utilities, community-wide initiatives, and transportation policies categories.

#### HOW DOES SAN ANTONIO STACK UP TO PEER CITIES?



#### **COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (6 OF 15 POINTS)**

San Antonio's climate change mitigation, energy reduction, and renewable energy goals set the vision for a clean energy future. Based on emissions data from past years, ACEEE projects the city will not achieve its near-term, community-wide GHG emissions reduction goal of 41% below 2016 levels by 2030. To advance equity-driven planning and accountability, the city created the Climate Equity Technical Working Group and requires its departments to conduct equity analyses. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, the city adopted a goal to increase the urban tree canopy to 40% by 2040. San Antonio has not 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 (10.5 OF 30 POINTS)**

San Antonio requires residential and commercial buildings to comply with the 2018 and 2015 International Energy Conservation Codes, respectively. We could not find information on whether the city has adopted solar ordinances or policies requiring buildings to include EV charging infrastructure or be EV ready, but the city allows solar in all zones. San Antonio funds the Build San Antonio Green organization, which trains developers and certifies new homes and apartments based on stricter energy codes. The city offers several incentives for clean energy and its Green and Healthy Home program assists low- to moderate-income households with creating energy efficient and sustainable homes.

#### **TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (8 OF 30 POINTS)**

Of low-income households in San Antonio, 16.2% have access to high-quality transit. With only 15.6 per 100,000 people, the city has a very low number of EV charging station ports available for public use. San Antonio has neither a sustainable freight transportation plan in place nor any policies that address freight efficiency. The city has established a goal to reduce VMT 47% by 2030 and 75% by 2040 from a 2016 baseline. Transportation entities that serve San Antonio received roughly \$119.34 per capita on average in local transit funding annually between 2015 and 2019, a moderate funding level.

#### **ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (5.5 OF 15 POINTS)**

Compared to other utilities, municipally owned CPS Energy shows very low savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs. It did not report spending or savings for natural gas efficiency programs. While the utility does offer a comprehensive low-income weatherization program for customers, it does not offer a portfolio of multiple types of programs for low-income households or programs for multifamily properties. The city provides community-wide energy use information for planning and evaluation purposes through its annual reports. In 2019, CPS Energy emitted 16.06 metric tons of CO2e per capita. That same year, as part of its Flexible Path strategy, CPS set a moderate goal to reduce net emissions 80% by 2040 from a 2005 baseline.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (5.5 OF 10 POINTS)

San Antonio has adopted a GHG emissions reduction goal for local government operations. ACEEE projects that the city will achieve its near-term climate mitigation goal of 41% below 2016 levels by 2030. The city integrates clean energy into its procurement and construction strategies by purchasing efficient vehicles, converting streetlights to LEDs, and installing renewable energy systems on municipal facilities. We were unable to verify that the city has an inclusive procurement policy used for energy projects. San Antonio benchmarks energy use in all municipal buildings, uses assessments to identify energy efficiency projects, and conducts retrofits through an energy efficiency fund.