Dallas, TX

Dallas was one of the weaker performers among its peers, and it fell in the rankings from the previous scorecard. Dallas performed best in the local government operations category and can notably improve in the transportation category.

Recommendations
- Adopt energy benchmarking and retrocommissioning policies.
- Take an equity-driven approach to shared, distributed energy systems.
- Set and track progress toward VMT reduction goals.
- Establish building energy performance standards to reduce energy use and GHG emissions.
- Implement affordability requirements in buildings incentives programs.
- Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES
12.5/45 Points
Dallas has a goal to reduce GHG emissions, but there was not sufficient emissions data to determine if it is on track to meet this goal. The Resilient Dallas Plan includes goals, actions, and timelines to improve equity in the city government. Dallas offered transportation reimbursement to residents attending climate action planning meetings.

BUILDING POLICIES
14/70 Points
Buildings must comply with the Dallas Energy Conservation Code, which includes requirements for solar readiness. The Dallas Green Ordinance requires projects smaller than 50,000 sq ft to be 15% more efficient than required by the code. The city offers PACE financing, rebates for home improvement, and efficiency upgrades for low-income homes.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES
8/70 Points
Dallas has not recently updated its zoning code to facilitate location-efficient development, nor does the city require new developments to install EV charging stations. Dallas Area Rapid Transit, the city’s primary public transit agency, offers reduced transit fares for residents who receive Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) benefits.

COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE
9.5/40 Points
Oncor and Atmos Energy both offer programs targeted at low-income customers and multifamily buildings. Dallas has been involved with regulatory proceedings to work toward expanding renewable energy generation and is working on installing more solar energy.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
9.5/25 Points
The city of Dallas currently has dedicated funding for energy procurement, monitoring, and efficiency improvements. Roughly 18% of streetlights in Dallas have been converted to LEDs, and efficient vehicles make up 5% of the municipal fleet.

EQUITABLE PRACTICES: 18/85.5 POINTS
Each chapter of the City Scorecard included metrics assessing equitable practices cities are taking to advance clean energy, totaling 85.5 points available across the Scorecard.