

OVERALL RANK

40/75

39 out of 57 cities in large metro areas

OVERALL SCORE

26%

66/250 total points

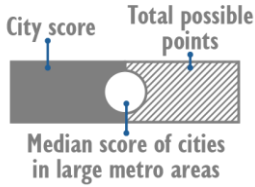
2024 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Grand Rapids, MI

Grand Rapids was one of the weaker performers among its peers, and it fell in the rankings from the previous scorecard. Grand Rapids performed best in the community energy infrastructure category and has the most room to 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.
- Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.
- Update zoning code to facilitate location-efficient development.
- Implement clean energy workforce development initiatives targeting disadvantaged communities.



The following sections highlight Grand Rapids' performance on a few key metrics that ACEEE Scorecard authors identified as high impact. To learn more about Grand Rapids' Scorecard results, visit <https://www.aceee.org/city-clean-energy-scorecard>.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



7.5/45 Points



Grand Rapids 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 Community Collaboration on Climate Change (C4) by-laws state that the leadership team must have at a minimum 50% BIPOC and voting decisions can be made only if at least 33% of voting members are BIPOC.

BUILDING POLICIES



13.5/70 Points



Grand Rapids complies with Michigan statewide building codes. Per the Sustainability Policy for City Buildings, all municipal buildings must achieve LEED standards. Grand Rapids offers PACE financing for energy efficiency, renewable energy, and water conservation projects.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



11/70 Points



Grand Rapids has not recently updated its zoning code to facilitate location-efficient development. The city requires all new development projects to include EV charging stations in 0.5% of spaces. Grand Rapids provides discounts on shared micromobility trips starting in disadvantaged communities and for residents receiving government assistance.

COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE



24.5/40 Points



Consumers Energy and DTE offer programs targeted to low-income customers and multifamily properties. The city has provided public comments to the Michigan PSC advocating for increased energy efficiency and renewable energy. The city is also working with Consumers Energy on strategies to achieve the city's renewable energy goals.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



9.5/25



The city's comprehensive asset management program manages energy efficiency upgrades. Roughly 70% of Grand Rapids' streetlights are LEDs, and efficient vehicles make up 10% of the city's fleet.



EQUITABLE PRACTICES: 17/85.5 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.

