2024 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Spokane, WA

Spokane was in the middle of the pack among its peers. Spokane performed best in the transportation category and can notably improve in the community energy infrastructure category. This is the first time Spokane is included in the City Scorecard.

Recommendations

→ Form partnerships with utilities to encourage clean energy goals, programs, and investments.
→ Track progress toward VMT reduction goals.
→ Adopt affordability requirements in energy incentive and financing programs.

→ Develop inclusive procurement and contracting processes.
→ Work with utilities to formalize partnerships with community-based organizations.
→ Develop equity-driven community engagement processes.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

2.5/45 Points

Spokane 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. Because of limited date, we were unable to determine Spokane’s approach to community engagement or workforce development.

BUILDING POLICIES

21.5/70 Points

Commercial and residential properties follow the 2021 Washington State Energy Code in Spokane. The city requires major retrofits of municipal buildings to meet LEED Silver certification. While Spokane does not currently incentivize energy efficiency, financing and incentive programs are in the planning and study stages.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

22.5/70 Points

Spokane rezoned all residential districts to allow up to four residential units per lot by-right in 2022. Per the state code, developments must install EV charging stations in 10% of parking spaces. Lime offers discounted rides to residents participating in assistance programs like SNAP, Medicaid, or the local transit agency’s reduced-fare program.

COMMUNITY ENERGY INFRASTRUCTURE

2/40 Points

AVISTA is the primary electric and natural gas utility serving Spokane. ACEEE was unable to verify program offerings and savings plans for utilities serving Spokane or determine whether the city incentivizes deployment of renewable energy systems due to lack of information.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

3/25 Points

We were unable to determine whether Spokane has a comprehensive retrofit strategy. Currently, efficient vehicles make up 4% of Spokane’s municipal fleet. All streetlights in Spokane are LEDs.

EQUITABLE PRACTICES: 4.5/85.5 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.