## rank **40 /100**

**2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD** 

### Albuquerque

Albuquerque has made progress since the last edition of the *City Scorecard*, and had its best achievements in the local government operations category. New greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction and clean energy goals for municipal operations and Executive Instruction 34, which requires the city to develop a fleet procurement plan that emphasizes clean options, boosted the city's score in the category. To continue its progress and increase its rank in the next edition of the *Scorecard*, the city can improve across all policy areas but most notably in community-wide initiatives and buildings policies.



### HOW DOES ALBUQUERQUE STACK UP REGIONALLY?



# OVERALL SCORE 30.5 /100



MEDIAN SCORE Maximum points possible



### LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (6 OF 10 POINTS)

Albuquerque has adopted GHG emissions reduction and clean energy goals for local government operations. ACEEE was unable to project if the city will achieve its near-term climate mitigation goal of 26–28% below 2005 levels by 2025 because insufficient GHG emissions data were available for our analysis. Albuquerque benchmarks all municipal buildings, analyzes benchmarking data to identify energy efficiency opportunities, and conducts retrofits as directed by a city ordinance. The city also integrates clean energy strategies into its procurement and construction strategies; Albuquerque purchases fuel-efficient vehicles, has converted all city-owned streetlights to LED, and has installed solar systems on city facilities.

### COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (2 OF 15 POINTS)

To mitigate the urban heat island effect, Albuquerque has a goal of planting 100,000 trees within the next 10 years. To inspire future clean energy efforts, the city can adopt citywide climate and energy goals, take an equity-driven approach to clean energy planning, and adopt a formal policy, rule, or agreement that supports the creation of clean, distributed energy systems within the community.

### **BUILDINGS POLICIES (4 OF 30 POINTS)**

Albuquerque requires residential and commercial buildings to comply with the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code. The codes are not stringent when compared to building energy codes in effect in other cities. Due to zoning code amendments, the city allows solar energy use throughout the city. To achieve energy reductions in existing buildings, Albuquerque runs the Mayor's Energy Challenge and offers incentives for clean energy. Albuquerque can do more to reduce GHG emissions in its buildings sector by adopting energy efficiency policies (such as benchmarking requirements) for existing buildings and developing an equitable clean energy workforce.

### **ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (8.5 OF 15 POINTS)**

Compared to other utilities, Public Service Company of New Mexico (PNM) and New Mexico Gas show low savings as a percentage of sales for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. The utilities combine funds to offer the New Mexico Energy Smart Home program to low-income customers. Both utilities provide multifamily energy efficiency programs. Albuquerque supports legislation and regulator efforts to allow for more renewable energy in the state, and advocates for better access to utility data. Multiple efforts also aim to increase energy and water efficiency in water services.

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

Albuquerque adopted a complete streets policy in 2015 through Ordinance O-14-27. The Integrated Development Ordinance offers several incentives to encourage mixed-use development. Albuquerque has not adopted a stand-alone sustainable transportation plan, but the city is a contributor to the regional Metropolitan Transportation Plan. Albuquerque has not yet adopted quantitative goals to reduce vehicle miles traveled/GHG emissions from transportation. Adopting and tracking progress toward these goals would help lay the groundwork for transportation action. Relative to other city systems, Albuquerque's transit system is underfunded and can improve in accessibility; ensuring continued financial support for service and operations will be crucial in a post-COVID world. Albuquerque can promote sustainable transportation within the city by encouraging or requiring the creation of affordable housing units in transit-served areas.