

RANK

100 / 100

2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

# Augusta

Augusta has few clean energy policies; to jump-start its efforts, the city can focus on increasing energy efficiency and renewable energy usage in its own operations. It can also pursue foundational clean energy policies like establishing climate and energy goals for the community, adopting a more stringent building energy code, and developing a sustainable transportation plan. These could serve as stepping-stones to a clean energy future in Augusta.

OVERALL SCORE

4.5 / 100



## LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS

0

2.5

10



## COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES

0

3

15



## BUILDINGS POLICIES

1

7

30



## ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

2

5.5

15



## TRANSPORTATION POLICIES

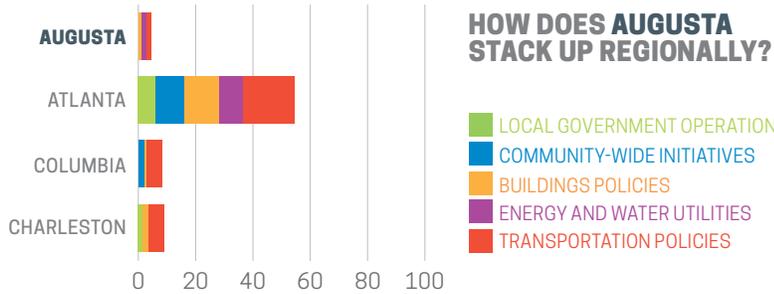
1.5

8.5

30

MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



### LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (0 OF 10 POINTS)

Augusta has not yet adopted either greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction or clean energy goals for local government operations, and has few initiatives to reduce GHG emissions and energy use in local government operations. The city can establish climate change mitigation, energy reduction, and renewable energy goals for municipal operations. To integrate clean energy strategies into its procurement and construction strategies, Augusta can set fleet efficiency requirements and install renewable energy systems. The city can also ramp up its asset management efforts by benchmarking building energy use, identifying energy efficiency opportunities, and conducting building retrofits.

### COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (0 OF 15 POINTS)

Augusta has few community-wide initiatives aimed at reducing GHG emissions. 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 (1 OF 30 POINTS)

Augusta has the authority to adopt energy codes more stringent than those of the state but has not chosen to do so. Georgia requires residential buildings to comply with the 2011 Georgia State Minimum Residential Green Building Standard, which references the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code. Commercial buildings must comply with the 2011 Georgia State Minimum Standard Energy Code, which references ASHRAE 90.1-2013. Augusta can do more to reduce GHG emissions in its buildings sector by adopting energy efficiency policies (such as benchmarking requirements) for existing buildings, offering incentives, and developing an equitable clean energy workforce.

### ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (2 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, Georgia Power reports low savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs; however, it does offer multiple low-income and multifamily energy efficiency programs. Atlanta Gas Light did not spend or did not report spending on natural gas efficiency programs. Augusta can ramp up its clean energy strategies by encouraging more utility-scale or distributed renewable energy generation and advocating for better access to utility data. The city can also improve the energy and water efficiency of its water services.

### TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (1.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Augusta has not adopted a sustainable transportation plan, goals to reduce vehicle miles traveled/GHG emissions from transportation, or mode shift targets. Adopting and tracking progress toward these goals would help lay the groundwork for transportation action. Ensuring continued financial support for service and operations will be crucial in a post-COVID world; Augusta can improve the accessibility of and direct investment towards its transit system. The city can further promote sustainable transportation within the city by subsidizing efficient transportation options for low-income residents.