

RANK

42 / 100

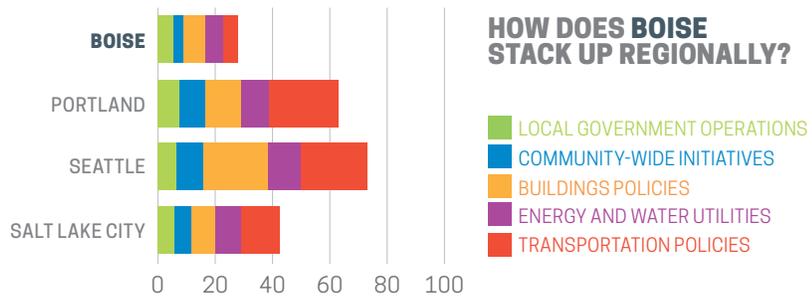
2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Boise

OVERALL SCORE

28 / 100

Boise earned the highest score among the 25 cities new to the 2020 City Scorecard. The city performed best in the local government operations category due to its municipal clean energy goals, its strong procurement and construction policies, and its benchmarking of all municipal buildings. Recent efforts also helped the city's score, including the release of Boise's Energy Future, which had scoring implications across multiple policy areas. Boise can improve across multiple categories to advance its rank in the next edition of the Scorecard, but most notably in transportation policies.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (5.5 OF 10 POINTS)**

Boise has energy reduction and renewable electricity goals for local government operations. The city integrates clean energy strategies into its procurement and construction strategies; it also sets fleet efficiency requirements, converts streetlights to LEDs, and installs onsite renewable energy systems at municipal facilities. Boise also benchmarks all municipal buildings and allows teleworking to reduce emissions related to employee commutes. Boise can further its clean energy efforts by establishing a greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction target for local government operations and adopting a comprehensive retrofit strategy for municipal buildings.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (3.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Boise's goal to increase renewable energy generation to 100% of community-wide energy use by 2040 sets the vision for a clean energy future. Boise operates a geothermal-powered district energy system which provides steam to 90 buildings in the downtown area. To inspire future clean energy efforts, the city can adopt climate change mitigation goals, take an equity-driven approach to clean energy planning, and adopt policies and programs to mitigate the urban heat island effect.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (7.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Boise requires residential and commercial buildings to comply with the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code. The city has developed robust code compliance and enforcement procedures for the building energy code. Due to zoning code amendments, Boise allows for solar energy use throughout the city. Boise can do more to reduce GHG emissions in its building sectors by adopting energy efficiency policies (such as benchmarking requirements) for existing buildings and developing an equitable clean energy workforce.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (6.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, Idaho Power shows moderate savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs. The utility offers energy efficiency programs for both low-income customers and multifamily properties. Intermountain Natural Gas does not report spending or savings on natural gas programs. Boise encourages the decarbonization of the electric grid by acting as an advisory member in the Idaho Power Integrated Resource Planning Process and participating in cases with the Idaho Public Utilities Commission. The city can work to improve the energy and water efficiency of water services.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (5 OF 30 POINTS)

Boise offers density bonuses to encourage transit-oriented development. While the Transportation Action Plan sets the vision for an efficient transportation system, Boise 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. The city can improve the accessibility of and direct investment towards its transit system; ensuring continued financial support for service and operations will be crucial in a post-COVID world. Boise can promote sustainable transportation within the city by further encouraging the development of compact communities and working to boost the use of efficient modes of transportation.

**LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS**

5.5

2.5

10

**COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES**

3.5

3

15

**BUILDINGS POLICIES**

7.5

7

30

**ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES**

6.5

5.5

15

**TRANSPORTATION POLICIES**

5

8.5

30

MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE