

RANK

82 / 100

2020 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Lakeland

While Lakeland has some achievements, the city has few clean energy policies and substantial room for improvement across all categories. Lakeland can pursue foundational clean energy policies like establishing climate and energy goals. To address energy waste in municipal operations, the city can benchmark and upgrade municipal buildings and can seek to convert streetlights to LEDs. The city can also work to make private buildings more energy efficient and create a sustainable transportation plan to reduce vehicles miles traveled (VMT) citywide. These could serve as stepping-stones to a clean energy future.

OVERALL SCORE

12.5 / 100



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



BUILDINGS POLICIES



ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES

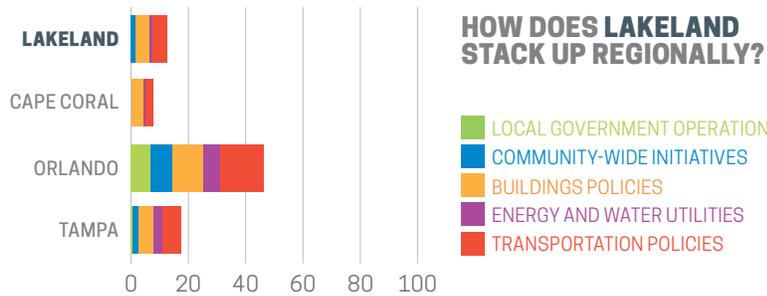


TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



MEDIAN SCORE

MAXIMUM POINTS POSSIBLE



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (0 OF 10 POINTS)

Lakeland has few initiatives to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and energy use in local government operations. The city can ramp up its efforts by establishing municipal energy reduction, renewable electricity, and GHG emissions reduction goals. Lakeland can reduce emissions from its existing buildings by benchmarking building energy use, developing a comprehensive retrofit strategy, and conducting energy retrofits. It can also increase its clean energy ambitions by setting fleet efficiency requirements, converting streetlights to LED, and installing renewable energy systems.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (1.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Lakeland helps reduce the urban heat island effect by requiring a permit to remove trees on private property; otherwise it has pursued few other community-wide initiatives. To inspire future clean energy efforts, Lakeland 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 (5 OF 30 POINTS)

Florida requires all jurisdictions to comply with the 6th Edition Florida Building Code, which references the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code. To achieve energy reductions in existing buildings, Lakeland Electric, the city's municipal utility, offers incentives to spur clean energy investment. Lakeland can do more to reduce GHG emissions from 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 (1 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, Lakeland Electric and TECO Peoples Gas show low savings as a percentage of sales for both electric and natural efficiency programs. Neither utility offers energy efficiency programs targeted at low-income customers or multifamily properties. The city can encourage utility-scale or distributed renewable energy generation from its electric utility. Additionally, Lakeland can increase energy and water efficiency in water services and wastewater treatment plants.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (5 OF 30 POINTS)

Lakeland has adopted a complete streets policy, and its zoning code encourages mixed-use development. However, the city has not adopted a sustainable transportation plan, goals to reduce VMT/GHG emissions from transportation, or mode shift targets. 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. Lakeland can further promote sustainable transportation within the city by encouraging or requiring the creation of affordable housing units in transit-served areas and subsidizing efficient transportation options for low-income residents.