RANK

97/100

OVERALL SCORE

5/100

RECOMMENDATIONS

- → Adopt more stringent building energy codes.
- → Adopt location-efficient zoning codes that apply to the entire city.
- → Employ equitable community engagement practices in planning clean energy initiatives.
- → Set and track community-wide goals for GHG emissions.
- → Adopt policies and programs to mitigate the urban heat island effect.
- → Advocate for and publicize community-wide energy usage information.
- → Expand high-quality transit access for lowincome residents.
- → Increase the deployment of EV charging infrastructure.
- → Adopt and track a goal for reduction in VMT or transportation sector GHG emissions.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES



BUILDINGS POLICIES



TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



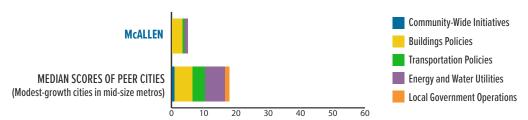
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

2021 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

McALLEN, TX

McAllen has few clean energy policies and moved down in the rankings from the previous *Scorecard*. The city can pursue foundational clean energy policies that could serve as stepping-stones to a clean energy future.

HOW DOES MCALLEN STACK UP TO PEER CITIES?



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (0 OF 15 POINTS)

McAllen has few community-wide initiatives aimed at reducing GHG emissions. It has not adopted citywide climate and energy goals or taken an equity-driven approach to clean energy planning. McAllen has not supported the creation of community solar or the integration of emissions-reducing technology in distributed energy systems within the community.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (3.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Texas requires residential and commercial buildings to comply with the Texas Building Energy Code, which references the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code. McAllen has the authority to adopt an energy code more stringent than the state's but has not done so. We could not find information on whether the city has adopted solar ordinances or policies requiring buildings to include EV charging infrastructure or be EV ready. McAllen does not have programs committed to developing a dedicated energy efficiency or renewable energy workforce.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (0.5 OF 30 POINTS)

McAllen has few initiatives to reduce GHG emissions and energy use in the transportation sector. Of low-income households in McAllen, 0% have access to high-quality transit. With only 2.1 per 100,000 people, the city has a very low number of EV charging station ports available for public use. McAllen has neither a sustainable freight transportation plan nor any policies that address freight efficiency, nor has it codified VMT or transportation-related GHG reduction targets. Transportation entities that serve McAllen have received roughly \$11.28 per capita on average in local transit funding annually between 2015 and 2019, a very low funding level.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (1 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, Texas Gas Service shows very low savings as a percentage of sales for natural gas efficiency programs. We were unable to verify energy efficiency program spending and savings for American Electric Power (AEP) in 2019. While neither utility offers multifamily energy efficiency programs, they do offer programs for low-income customers, including health and safety measures. McAllen does not provide community-wide energy use information at the aggregate level or advocate for better ratepayer access to utility data. To our knowledge, the city does not participate in activities or strategies to encourage more utility-scale or distributed renewable energy generation from its local electric utility. In 2021, AEP set a modest company-wide goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (0 OF 10 POINTS)

McAllen has few initiatives to reduce GHG emissions and energy use in local government operations and has not established goals for GHG emissions reductions from municipal operations. We were unable to find information indicating that the city has efficient fleet procurement or outdoor lighting policies or has converted streetlights to LEDs. McAllen has not installed renewable energy systems on municipal facilities, established inclusive procurement policies, or developed a comprehensive retrofit strategy.