### rank **89/100**

# overall score 8/100

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- → Adopt EV charging-ready provisions in building codes.
- → Form partnerships to encourage utility clean energy goals, programs, and investments.
- → Set and track community-wide goals for GHG emissions.
- → Adopt policies and programs targeting energy efficiency in existing buildings, such as retrocommissioning and audit requirements and incentives, particularly targeting low-income housing.
- → Contribute to the development of a clean energy workforce.







#### 2021 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

## OMAHA, NE

Omaha had its best achievements in transportation policies, but the city has few clean energy policies and fell in the rankings from the previous *Scorecard*, leaving room for improvement across all categories. The city can take many actions that could serve as stepping-stones to a clean energy future.

#### HOW DOES OMAHA STACK UP TO PEER CITIES?



#### **COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (0.5 OF 15 POINTS)**

Omaha's energy reduction and renewable energy goals set the vision for a clean energy future, but the city has pursued few other community-wide initiatives. To inspire future clean energy efforts, it can adopt citywide climate goals, take an equity-driven approach to clean energy planning, and adopt a formal policy, rule, or agreement that supports the creation of community solar and the integration of emissions-reducing technology in distributed energy systems within the community.

#### **BUILDINGS POLICIES (1 OF 30 POINTS)**

Omaha has few initiatives to reduce GHG emissions and energy use in the buildings sector. The city requires residential and commercial buildings to comply with the 2009 International Energy Conservation Code—the state's standard—but the code is not stringent. Nebraska allows local jurisdictions to adopt other building energy codes, but Omaha has chosen not to do 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. Omaha does not have programs committed to developing a dedicated energy efficiency or renewable energy workforce. The city offers PACE financing to commercial property owners for energy efficiency improvements.

#### **TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (6.5 OF 30 POINTS)**

Of low-income households in Omaha, 0% have access to high-quality transit. With only 11.1 per 100,000 people, the city has a very low number of EV charging station ports available for public use. Omaha has neither a sustainable freight transportation plan in place nor any policies that address freight efficiency, nor has it codified VMT or transportation-related GHG reduction targets. The transportation entities that serve Omaha have received roughly \$38.23 per capita on average in local transit funding annually between 2015 and 2019, a very low funding level.

#### **ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (0 OF 15 POINTS)**

Compared to other utilities, the municipally owned Omaha Public Power District (OPPD) shows very low savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs. Metropolitan Utilities District of Omaha did not report savings on natural gas efficiency programs. The utilities do not offer low-income or multifamily energy efficiency programs for their customers. Omaha neither provides community-wide energy use information at the aggregate level nor advocates for better access to utility data for ratepayers. We were unable to determine the carbon emissions per capita from OPPD in 2019. The utility set a goal to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, yet we were unable to measure the goal's stringency due to lack of available data.

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

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