RANK

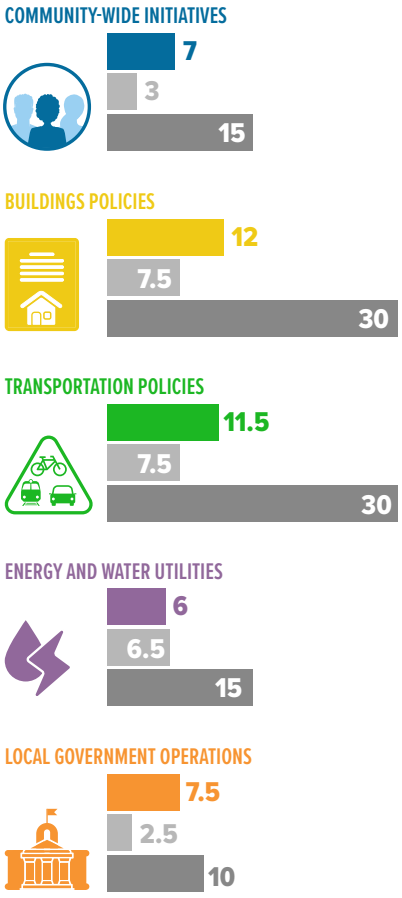
22/100

OVERALL SCORE

44/100

RECOMMENDATIONS

- Require new policies, programs, plans, and budgeting decisions to undergo structural equity assessments.
- Adopt solar- and EV-ready requirements in building codes.
- Adopt policies and programs that take an equitable approach to increasing energy efficiency in existing buildings.
- Expand high-quality transit access for low-income residents.
- Adopt and track a goal for reduction in VMT or transportation sector GHG emissions.



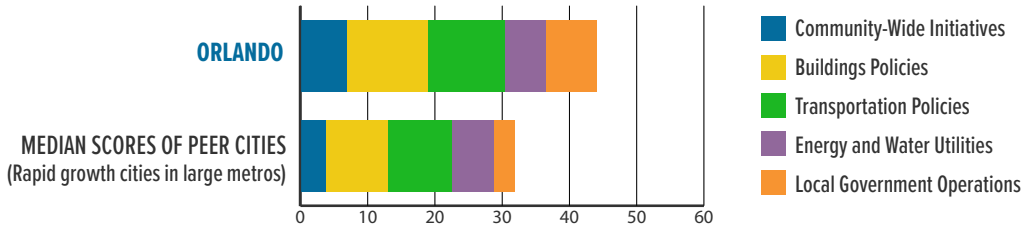
ACEEE
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy

2021 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

ORLANDO, FL

Orlando scored best in local government operations but moved down slightly in the rankings from the previous *Scorecard*. The city has several options for improving its score, with the most room for improvement in the buildings policies and energy and water utilities categories.

HOW DOES ORLANDO STACK UP TO PEER CITIES?



COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (7 OF 15 POINTS)

Orlando's climate change mitigation, energy reduction, and renewable energy goals set the vision for a clean energy future. Based on emissions data from past years, ACEEE projects the city will achieve its near-term, community-wide climate mitigation goal of 90% below 2007 levels by 2040. To advance equity-driven planning and accountability, the city conducted outreach meetings in marginalized communities to inform the development of the Paramore Comprehensive Plan. The plan has several metrics to track energy and health outcomes. The Orlando Utility Commission supports community solar within the city. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, Orlando aims to increase urban tree canopy coverage to 40% by 2040.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (12 OF 30 POINTS)

Florida requires all jurisdictions to comply with the 7th Edition Florida Building Code, which references the 2018 International Energy Conservation Code. Orlando has not yet adopted solar- and EV-readiness requirements for new buildings. It allows solar in all zones. The City of Orlando has partnered with outside organizations, including the U.S. Green Building Council and Valencia College, to develop its local energy workforce. The city requires large commercial and multifamily buildings to benchmark their energy use annually; the same ordinance also requires buildings to undergo periodic energy audits or retrocommissioning if they have an ENERGY STAR® score of 50 or below. Orlando offers incentives such as PACE financing, tax rebates, and loans to encourage investment in energy efficiency.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (11.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Of low-income households in Orlando, 7.4% have access to high-quality transit. With 111.7 ports per 100,000 people, the city has a high number of EV charging station ports available for public use. While its Parking Division manages freight zones, the city has yet to codify VMT or transportation-related GHG reduction targets. Transportation entities that serve Orlando have received roughly $45.82 per capita on average in local transit funding annually between 2015 and 2019, a very low funding level.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (6 OF 15 POINTS)

Compared to other utilities, the municipally owned Orlando Utilities Commission (OUC) shows very low savings as a percent of sales for electric efficiency programs. TECO Peoples Gas also reports low savings relative to other utilities. OUC offers comprehensive energy efficiency programs for both low-income and multifamily properties yet does not offer a portfolio of low-income programs that provide deep savings measures across programs. Orlando provides community-wide energy use information for planning and evaluation purposes. In 2020, OUC emitted 22.55 metric tons of CO_2e per capita. The same year, the utility established a moderate goal to reach net-zero carbon emissions by 2050.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (7.5 OF 10 POINTS)

Orlando has a GHG emissions reduction goal for local government operations. Based on emissions data from past years, ACEEE projects the city will achieve 77% of its goal to reach carbon neutrality by 2030. The city has integrated clean energy into its procurement and construction strategies by purchasing efficient vehicles, passing an outdoor lighting policy, installing renewable energy systems on city facilities, and converting streetlights to LEDs. It also requires contracting from minority- and women-owned business for city projects, and these policies have been applied to recent solar PV installation projects. Orlando benchmarks municipal buildings, conducts audits of all facilities to identify efficiency opportunities, and retrofits buildings based on findings.