### rank **21/100**

# overall score **45/100**

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- → Take additional steps to ensure builders comply with energy codes.
- → Establish and track metrics related to energy equity.
- Contribute to the development of a clean energy workforce.
- → Expand high-quality transit access for lowincome residents.



TRANSPORTATION POLICIES



**ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES** 



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS



MEDIAN SCORE OF ALL CITIES



#### 2021 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

## PITTSBURGH, PA

Pittsburgh performed best in community-wide initiatives and transportation policies. The city has several opportunities to improve its score in the next edition of the *Scorecard*, most notably in buildings policies and energy and water utilities.

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



#### **COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (7.5 OF 15 POINTS)**

Pittsburgh's GHG emissions reduction, energy reduction, and renewable energy goals set the vision for a clean energy future. The city adopted a long-term GHG emissions reduction goal of 80% below 2003 levels by 2050. Based on emissions data from past years, ACEEE projects the city will not achieve its near-term GHG emissions reduction goal of 20% below 2003 levels by 2023. The Pittsburgh Equity Indicators include environmental and sustainability metrics. The city's MOU with National Energy Technology Laboratory supports the integration of emissions-reducing technology in community district energy systems and microgrids. To mitigate the urban heat island effect, Pittsburgh aims to increase the urban tree canopy to 60% by 2032.

#### **BUILDINGS (10.5 OF 30 POINTS)**

Pennsylvania requires local jurisdictions to comply with the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code with state amendments. Pittsburgh created a working group with the assistance of the Green Building Alliance to improve its own city codes and work with partner cities to advocate for improved energy codes statewide. Pittsburgh is not able to mandate solar or EV readiness but allows solar in all zones. The city partners with the Energy Innovation Center to develop an energy efficiency and renewable energy workforce. To achieve energy reductions in existing buildings, Pittsburgh requires nonresidential business owners to benchmark annual energy use, expedites solar permitting, and offers density bonuses for buildings meeting LEED standards.

#### **TRANSPORTATION (16 OF 30 POINTS)**

Of low-income households in Pittsburgh, 27.7% have access to high-quality transit. With 94.6 per 100,000 people, the city has a high number of EV charging station ports available for public use. Pittsburgh's Climate Action Plan 3.0 outlines several strategies for reducing freight emissions 25% by 2030, including improved signage, off-peak delivery, designated loading zones, and enforcement of existing idling laws. The Plan, which was adopted by the City Council in 2018, also outlines a goal of reducing VMT per capita 50% below 2013 levels by 2030. Transportation entities that serve Pittsburgh have received roughly \$106.06 per capita on average in local transit funding annually between 2015 and 2019, a moderate funding level.

#### **ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (7 OF 15 POINTS)**

Compared to other utilities, Duquesne Light Company reports very low savings as a percentage of sales for electric efficiency programs. Peoples Natural Gas (PNG) did not provide natural gas efficiency programs in 2019. Duquesne Light offers a portfolio of energy efficiency programs for low-income customers, including comprehensive programs and health and safety measures, as well as comprehensive programs for multifamily properties. Pittsburgh provides community-wide energy use information at the aggregate level for community planning and evaluation purposes. At this time, we cannot confirm if the city participates in activities or strategies to help spur or encourage more utility-scale or distributed renewable energy generation from its local electric utility. Currently, Duquesne Light Co. has not set a GHG or carbon reduction goal for the utility.

#### LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (4 OF 10 POINTS)

Pittsburgh has GHG emissions reduction, energy reduction, and clean energy goals for local government operations. Based on emissions data from past years, ACEEE projects the city will achieve its near-term climate mitigation goal to reduce GHG emissions 20% below 2003 levels by 2023. Pittsburgh requires energy benchmarking of all municipal facilities and strategically pursues energy efficiency upgrades. The city integrates clean energy into its procurement and construction strategies by requiring the purchase of high-efficiency vehicles and efficient outdoor lighting. To our knowledge, it has not installed renewable energy systems on municipal facilities or developed inclusive contracting and procurement policies.