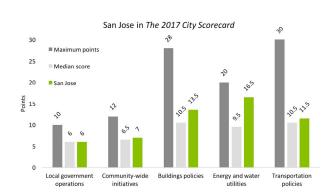
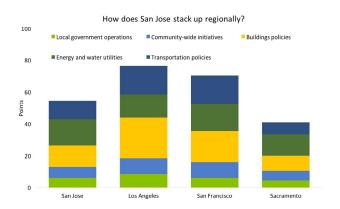
16 San Jose





San Jose ranked 16th in the 2017 City Energy Efficiency Scorecard, the same position as in 2015. The city earned 54.5 points out of a possible 100, 9 points more than last time.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (6 OF 10 POINTS)

San Jose has an energy savings goal for its local government operations. We could not evaluate progress toward the goal because we could not find sufficient data to assess it. San Jose has taken a step toward better managing energy use in buildings by employing an energy service company to retrofit buildings. The city also works to increase efficiency in vehicle fleets, public lighting, new buildings, and equipment procurement.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (7 OF 12 POINTS)

San Jose has adopted energy savings and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals. While the city's GHG emissions reduction goals are modest, the city is on track to exceed its 2035 target. San Jose has a goal to plant 100,000 new trees by 2022 to mitigate its urban heat island and has adopted a private tree protection ordinance.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (13.5 OF 28 POINTS)

Like all California cities, San Jose enforces the 2016 California Energy Code, which went into effect January 1, 2017. The city provides financing for energy efficiency upgrades to residential and commercial constructions through a property assessed clean energy (PACE) program, and permits increases to building height limits if commercial building developers incorporate green features into design. The city can encourage more energy efficiency in private buildings by pursuing audit and retrofit requirements and dedicating more resources to energy code compliance.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (16.5 OF 20 POINTS)

PG&E has moderate efficiency spending and savings. PG&E earned partial credit for its electric and natural gas efficiency spending and savings and full credit for its partnership with the city. PG&E offers comprehensive low-income and multifamily efficiency programs. San Jose earned full credit for data access and received a high score for efficiency in water services.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (11.5 OF 30 POINTS)

San Jose outlines strategies to increase transportation efficiency in the city's general plan. The plan also includes a target to reduce automobile mode share by 40% by 2040. The city encourages location efficiency through a variety of high density mixed-use developments and minimum parking requirement reductions for certain developments. The transit system is well funded but not widely accessible to all throughout the city. Other than these initiatives, the city has not made extensive efforts to increase transportation efficiency.

HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

San Jose's score rose from the 2015 edition, but its rank did not change because many other cities who were close to San Jose in the rankings also had higher scores. The city improved its point total in community-wide initiatives, buildings policies, and energy and water utilities. San Jose can further improve its score by pursuing more transportation policies that increase energy efficiency.

