47 Hartford





Hartford ranked 47th in the 2017 City Energy Efficiency Scorecard, falling 2 spots since 2015. The city earned 22 points out of a possible 100, 1 point less than last time.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (1.5 OF 10 POINTS)

Hartford's Clean Energy Taskforce is developing an energy reduction plan that will include local government operations. The city benchmarks the energy use of all public buildings. Hartford has significant room to improve its energy efficiency efforts in local government operations, which it can do by enacting an energy efficiency requirement for new buildings and developing a comprehensive retrofit strategy for existing buildings.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (1.5 OF 12 POINTS)

Hartford is working to address the city's urban heat island. It has pledged to plant 20,000 trees between 2010 and 2030, increasing the city's tree canopy by 10%. It has also adopted a private tree protection ordinance.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (3.5 OF 28 POINTS)

Hartford complies with Connecticut's residential and commercial building energy codes, as required by law. The city has not enacted many policies to reduce energy use in private buildings. It can do more to encourage energy efficiency in buildings, including pursuing energy audit and retrofit requirements and dedicating more resources to building energy code compliance.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (11 OF 20 POINTS)

The energy utilities serving Hartford have moderate budgets for energy efficiency programs and moderate levels of energy savings. Eversource and Connecticut Natural Gas both run multifamily and low-income efficiency programs. Hartford earned partial credit for efficiency efforts in water services.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (4.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Other than a transit-oriented development overlay that encourages high density in certain zones, Hartford does not have many efficiency policies to increase efficiency in its transportation sector.

HIGHLIGHTS AND OPPORTUNITIES

The energy utilities serving Hartford administer energy efficiency programs that are moderately funded, but the city has enacted few energy efficiency policies. Hartford has a good deal of room to improve across the five policy areas. It could raise its score in future rankings by pursuing foundational energy efficiency actions, like developing a community-wide energy savings goal, advocating for more-stringent building energy codes, or creating a sustainable transportation plan to reduce vehicle miles traveled citywide.

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