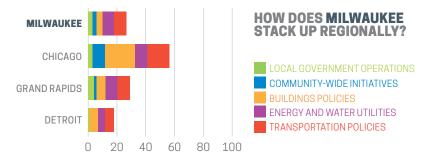


**2019 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD** 

# Milwaukee

Though it can still improve in both categories, Milwaukee performed best in energy and water utilities and transportation policies. In 2018, the city's advocacy efforts succeeded in urging Public Service Commission and We Energies to increase large-scale renewable energy facilities, contributing to its energy and water utilities score. Milwaukee's adoption of a complete streets ordinance in 2018 aided its score for transportation policies. The city can improve across multiple policy areas to advance its rank in the next edition, notably in local government operations and community-wide initiatives.



### LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (3 OF 9 POINTS)

Milwaukee has energy-reduction and renewable electricity goals for local government operations. The city benchmarks energy use in municipal building and retrofits select buildings. Milwaukee has converted some streetlights to LEDs. Milwaukee can improve its performance for local government operations by establishing a greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goal and adopting green building policies for municipal buildings.

#### COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (3 OF 16 POINTS)

Milwaukee participates in the Better Buildings Challenge and supports solar installation by allowing solar-byright accessory use in all zones. To inspire future clean energy efforts, the city can set community-wide GHG reduction, energy-savings, and renewable energy goals. It can take steps to achieve these goals by involving marginalized communities in planning and implementing initiatives and by supporting efficient distributed energy systems such as combined heat and power (CHP) and district energy.

#### **BUILDINGS POLICIES (4 OF 30 POINTS)**

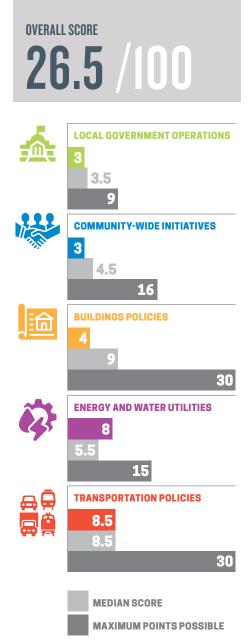
Wisconsin requires all jurisdictions to adopt the Wisconsin Uniform Dwelling Code. While Milwaukee cannot adopt its own building energy codes, the city can advocate for more stringent energy codes. The city encourages clean energy investments in existing buildings primarily through incentive programs. For example, the city's Me2 program offers rebates to homeowners who make energy efficiency upgrades. Milwaukee also entered into a community agreement which stated that the city will provide increased job training to women and people of color to support the Me2 program. The state limits Milwaukee's ability to adopt energy efficiency requirements, but the city can encourage improved energy efficiency in existing buildings by creating voluntary benchmarking initiatives or energy challenges.

#### **ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (8 OF 15 POINTS)**

Compared to other utilities, We Energies shows low savings for electric efficiency programs and moderate savings for natural gas efficiency programs. Both We Energies and Focus on Energy (the statewide program administrator) offer comprehensive low-income and multifamily programs. Through Me2 outreach efforts, the city works closely with its utility to promote energy efficiency. Milwaukee is also taking steps to encourage decarbonization; this includes advocating to the PSC and publishing a letter to We Energies. Milwaukee also works to increase energy efficiency in water services and wastewater treatment plants, but more could be done.

## TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (8.5 OF 30 POINTS)

Milwaukee has not adopted a sustainable transportation plan and the city has adopted neither vehicle miles traveled (VMT) nor GHG emissions reduction goals for the transportation sector. Milwaukee has not set mode shift targets. Coupling VMT or GHG reduction goals with mode shift targets can help guide the city into a sustainable transportation future. Relative to other city systems, Milwaukee's transit system is underfunded and moderately accessible. Milwaukee can bolster its location-efficient policies by revising zoning regulations to support location efficiency citywide, abolishing minimum parking requirements citywide, and offering a greater number of incentives for compact and mixed-use development.



American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy