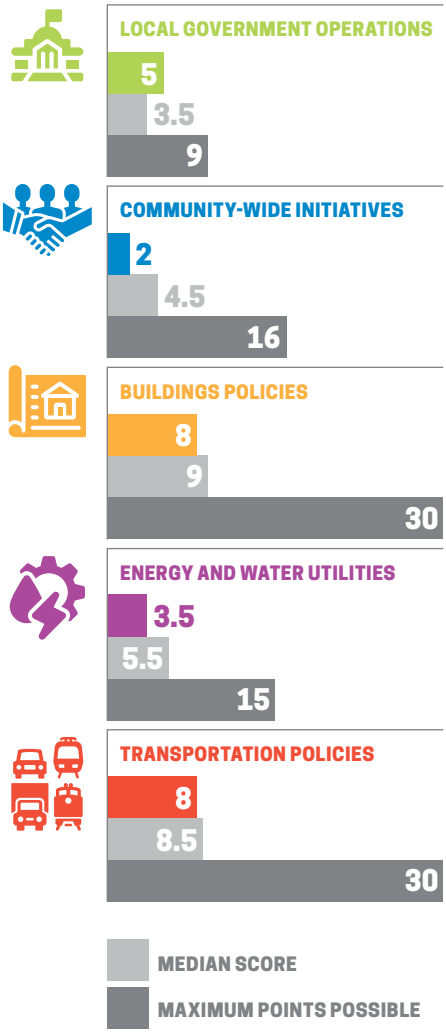
RANK

44 /75

OVERALL SCORE

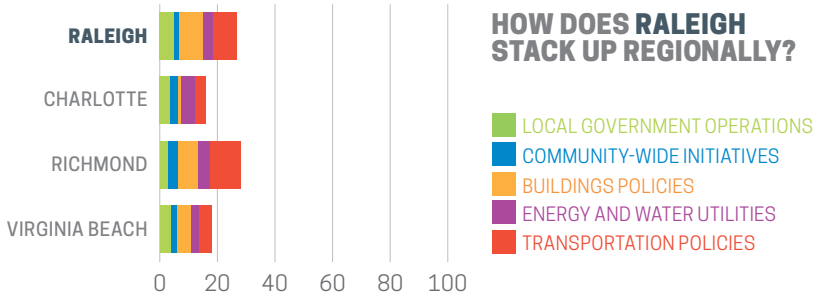
26.5 /100



2019 CITY CLEAN ENERGY SCORECARD

Raleigh

Raleigh scored best in local government operations. The city's recent Capital Improvement Program, municipal building benchmarking, and recent telework policy all contributed to Raleigh's showing in the policy area. The city can improve across multiple policy areas to advance its rank in the next edition, most notably in community-wide initiatives.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS (5 OF 9 POINTS)

Raleigh has a renewable energy goal for local government operations. The city set green building requirements and tracks energy use in municipal buildings. It works to incorporate fuel-efficient vehicles into its fleet to reach its fossil fuel reduction goal. Raleigh has converted approximately 85% of streetlights to LEDs. The city has not yet established energy and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions reduction goals for local government operations.

COMMUNITY-WIDE INITIATIVES (2 OF 16 POINTS)

Raleigh has adopted a tree protection ordinance and its Unified Development Ordinance allows for conservation subdivisions. To inspire future clean energy efforts, the city can set 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 clean, efficient distributed energy systems.

BUILDINGS POLICIES (8 OF 30 POINTS)

North Carolina requires all jurisdictions to adopt the 2018 North Carolina Energy Conservation Code, which is less stringent than both the 2015 International Energy Conservation Code (IECC) and ASHRAE 90.1-2007. The city promotes clean energy investments in existing buildings through its Building Uplift Grants program. Raleigh's Green Training Program helps grow a local clean energy workforce by training construction workers in a variety of clean energy fields like energy auditing and solar photovoltaic. The city could further encourage energy efficiency in existing buildings by implementing a benchmarking and transparency ordinance and working to enact energy action requirements.

ENERGY AND WATER UTILITIES (3.5 OF 15 POINTS)

Raleigh works to increase energy efficiency in water services and wastewater treatment plants, but more could be done. Compared to other utilities, Duke Energy and PSNC Energy show low savings for both electric and natural gas efficiency programs. Neither utility offers comprehensive programs for low-income or multifamily households. Based on available data, we did not find that Raleigh encouraged Duke Energy to increase its utility-scale or distributed electricity generation from renewable sources; Duke Energy also does not offer incentives for the construction of new distributed solar or wind systems.

TRANSPORTATION POLICIES (8 OF 30 POINTS)

The city's zoning code requires street connectivity and contains a Transit Overlay District. Raleigh can bolster its location efficiency by abolishing minimum parking requirements citywide and offering more incentives for compact and mixed-use development. The city's adopted BikeRaleigh Plan includes a goal of reaching 1.2% bicycle mode share. Raleigh 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. Relative to other city systems, Raleigh's transit system is underfunded and can improve in accessibility.

ACEEE
American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy