

Urban Data Pioneers

Tulsa's City Energy Efficiency
Scorecard Team

ACEEE Clean City Energy Scorecard

American Council for an
Energy Efficient Economy



- Measures the progress of city policies and programs that save energy, promote renewable energy, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Focuses on efforts to embed equity in policy-making.



Solar panels on the roof of a building that offers individual solar-powered, net-zero-energy apartments in Los Angeles. // Mike Blake/Reuters

How American Cities Score on Clean Energy

LINDA POON AUGUST 1, 2019

The good news: More American cities are taking action. The bad news: There's a lot left to be done.

Ranking in the bottom 10 are cities including Newark, Jacksonville, Charlotte, and Tulsa. “Most of them haven’t even set goals yet,” says Ribeiro. “Most of them are at the very earliest stages, where it might be that clean energy isn’t a priority yet, or maybe they’re just getting started.”

Getting Credit where Credit is Due!

Numerous projects, plans, and efforts were not reflected in our score:

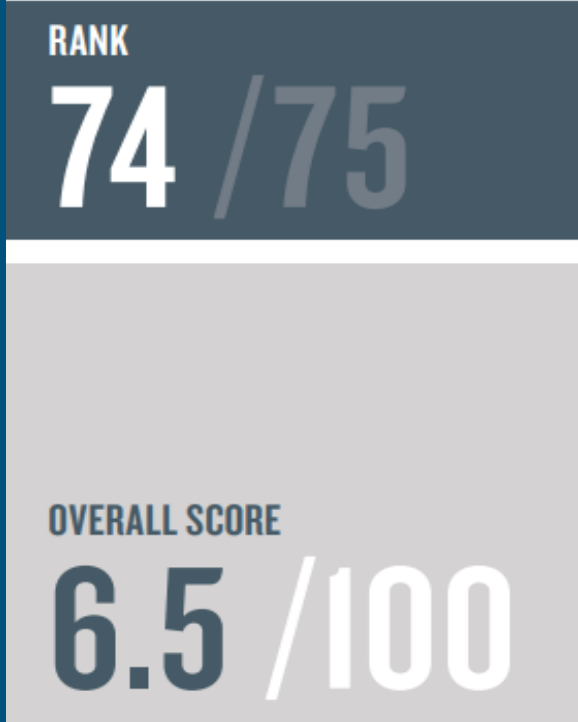
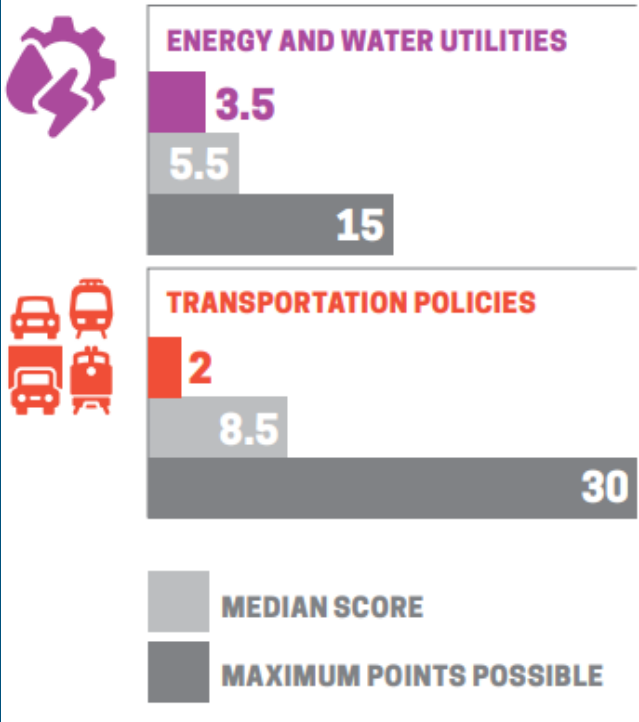
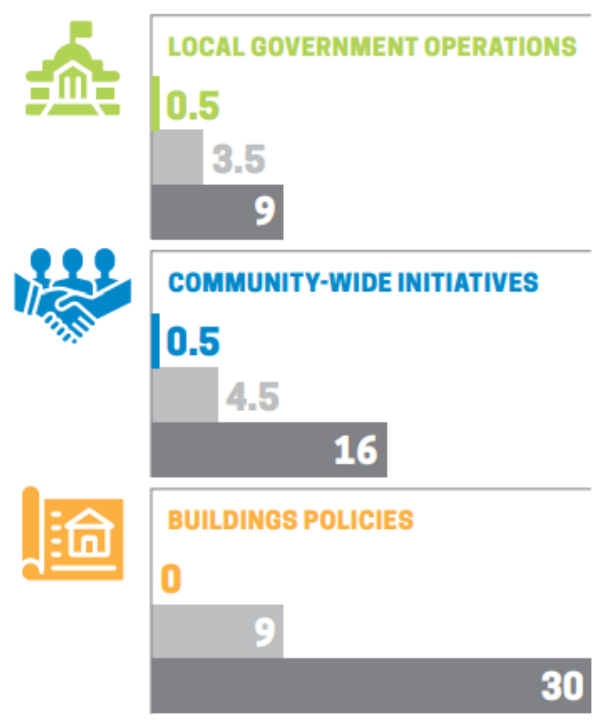
- Tulsa's fleet was named the 15th Greenest Public Fleet in 2019
- Wind provides 22% of PSO's energy and plans add 675 more megawatts (MW) of wind energy
- Reduction in parking minimums in Zoning Code update
- Tulsa Transit using alternative fuel buses since 2009
- Low Impact Development program
- Miles of new bike lanes
- And more!

Study Questions

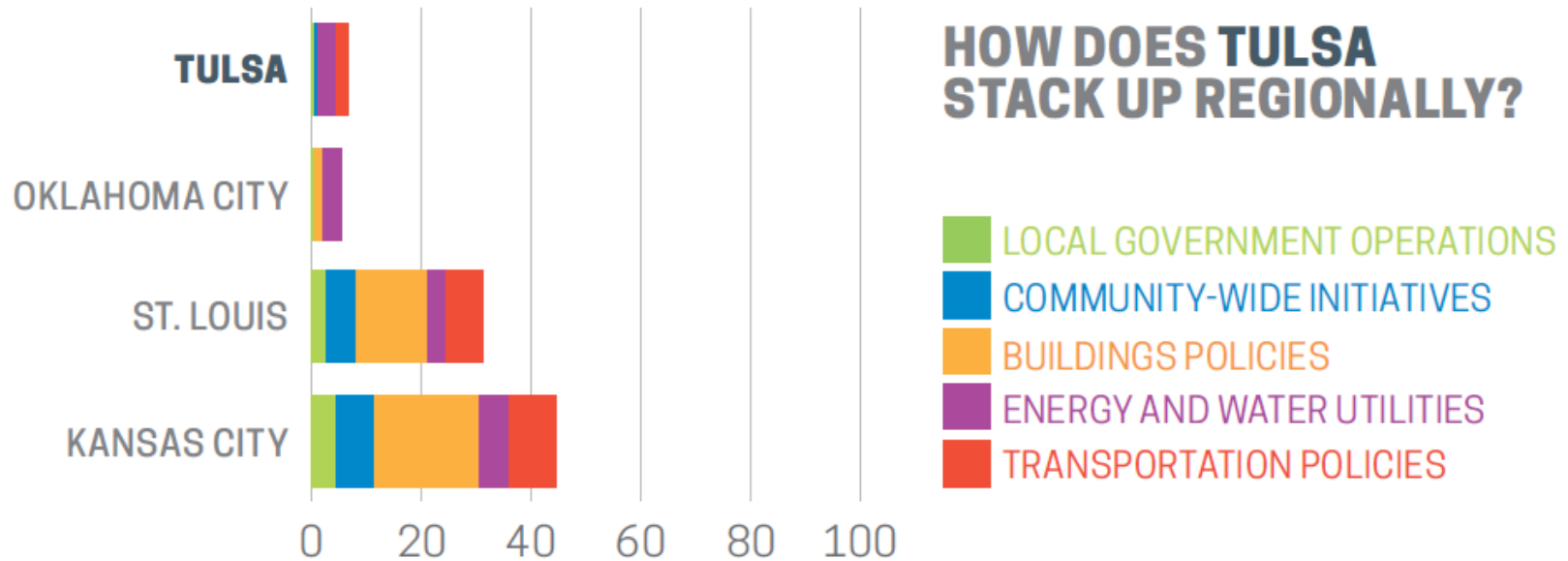
Tulsa's score of 6.5 out of 100 points and its low ranking of 74 out of 75 major cities in the American Council for an Energy Efficiency Economy's (ACEEE) [2019 City Clean Energy Scorecard](#) does not accurately reflect Tulsa's efforts to save energy, promote renewable energy, and reduce greenhouse gas emissions.

- Will a coordinated response to the ACEEE scorecard questionnaire raise our score?
- Will the ACEEE scorecard provide a framework for undertaking more coordinated clean energy and energy efficiency projects?

ACEEE Compares Cities Across Five Policy Areas



Tulsa's Regional Standing



Methodology

- Urban Data Pioneers requested extension from ACEEE
 - Requested data from Tulsa Area Clean Cities, INCOG, City of Tulsa, PSO, and Tulsa Transit
- 80 questions in the scorecard – split up to different volunteers
- Weekly meetings (via phone)
- Shared google docs/spreadsheets
- Created an excel sheet for contacts we made so that next time will be easier, can follow up with a survey, and help grow sustainability programs from our baseline.

Preliminary Results

2019
Score

2020
Tentative

Local Govt Operations	0.5/9 pts	7 / 13 total
Community-Wide Initiatives	0.5/16 pts	4 / 17 total
Buildings Policies	0/30 pts	6 / 11 total
Energy & Water Utilities	3.5/15 pts	6 / 19 total
Transportation	2/30 pts	16 / 20 total
Total Questions Answered	~8/80	39/80
Total Points Awarded	6.5/100	??/100

Examples of Current Policies Which May Earn New Points for Tulsa in 2020

Incentive program for mixed-use zoning along Peoria Bus Rapid Transit corridor

Methane capture and electricity generation at Northside Wastewater Plant

Detailed tracking of gasoline/diesel gallons replaced by alternative-fueled vehicles in eastern Oklahoma

EV Charger installation incentives from PSO and the State of Oklahoma

Tulsa Transit's reduced fare program

Reduction of parking minimums

Examples of Possible Points in 2021

More robust environmental chapters in the Comprehensive Plan update

PSO's efforts to increase wind energy and expand weatherization programs to qualifying households

Launch of Commercial Property Assessed Clean Energy Finance program through INCOG and Tulsa County

Increased participation by City of Tulsa and incentivising the participation in Sustainable Tulsa's Scor3card® program

ACEEE's 2019 Recommendations for Tulsa

- Establish GHG reduction, energy saving, and renewable energy goals
- Reduce energy use in new and existing municipal buildings
- Update energy efficiency and initiate solar-readiness building codes
- Provide incentives for clean, renewable energy use
- Involve marginalized communities in planning and implementation

ACEEE's 2019 Recommendations for Tulsa Continued

- Create distributed energy systems
- Improve energy efficiency of water services
- Sustainable transportation initiatives including location-efficient zoning policies and energy-efficient modes of transportation
- Adopt policies and programs to mitigate urban heat island effects

Opportunities to Improve Tulsa's 2021 Clean City Energy Score

- Explore how the scorecard metrics can be integrated into PLANITULSA, the Office of Resilience and Equity, Office of Economic Development and Affordable Housing Strategy
- Engage with utilities to advance renewable energy and energy efficiency
- Increase Tulsa's engagement with the Oklahoma Corporation Commission proceedings to support renewable energy and energy efficiency projects

The Path Forward: Data Collection, Coordinated Efforts and Community Collaboration

- Survey this year's scorecard team about process/priorities.
- Track greenhouse gas emissions and benchmarking buildings' energy usage.
- 10 year update of Tulsa's 2011 Sustainability Plan
- Community conversations or advisory board concerning sustainability, energy equity, and climate preparedness
- Interdepartmental coordination of sustainability efforts and the advancement of energy efficiency and renewable energy (Reopen the Office of Sustainability?)
- Tulsa Data Pioneer project to map Tulsa's energy burden

Thank You!

