

Home Energy Score Proposed Policy

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Why Require Home Energy Scores?

Objective 1 Reduce energy use from existing buildings 25% by 2030



Climate Action Plan Priority

Action 1B

Require **energy** performance ratings for all homes so that owners, tenants and prospective buyers can make informed decisions about energy costs and carbon emissions





Portland Housing Units



Over time, cost savings from energy efficiency can be substantial. A more efficient home can save a homeowner almost \$10,000 over 10 years.



	House #1 NE 71 st Ave.	House #1 NE 80 th Ave.	House #3 SE 74 th Ave.
Year built	1922	1913	1912
Size (sq. ft.)	1,383	1,270	1,320
Annual energy cost	\$1,000	\$1,686	\$1,947
10-year energy cost	\$10,000	\$16,860	\$19,147

Photos are illustrative of each location but are not the actual homes associated with this data for privacy purposes.

Benefits to Portlanders

- ✓ Better insight into the full costs of owning a home.
- ✓ Ability to compare energy costs and performance between homes.
- Knowledge of home improvements in advance of purchase.
- Access to specialized mortgage products
- ✓ Long-term operational savings from purchase of an energy-efficient home.

Policy Recommendation for Existing and New Homes

Information disclosed

• Home energy performance report (defined by state law)

Regulated party

• Seller or homebuilder

Time of disclosure

- At or before listing
 Recipient of disclosure
- The City, prospective buyers





The U.S. Department of Energy's Home Energy Score assesses the energy efficiency of a home based on its structure, heating, cooling, and hot water systems.



Home Energy Score

	Score	Home Facts	Recommendations
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12345 Honeysuckle Lane Address: Smithville, AR 72466

Repair now: These improvements will save you money, conserve energy, and improve your comfort now	Estimated utility bill savings (\$/year)
Attic 1 / Increase attic floor insulation to at least R-49	187
Ducts 1 / Add insulation around ducts in unconditioned spaces to at least R-6	71
Ducts 1 / Have your ducts professionally sealed to reduce leakage	171

Replace later: These improvements will help you save energy when it's time to replace or upgrade	Estimated utility bill savings (\$/year)
Furnace 1 / Pick one with an ENERGY STAR label	106
Central Air 1 / Pick one with an ENERGY STAR label	80
Water heater / Pick one with an ENERGY STAR label	34





The Home Energy Score recommendations for efficiency improvements are based on selected data from the home's assets, not information from a complete energy audit. When making energy related upgrades, homeowners should consult with a certified energy professional or other technically qualified contractor to ensure proper sizing, installation, safety, and adherence to code.

Exemptions

- Foreclosure sales.
- Trustee's sales.



- Deed-in-lieu of foreclosure sales.
- Short sales.
- Temporary waiver for homebuilders using scoring products that are not compliant with State code for home energy scoring systems.

Low-Income Seller Deferral

- Income-qualified sellers may defer the requirement to the buyer.
- Buyer must comply within 6 months.
- Low-income qualified sellers will submit a notice of deferral in writing to BPS.

Policy Recommendation for Rental Homes at Time of Lease

- Work with stakeholders to better understand the dynamics in the single-family rental market.
- Establish metrics and targets to monitor over time.
- Establish a stakeholder committee to work with BPS on developing this aspect of the policy?



Policy Development Process (2016)

January – April

Research and scoping: energy efficiency industry best practices, experience in other cities, data gathering on real estate market trends

May – August

Stakeholder engagement and equity analysis

September – November Public comment period and legislative process

Public Comment

- Equity concerns
- Housing affordability
- Preference among real-estate professionals for a "voluntary" approach and "incentives."
- Support for consumer protection and climate protection benefits

For PSC Consideration

1. What is the appropriate frequency for renewing the score?

2. Should Council establish a committee to identify appropriate market conditions for a policy addressing single-family rental housing?

