

From: **"Mochrie, Paul"**

To: **"Direct to Mayor and Council - DL"**

Date: 2024-04-05 8:36:51 AM

Subject: Memo - Climate Emergency Action Plan – Updates on various EV related motions

Attachments: Memo to Mayor and Council - Updates on various EV related motions - RTS
15667.pdf

Dear Mayor and Council,

Please find attached a memo from PDS that provides an update in response to Council motions on public-private partnerships to support EV charging, and the exploration of under-sidewalk electrical connections for EV charging. Key points include:

- While the home, workplace, and public EV charging network has been growing, a mix of additional public and private investment will be needed to meet the needs of residents and businesses expected to continue transitioning to EVs.
- Recent work relating to public/private investments in EV charging includes construction of public charging on street, and at parks and community centres, two programs to enable private investment in EV charging on street, and a business licensing program to encourage EV charging at gas stations and parking lots.
- Upcoming work includes recommendations to expand opportunities for 3rd party entities to invest in curbside public charging, recommendations to update the Zoning and Development Bylaw to increase opportunities for EV charging throughout the City, and the exploration of further opportunities through the refresh of the Climate Emergency Action Plan.
- Staff reviewed the previous curbside EV charging pilot program (2017-2019) that allowed under-sidewalk electrical connections and do not recommend restarting it given the cost, insurance, and administrative challenges. Instead, staff are focusing on the actions identified above.

If you have any questions please contact Doug Smith at doug.smith@vancouver.ca.

Best
Paul

Paul Mochrie (he/him)
City Manager
City of Vancouver



The City of Vancouver acknowledges that it is situated on the unceded traditional territories of the x^wməθk^wəyəm (Musqueam), Sḵwəxwú7mesh (Squamish), and səlilwətał (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations.

MEMORANDUM

March 26, 2024

TO: Mayor and Council

CC: Paul Mochrie, City Manager
Armin Amrolia, Deputy City Manager
Karen Levitt, Deputy City Manager
Sandra Singh, Deputy City Manager
Katrina Leckovic, City Clerk
Maria Pontikis, Chief Communications Officer, CEC
Teresa Jong, Administration Services Manager, City Manager's Office
Mellisa Morphy, Director of Policy, Mayor's Office
Trevor Ford, Chief of Staff, Mayor's Office
Patrice Impey, General Manager, Finance
Andrea Law, General Manager, Development, Buildings and Licensing
Lon LaClaire, General Manager, Engineering Services

FROM: Doug Smith
Acting General Manager, Planning, Urban Design and Sustainability

SUBJECT: Climate Emergency Action Plan – Updates on various EV related motions

RTS #: 15667 and 14241

The purpose of this memo is to provide Council with an update on the following direction to staff:

- *RTS 15667 - THAT Council direct staff to explore the potential for public/private partnerships to expand EV charging infrastructure in the public realm in light of the significantly increasing need, and given the strengthened senior government regulations for EV only sales, and that staff bring a high-level assessment of potential and considerations and report back to Council by the end of Q4 2023*
- *RTS 14241 - THAT Council direct staff to continue exploring under-sidewalk electrical connection options for Electric Vehicle (EV) charging.*

Public/Private Partnerships to Expand Publicly Accessible EV Charging

The City has supported the growth of EV charging infrastructure through direct City investments, licensing programs, and requirements for new buildings. There are currently over 500 publicly accessible EV chargers in Vancouver. A recent Metro Vancouver study forecasts a demand of over 6000 new publicly accessible EV chargers in Vancouver by 2030. Meeting that demand will require a mix of public and private investment.

Recent work relating to public/private investments in publicly accessible EV charging includes:

- Vancouver currently has 81 publicly accessible EV charging stations on-street, and at parks and community centers, which are now installed and operated by a private-sector partner. Since 2018, the City has leveraged roughly \$2.65M in grant funding, primarily from the federal government, for the public fast-charging network.
- In 2021, [Council approved two programs](#) to enable private sector investment in EV charging on City streets. The Commercial Curbside EV program allows businesses to install publicly-accessible EV charging curbside adjacent to their property. The Commercial Fleet EV Charging program enables fleet operators to install on-street EV charging for a commercial fleet through a bid process at sites identified by the City.
- In 2022, Vancouver introduced a requirement that sets a lower business license fee for gas stations and pay parking lots (with 60+ stalls) that have specified levels of EV charging from 2025 onwards. Modelling work suggests this two-tier business license fee will lead to at least 21 fast chargers, and 320 Level 2 chargers by 2030.
- The City continues to work with BC Hydro on their efforts to expand the public network including a pilot launching this year to install EV chargers on BC Hydro power poles.
- The City's [Sustainable large-development rezoning policy](#) and EV-readiness requirements in the VBBL also result in publicly accessible EV charging. For example, Langara Garden and Skeena Terrace are expected to provide 4 fast chargers each.

Upcoming work relating to public/private investments in EV charging includes:

- Staff will bring recommendations to Council in Q2 2024 to expand opportunities for 3rd party entities to invest in curbside public charging in the City. This work is expected to open near term opportunities for BC Hydro to expand their Homer Street hub and would be open to other 3rd party investments.
- Staff will bring recommendations to Council in early 2025 to update the Zoning and Development bylaw to increase EV charging opportunities throughout the City.
- Via the Climate Emergency Action Plan refresh near the middle of 2025, staff will have explored further opportunities for private/public partnerships in EV charging.

Under-sidewalk Charging Options

The City piloted a curbside EV charging program between 2017-2019 for residents without off-street parking. The pilot permitted residents to install an under-sidewalk conduit for a private EV charger in the boulevard adjacent to their home. This pilot had very low uptake due to a variety of challenges including the cost to the resident for the electrical installation, insurance requirements, and staff administration time. The pilot was not continued and as an alternative, the City introduced the Cord Cover licensing program, which enables residents to safely extend a charging cable across a sidewalk to their vehicle. Staff reviewed the previous pilot program and still do not recommend restarting it given the cost, insurance, and administrative challenges. Instead, staff are focusing on the actions identified earlier in this memo.

Please feel free to contact me at doug.smith@vancouver.ca if you have any questions.



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