



**BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
AGENDA LETTER**

Agenda Number:

Clerk of the Board of Supervisors
105 E. Anapamu Street, Suite 407
Santa Barbara, CA 93101
(805) 568-2240

Submitted on:
(COB Stamp)

Department Name: General Services
Department No.: 063
For Agenda Of: April 1, 2025
Placement: Administrative
Estimated Time: N/A
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from: N/A
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors

FROM: Department Director(s): Kirk Lagerquist, Director (805) 560-1011
Contact Info: John Green, Assistant Director (805) 568-3096

DocuSigned by:
Kirk Lagerquist
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SUBJECT: Electric Vehicle Charging Rate Structure and Parking Resolution

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Other Concurrence CEO Budget, Risk

As to form: Yes

Recommended Actions:

That the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Adopt a Resolution establishing electric vehicle (EV) charging and parking rates and fees relating to public use of electric vehicle service equipment (EVSE) in Countywide parking lots; and
- b) Determine that the adoption of the Resolution is statutorily exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Section 21080(b)(8) of the California Public Resources Code and CEQA Guidelines Section 15273(a)(1), (2), (3) and (4).

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Summary:

This action will update the fees for public use of EVSE at parking lots / facilities owned and operated by the County. The intention of these new rates is to develop a financially sustainable program for all current and future publicly available EVSE owned and operated by the County.

Discussion:

The County currently owns and operates sixty-six (66) public-facing EVSE and plans to add an additional sixty (60) over the next three years. The County is seeking to establish public charging use rates to cover the cost of electricity and the expenses to operate, maintain, and replace existing EVSE and infrastructure.

Background:

In 2020, a resolution was passed to establish the rates for EVSE owned by the County based on the electricity rate at that point in time. Since the resolution did not permit the General Services Director to adjust the public EVSE rate, these rates have remained consistent to date.

Throughout the Central Coast, cities and counties currently utilize a wide range of values for their EVSE charging rates. On the low end, some municipalities do not charge anything for the use of their EVSE, while others have displayed rates as high as \$0.64 per kWh during hours of peak demand (4:00PM – 9:00PM). Private EVSE, such as the Tesla units in Goleta, charge a rate of \$0.29 per kWh during periods of low demand (11:00PM – 4:00AM) and \$0.51 per kWh during peak demand. County staff have elected to set a static EV rate rather than having the cost fluctuate throughout the day.

With significant increases in the cost of electricity, it is pertinent that the County-owned public EVSE rates are adjusted to reflect the current cost per unit of electricity, including a fixed cost for maintaining the operation of public EVSE. The fixed cost encompasses the replacement of charging heads, networking costs, and ongoing routine maintenance.

Additionally, the EVSE rate will continue to include a \$0.10 per minute “dwell fee” for customers that are parked in EVSE spots for longer than 4 hours between 7:00AM and 9:00PM. This fee is intended to maximize the availability of EVSE throughout the County and encourage users whose vehicles are sufficiently charged to vacate the parking space so that others may utilize the EVSE.

The following rate analysis was developed utilizing the existing EVSE infrastructure to establish a viable rate for charging EVs. The new recommended EV rates are not intended to raise capital for EVSE installations at undeveloped locations. When new EVSE are installed, the established EV rates will cover the costs of maintenance, repairs, and future replacement.

County staff determined that the total fixed cost to maintain and replace all existing public facing charging stations at the end of their useful life is \$954,880. This cost includes maintenance and eventual replacement of sixty (60) Level-2 charging heads, six (6) Level-3 fast chargers, ten (10) new controllers, and a \$210 annual cost for networking per charger per year.

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Historic electricity trends were evaluated to estimate future electricity consumption for all existing EVSE. Total dispensed electricity is calculated with an 15% annual escalator in EVSE usage over the eight-year equipment lifespan. This results in an estimated 5,719,976 kWh.

Revenues collected by public facing charging stations are managed by PowerFlex, the County's EVSE provider. PowerFlex charges a 7% transaction and processing fee. When dividing the total fixed cost with the lifetime energy consumption and factoring in the PowerFlex transaction fee, staff determined the appropriate fixed fee to be \$0.18 per kWh.

$$(\$954,880 / 5,719,976 \text{ kWh}) * 1.07 = \$0.18 / \text{kWh}$$

To establish a total cost per kWh to customers, County staff added the site-specific average cost of electricity at each site to the fixed fee. Since each meter location has slightly different electricity costs, this was determined to be the best approach for accuracy and fairness. Thus, there is a unique EVSE rate for each site, listed below.

The proposed EVSE charging and parking rates for existing locations are as follows:

Site Address	12-Month Average Electricity Fee (\$/kWh)	Fixed Fee (\$/kWh)	Final Rate (\$/kWh)
1100 W. Laurel Ave, Lompoc, CA 93436	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.44
105 E. Anapamu St, Santa Barbara, CA 93101	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.43
260 N. San Antonio Rd, Santa Barbara, CA 93110	\$ 0.33	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.51
345 Camino del Remedio, Santa Barbara, CA 93110	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.41
102 Lookout Park Rd, Summerland, CA 93067	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.46
6728 Via Real, Carpinteria, CA 93013	\$ 0.26	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.44
1112 Santa Barbara St. Santa Barbara, CA 93101	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.48
4568 Calle Real Bldg. A, Santa Barbara, CA 93110	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.56
315 Camino del Remedio, Santa Barbara, CA 93110	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.41
881 Embarcadero del Mar, Isla Vista, CA 93117	\$ 0.25	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.43
4436 Calle Real, Santa Barbara, CA 93110	\$ 0.21	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.39
234 Camino del Remedio, Santa Barbara, CA 93110	\$ 0.23	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.41
511 Lakeside, Santa Maria, CA 93455	\$ 0.28	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.46
2115 Centerpointe Pkwy, Santa Maria, CA 93455	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.48
2125 Centerpointe Pkwy, Santa Maria, CA 93455	\$ 0.30	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.48
620 W. Foster Rd, Santa Maria, CA 93455	\$ 0.38	\$ 0.18	\$ 0.56

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For sites that do not have historic electricity usage, such as newly constructed facilities, the rates will be initially set based on the average cost of electricity for all existing sites with existing EVSE at County facilities. Once 12-months of historic electricity usage is made available, the General Services Director will update the Electricity Fee for that site.

To establish parking rates for new EVSE installed at future locations, staff will utilize the \$0.18 per kWh fixed cost, added on top of the average rate of electricity for that meter over the previous year. Utilizing the average unit cost of electricity for each site mitigates the need to change the EVSE rate throughout the course of the day and provides cost predictability for EV drivers.

Fiscal Analysis:

It is anticipated that over the course of the useful life of existing EVSE, the County will receive \$2,263,000 in total revenue from the new EV rates.

The cost of replacing the existing 66 public-facing EVSE, along with the networking and maintenance costs for eight years is \$954,880. The estimated electricity cost over this timeframe is \$1,304,476.

The fees presented above have undergone an intensive fee review and have been approved by the Auditor Controller's Office.

We are working with the Auditor Controller's office to establish a separate fund to account for the Public EVSE operations.

Attachments:

Attachment A – County of Santa Barbara EV Parking Fee Resolution

Authored by:

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