



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

Department Name: General Services
Department No.: 063
For Agenda Of: February 14, 2023
Placement: Departmental
Estimated Time: 30 Minutes
Continued Item: No
If Yes, date from:
Vote Required: Majority

TO: Board of Supervisors
FROM: General Services Janette D. Pell, Director (805) 560-1011
Contact Info: Skip Grey, Assistant Director (805) 568-3083
SUBJECT: Zero-Emission Vehicle Policy Adoption and Electric Vehicle Program Update;
All Districts

County Counsel Concurrence

As to form: Yes

Auditor-Controller Concurrence

As to form: N/A

Recommended Actions: It is recommended that the Board of Supervisors:

- a) Receive and file the update on the County's transition from internal combustion gasoline engine light duty vehicles to electric vehicles in the County fleet and the associated charging infrastructure; and
- b) Approve the Zero-Emission Vehicle Policy; and
- c) Determine that the above action is not a project under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to CEQA Guidelines Sections 15378(b)(2) and 15378(b)(5) because it consists of government administrative activities, including general policy or procedure making, that will not result in direct or indirect physical changes in the environment.

Summary Text:

The purpose of this Board Letter is to ask the Board to receive and file an update on the County's Electric Vehicle Program, and seek Board approval for a new Zero-Emission Vehicle Policy that will guide the County's adoption of zero emission vehicles into the future. To allow for stakeholder engagement, the policy has been circulated to all impacted Department heads for review and comment.

At the March 19, 2019 hearing, General Services presented the Board of Supervisors with options regarding the possibility of beginning to convert the County's non-public safety sedan fleet from internal combustion engines (ICE) to battery electric vehicles (BEVs). At that time, the Board directed that the purchase of all new non-public safety sedans in the light duty fleet be electric vehicles. On April 5, 2022, the Board directed staff to expand the County's Electric Vehicle (EV) Policy to include not just sedans, but all non-public safety light duty vehicles, adding pickup trucks, vans, and SUVs.

Background:

Zero-Emission Electric Vehicle Policy

This policy was developed to help accelerate greenhouse gas emissions reduction in support of the County of Santa Barbara's Climate Action Plan, and to improve Santa Barbara County air quality through the increased adoption of zero-emission vehicles (ZEV) in the County's non-public safety vehicle fleet. The County will do so by replacing end of life internal combustion engine vehicles with zero-emission sedans, SUVs, light duty pickups, and vans for both pool and department-owned vehicles, as a first option priority for the County fleet, even if comparable fossil fuel vehicles cost less to purchase. It is anticipated that as many as 150 to 200 existing combustion engine light duty vehicles in the County fleet will reach end of life over the next 2-5 years. As a result, General Services Vehicle Operations will require that Departments replace these gas engine, light duty vehicles with all electric or other zero-emission vehicles.

General Services' Vehicle Operations Division procures fleet equipment for all County Departments with the exception of the Public Works Department. Both General Services and Public Works will adhere to this policy when procuring fleet equipment. All Departments, including Public Works, requesting an exemption from purchasing a ZEV will be required to submit a completed Zero-Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Purchase Exemption Form to the Vehicle Operations Division. If a Department does not agree with the final determination of the Vehicle Operations Division, the department may request a review by the Appeal Committee consisting of a representative from General Services, the County Executive Office and the Sustainability Division. The determination of the Appeal Committee will be final.

General Services will research and investigate all types of zero emission vehicles for the County fleet, including not only Battery Electric Vehicles (BEVs) but also Fuel Cell Vehicles (FCVs) that are powered with compressed hydrogen, and report any updates to the Board of Supervisors on an annual basis. In addition, General Services will work closely with the County's public safety agencies to test and evaluate pursuit-rated, all-electric law enforcement vehicles as models become available, and will update the Board of Supervisors on the progress in this area on an annual basis.

While EV sedans are becoming more prevalent in the market place, electric pickup trucks, SUVs and vans will soon have a market presence. The following models are projected to be coming on the market over the next few years and will be considered for County purchase. Staff will seek rebates from several sources for these vehicles, including Central Coast Community Energy (CCCE), and the California Clean Vehicle Rebate Project (CVRP). It is anticipated that rebates could reduce the cost of these EVs by up to \$7,000 per vehicle.

EV Sedans:

- Chevy Bolt (60 currently in the fleet)
- Nissan Leaf (30 on order for the fleet)
- Hyundai Kona (limited availability)
- Kia Niro & EV6

EV Pickups:

- Ford F-150 Lightning (Expected: FY 2023) currently two reserved
- Chevrolet Silverado EV (Expected: 2023) currently two reserved
- GMC Sierra EV (Expected: 2023)
- Ram 1500 EV (Expected: 2024)

EV SUVs:

- Ford Explorer EV (Expected: 2023)
- Chevrolet Blazer EV (Expected: Spring 2023)
- Chevrolet Equinox EV (Expected: Late 2023)
- Fisker Ocean (Expected: 2023)
- Honda Prologue (Expected: 2024)
- Hyundai Ioniq

EV Vans

- Ford E-Transit (Expected: 2023)
- Nissan Townstar
- Chrysler Pacifica Electric (Expected: 2025)
- VW ID. Buzz (Expected: 2024)
- Canoo MPDV (Expected: 2023)

EV Charging Infrastructure

In order to support these new EVs, charging infrastructure is needed. Grants and rebates will be sought from the Air Pollution Control District, California Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Project rebates (CALeVIP), CCCE rebates, and other sources as they become available.

Existing Infrastructure

Currently, the County has 127 EV chargers installed at 13 sites across the County. To support the future EVs that will be purchased over the next 2-4 years, a survey was conducted to determine where such vehicles will be “garaged” each night. It was determined that approximately 150 to 170 additional EV chargers will be needed at various locations throughout the County to support charging for such vehicles. Whenever possible, EV charging centers will be consolidated in County parking lots to reduce the cost of installation and connecting to power sources. The County’s EV charging equipment provider is PowerFlex Systems. At many of the County EV Charging locations, several of the chargers are available for public and County employee use. Downloading the PowerFlex app on a mobile phone allows a user to interface with an EV charger and pay for its use.

Existing and Planned EV Charging Station Infrastructure – 2 to 4 Year Outlook					
Existing Locations	Existing Level 2 Chargers as of Dec. 2022	Existing DC Fast Chargers	Planned Additional Level 2 Chargers 2-4 Year Outlook	Planned Additional DC Fast Chargers	Total Chargers in Place by 2026
Foster Road Yard – Santa Maria Fleet Garage	4		10		14
Foster Road Public Works	2		20		22
Betteravia Campus	4		60		64
Public Health Dept. - Lompoc	22				22
Santa Barbara Admin Parking Lot	30	2			32
Santa Barbara APCD - Calle Real	6				6

South County Jail - Calle Real	2		6		8
Public Health – Calle Real	29	4	20		53
Social Services – Calle Real	16				16
Santa Barbara GS Road Yard - Calle Real	4		6		10
Isla Vista Solar Parking Lot	4				4
Lookout Park along the 101	2				2
Rincon County Park along the 101	2				2
Total	121	6	122	0	255

Planned New Locations	Existing Level 2 Chargers as of Oct. 2022	Existing DC Fast Chargers	Planned Additional Level 2 Chargers	Planned Additional DC Fast Chargers	Total Chargers In Place by 2026
Calle Real (Public Works Yard)			4		4
Foster Road Animal Shelter			2		2
Fire Sta 27 New Cuyama			2		2
County Emergency Operations Center			6	2	8
New Probation Headquarters			14		14
SB County - Northern Branch Jail			10		10
Lompoc Road Yard			6		6
Total			44		46
			166		301

Metrics for Existing Chargers

EV charging by both the public, employees, and County Fleet vehicles is increasing every month. Utilization of the County’s EV charging stations has increased steadily since the chargers have come online, doubling from 20% in April, 2022, to 47% in December 2022. The increased use of EVs has resulted in decreases in gasoline usage and greenhouse gas emissions.

January - December 2022	
Pounds GHG avoided	246,520 lbs.
Gallons of gas avoided	12,582 gallons
Electric miles provided	280,958 miles
Number of Charging Sessions	17,947
Revenue Collected	\$ 47,614 *

* Note that a portion of this revenue will be used to reimburse County Departments for the cost of electricity in locations where EV Chargers share the electric meter with County buildings.

EV Charging Rate for the Public and County Employees

In an effort to accelerate the adoption of electric vehicles, the price per kWh for charging EVs at County chargers for the public and County employees is capped at the average cost of electricity obtained from SCE and PG&E based on the EV charger's location. This is an average of \$0.14 per kWh in South County, and \$0.23 per kWh in North County. The County is not "profiting" on the revenue from the EV chargers. A method is being developed to reimburse the County Departments for their electric utility bills at locations where the EV chargers draw their power. In addition, the public and County employees who use the EV chargers are charged a \$6 per-hour fee after the first four hours of EV charging to encourage EV charging station turnover and increase EV charging station availability. The revenue from such fees is deposited into an EV Charging Station Infrastructure Replacement Fund, which has been established in the General Fund committed Fund Balance for the purpose of funding the costs to replace EV chargers and infrastructure at end of life.

Fiscal and Facilities Impacts:

Funding for EV charging infrastructure will include rebates, grants, and Board-allocated monies. During FY 2022-2023 budget hearings, staff estimated that \$1.5 million would be needed to address one-time infrastructure costs and the Board allocated \$400,000 of General Fund resources for such purposes. The remaining \$1.1 million will be requested as part of the FY 2023-24 budget development. In addition, County staff will continue to seek rebates from various sources, including Central Coast Community Energy and the CALeVIP, and to pursue future infrastructure grant program opportunities.

Funding for Electric Vehicles will come from Departments' Vehicle Replacement fund dollars, as well as rebates.

Special Instructions:

None

Attachments:

1. ZEV Policy
2. PowerPoint Presentation

Authored by:

Skip Grey, Assistant Director

General Services