



Susan Wengraf
Councilmember District 6

CONSENT CALENDAR
March 13, 2018

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Councilmembers Wengraf, Harrison, Bartlett, and Hahn
 Subject: Referral to the Energy Commission: Strategies to Improve EV Usage

RECOMMENDATION:

Refer to the Energy Commission to research best practices to encourage and support the use of electric vehicles, and develop a draft EV Plan for Berkeley that City Council can adopt. The plan should include realistic goals supported by city-wide initiatives to improve EV infrastructure and incentivize EV use for Berkeley's residents and workers.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

None

BACKGROUND:

Transportation is the largest single source of air pollution in the United States. The City of Berkeley's Climate Action Goals aim to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions by 33% (below 2000 levels) by the year 2020. The vision for a more sustainable Berkeley, outlined in the Climate Action Plan includes, "Personal vehicles run on electricity produced from renewable sources or other low-carbon fuels".

Other cities in California have taken aggressive steps to encourage EV usage. The Energy Commission and City Manager can look at those cities for best practices that might fit with the City of Berkeley. An example of strategies might include: The Sacramento City Council approved their first Electric Vehicle (EV) Strategy on December 12, 2017. EV charging stations in City of Sacramento garages are free for the public to plug into (with one exception), though parking fees still apply. Designated parking facilities offer 50 percent off monthly parking rates to owners or lessees for their 100% electric car. Participating garage locations, types and numbers of chargers are listed on the City's website. The City of San Jose Clean Air Vehicle Parking Program provides free parking at four City downtown area parking garages, on-street parking meters citywide, and the city's regional parks. The City's Planning, Building and Code Enforcement Department implemented a streamlined permitting process to facilitate the installation of home charging systems.

ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

This item supports the goals of Berkeley's Climate Action Plan

CONTACT PERSON

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