



PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT  
PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

# Neighbor Handout: Residential Curbside Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Pilot

\_\_\_\_\_ Date

Your neighbor at \_\_\_\_\_ is applying to install an electric vehicle (EV) charging station at the curb adjacent to their home, as a participant in the City of Berkeley's Residential Curbside Electrical Vehicle (EV) Charging Pilot. The charging station will allow your neighbor to charge their electric vehicle while it is parked on the street. The adjacent street parking will remain available to everyone. The charging station will belong to your neighbor and the City of Berkeley will permit its installation near the curb, in the planting strip. The permitting process requires that the charging station be safely installed and properly maintained. Curbside installations are only allowed when EV charging cannot be accommodated on private property.

Applicant's address

## What is an electric vehicle charging station and is it safe?

An electric vehicle charging station is a "box" and a special cable designed for safe transfer of electricity to an electric vehicle. The charging station contains special electronics that sense when the cable has been connected to an EV and only allows electricity to flow through the cable while connected to the vehicle. Most home charging stations provide "Level 2" charging at 240 volt AC power. Level 2 charging typically adds 10-15 miles of range to an EV per hour of charging.



Examples of electric vehicle charging stations, also known as electric vehicle supply equipment

Charging stations have built-in safety protection that are tested and certified to national codes and standards. They are safe to operate, even in wet weather. The special cable of the charging station has a standardized connector, known as SAE J1772, which can only be plugged into an electric vehicle. As a safety feature, no electricity can flow to the cable or connector unless it is properly plugged into an electric vehicle.



SAE J1772 electric vehicle connector (and inlet that would be present on an EV)

**Does this mean that I won't be able to park on the street near this charging station?**

No. The charging station will belong to your neighbor for their personal use, but the street parking near the charging station will remain available to anyone. Any parking restrictions on your street, such as Residential Preferential Parking, will remain in effect. Your neighbor hopes to be able to park near the charging station in order to charge their electric vehicle on a regular basis, most likely overnight while electrical demands and rates are low, but does not have any exclusive rights to the street parking. Streets are a shared, public resource.

**Who is paying for this?**

Your neighbor. The cost of purchasing, installing, using, and maintaining the electric vehicle charging station are all paid by your neighbor.

**Why does my neighbor want to drive an electric vehicle?**

Please ask your neighbor. Some of their reasons may include:

- ✓ Vehicle fueling and maintenance savings
- ✓ State and Federal incentives for the purchase/lease of EVs
- ✓ Driving and safety benefits
- ✓ Environmental benefits
- ✓ Energy security

**Why is the City of Berkeley offering this Residential Curbside EV Charging Pilot?**

The City of Berkeley promotes the adoption of electric vehicles as one means of reaching our ambitious Climate Action Plan goal of reducing community-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 80% below year 2000 levels by 2050. As a local government, the City of Berkeley is focused on efforts that make charging EVs in our community easier and more convenient. The majority of EV charging (80% or more) happens at home, but Berkeley has many homes that lack garages or driveways for off-street charging. Berkeley City Council directed the development of this Pilot in response to interest from citizens. The 11<sup>th</sup> Hour Project, a program of the Schmidt Family Foundation, awarded funding to support this Pilot in recognition that it is an innovative means of addressing a barrier to EV adoption in urban areas.

**Who can I contact for more information, concerns, or questions?**

You will have a formal period for comment on this project through a posted notice prior to the City permit being issued. In the meantime, your questions are welcomed by:

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Applicant's Name

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Address

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Phone

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E-mail

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