



City of Tacoma

City Council Action Memorandum

TO: Elizabeth A. Pauli, City Manager
 FROM: James G. Parvey, P.E., Division Manager, Office of Environmental Policy and Sustainability *GMS*
 Michael P. Slevin III, P.E., Director, Environmental Services
 COPY: City Council and City Clerk
 SUBJECT: Resolution - Grant Agreement with the Washington State Department of Commerce for Public Electric Vehicle Charging Stations in Downtown Tacoma #21-92201-003 - May 18, 2021
 DATE: May 3, 2021

SUMMARY AND PURPOSE:

A resolution authorizing the execution of a grant agreement and any associated term extensions with the Washington State Department of Commerce, in the amount of \$597,558.77; accepting and depositing said sum into the 1060-Capital Fund, and matching monies of \$119,511.75 from Fund 4700 Tacoma Power Electric Vehicle Charging program, for a project total of \$717,070.52, to install public electric vehicle charging infrastructure in eight downtown City facilities by May 25, 2024.

BACKGROUND:

This Department’s Recommendation is Based On: the need to support electric vehicle charging for our downtown businesses, visitors, and residents. Electrifying our transportation system is crucial to reach our City’s climate goals and leveraging state funding to support our work is smart. The eight sites where new electric vehicle charging stations will be installed are: 728 Market Street, 110 S. 10th Street, 923 Commerce Street, 1125 Commerce Street, 1401 Pacific Avenue, 1801 Dock Street, 1500 Commerce Street, and 2727 East D Street.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT/ CUSTOMER RESEARCH:

Staff reached out to the downtown business and tourism community in May 2020. They expressed excitement about enhancing our existing parking facilities with charging station amenities. Parking Services and Tacoma Venues and Events were part of the grant development team, and are eager to market our garages and lots as “Electric Vehicle Friendly”. Additionally, while we did not engage directly with downtown residents, we know that most multifamily and garage orphan residents in and near downtown are not able to charge at home, limiting their ability to purchase an electric vehicle.

2025 STRATEGIC PRIORITIES:

Equity and Accessibility:

The downtown area is rated Very Low in the Livability and Environmental Equity Index. Over 80 percent of households are multifamily rentals currently with little opportunity to charge at home. Providing opportunities to charge a clean, low operating cost electric vehicle can provide direct benefits to downtown residents as well as indirect benefit through cleaner ambient air from an overall increase in electric vehicles charging and operating in the downtown core.



Economy/Workforce: *Equity Index Score:* Moderate Opportunity

Increase the number of infrastructure projects and improvements that support existing and new business developments.

Livability: *Equity Index Score:* Very Low Opportunity

Improve access and proximity by residents to diverse income levels and race/ethnicity to community facilities, services, infrastructure, and employment.

Choose an item.

Explain how your legislation will affect the selected indicator(s).

This legislation will assist in reducing greenhouse gas emissions from the transportation sector within the City by supporting the transition to zero emission electric vehicles. Transportation is the number one source of carbon pollution for both the State and the City. Additionally, fossil fuel combustion vehicles pollute our local air and waterways. The City is fortunate to have clean electricity

ALTERNATIVES:

Alternative(s)	Positive Impact(s)	Negative Impact(s)
1. City fully funds the chargers	Work can proceed according to internal scheduling without grant deadlines	Requires city to fund the \$717,000 project from the General or other funds
2. Not to proceed with the project	City staff time focused on other priority areas	Electric vehicle chargers not installed

EVALUATION AND FOLLOW UP:

The project management team will conduct regular meetings to ensure the grant deliverables and timelines are being met. Downtown employer and resident engagement is also part of the work plan. Upon completion and activation of the chargers, usage metrics will be monitored regularly to evaluate against benchmarks and ensure success. Activities in this area will be included in quarterly reports submitted to Commerce.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends accepting the resolution authorizing the execution of a grant agreement and any associated term extensions with the Washington State Department of Commerce, in the amount of \$597,558.77, accepting and depositing said sum and matching monies of \$119,511.75, for a project total of \$717,070.52, to install public electric vehicle charging infrastructure in eight downtown City facilities by May 25, 2024.



FISCAL IMPACT:

The total estimated cost for the ETS Downtown Parking Project is \$717,070.52. The City match requirement is 17% of the cost (\$119,511.75).

Fund Number & Name	COST OBJECT (CC/WBS/ORDER)	Cost Element	Total Amount
1060-Capital	PWK-G0046	5330100	\$597,558.77
4700 Tacoma Power	80024543	5330100	\$119,511.75
TOTAL			\$717,070.52

What Funding is being used to support the expense?

Washington State Department of Commerce Grant #21-92201-003, (\$597,558.77) and match provided by Tacoma Power administered Electric Vehicle Charging Fund, IO 80024543 (\$119,511.75). These funds are not sourced from ratepayer revenue or the General Fund.

Are the expenditures and revenues planned and budgeted in this biennium's current budget?

NO, PLEASE EXPLAIN BELOW

All funds are external. Grant award notification letter was only received in December 2020.

Are there financial costs or other impacts of not implementing the legislation?

No

Will the legislation have an ongoing/recurring fiscal impact?

YES

Minimal annual charger fees and user revenue.

Will the legislation change the City's FTE/personnel counts?

No

ATTACHMENTS:

- Washington State Department of Commerce Grant Agreement
- Map of proposed charger locations