

DECISION/DIRECTION NOTE

Title:	Public Electric Vehicle Charging Network New Installations and Rates
Date Prepared:	July 25, 2025
Report To:	Regular Meeting of Council
Councillor and Role:	Deputy Mayor Sheilagh O'Leary, Sustainability
Ward:	N/A

Decision/Direction Required: Timeline and rate update for City-owned Public Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations.

Discussion – Background and Current Status:

The City of St. John's currently offers publicly accessible Level 2 EV Charging Stations at the following locations:

- City Hall Parking Garage, Level 1, 10 New Gower Street
- Farmers Market, 245 Freshwater Road
- Paul Reynolds Community Centre, 35 Carrick Drive
- Southlands Community Centre, 40 Teakwood Drive
- Downtown, 172 Duckworth Street
- Churchill Square, 10 Rowan Street

Expansion of the Charging Network 2025-2027:

Natural Resources Canada's (NRCAN) Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program (ZEVIP) approved grants for 26 publicly available Level 2 EV chargers proposed by the City. These new Level 2 EV chargers, offering speeds of up to 19.2 kW per hour, will be significantly faster than the City's existing units, which provide up to 7.2 kW per hour. With the new chargers, users can expect to gain up to 100 km of range in just one hour and up to 400 km within the four-hour usage window.

Staff provided a tentative implementation schedule when Council approved the project. Following grant funding approval by NRCAN, staff completed additional review and consultation with the Environmental and Sustainability Experts Panel (ESEP). Staff agree with the ESEP's recommendation to prioritize the following sites for implementation:

- Newtown Road Tennis Club - Canada Games upgrades will soon be complete, and installing a charger would align with planned parking lot work.
- Cavendish Square - near a residential area that has on-street parking only, which could benefit residents and visitors as the City plans for EV charging in these areas.
- Kenmount Terrace Community Centre – There are no EV chargers in that area of the City.

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- Quidi Vidi Lake - There is a high visitor area with several seasonal events. The revised implementation phasing does not change the budget or the City's contribution schedule previously approved by Council.

Proposal Stage Implementation Schedule:

Location	No. of Chargers	2025	2026	2027
Newtown RD Tennis Club	4	X		
Bowring Park	4	X		
Kenmount Terrace CC	2	X		
Shea Heights CC	2	X		
Cavendish Square	4		X	
Bannerman Park	2		X	
Quidi Vidi Lake	2		X	
Kilbride Lions Community Centre*	2		X	
Victoria Park	2			X
Rotary Park	2			X
St. John's Convention Centre	2			X

*Kilbride CC To be completed with the facility's retrofit funded by the Greener and Inclusive Community Buildings Program

Revised Implementation Schedule:

Location	No. of Chargers	2025	2026	2027
Newtown RD Tennis Club	4	X		
Bowring Park	4		X	
Kenmount Terrace CC	2	X		
Shea Heights CC	2			X
Cavendish Square	4	X		
Bannerman Park	2			X
Quidi Vidi Lake	2	X		
Kilbride Lions Community Centre*	2		X	
Victoria Park	2			X
Rotary Park	2		X	
St. John's Convention Centre	2		X	

Pricing Review and New Pricing for Faster Chargers:

EV Charger fees help the City sustain the program by covering maintenance and operating costs. These fees are reviewed annually to ensure they remain aligned with actual expenses. Staff are recommending an update to the current fee structure to account for the higher cost of the new faster chargers, increase in utility rate, and the need to maintain a reserve fund for future replacements or upgrades. Costs included in the revised rate include:

- Electricity service charge and kWh rate
- Remote monitoring networking fee (to ensure monitoring and up time)
- Reserve at an estimated replacement rate of once every 7 years per charger.

Charger category	Current EV Charger Cost/hr.	New EV Charger Cost/hr.	Notes
Level 2 Chargers (6.2kWh to 7.2kWh)	\$1.50	\$2.00	50% less per km than gasoline.
Level 2 Chargers (16.6kWh to 19.2kWh)	N/A	\$4.50	60% less per km than gasoline.

*the rate changes outlined in this table are still considered below market based on a jurisdictional scan including NS, PEI, and QC; but sufficient to support operations and eventual replacement over a 7 to 10-year charger lifespan.

Charger fees will still apply along with parking fees, when required. All charges are automatically processed through the City's paid parking application, PayByPhone.

Staff considered the higher cost of using public EV chargers to ensure it does not discourage adoption. A vehicle driving 20,000 km per year would spend about \$1,100 using only public chargers: 45–50% less than the fuel cost for a gasoline car with 7 L/100 km efficiency.

Key Considerations/Implications:

1. Budget/Financial Implications: Changes to the EV Charger fee rate, and addition of one hourly rate to be applied at faster Level 2 EV Chargers, will ensure the program remains financially viable for the City.
2. Partners or Other Stakeholders: Environmental and Sustainability Experts Panel (ESEP), who were consulted with.
3. Is this a New Plan or Strategy: No

If yes, are there recommendations or actions that require progress reporting?

If yes, how will progress be reported? (e.g.: through the strategic plan, through Cascade, annual update to Council, etc.)

4. Alignment with Strategic Directions:

A Sustainable City: Work collaboratively to create a climate-adapted and low-carbon city.

A Sustainable City: Be financially responsible and accountable.

5. Alignment with Adopted Plans: Resilient St. John's Community Climate Plan
6. Accessibility and Inclusion: The City's Public Charging Network includes ADA compliant chargers and is supported by the parking application (PayByPhone) and 311 staff to improve accessibility and inclusion.

7. Legal or Policy Implications: The City Paid Parking Regulations, and the Ticketing By-law were modified prior to program implementation.
8. Privacy Implications: Payment for charging sessions is made through the PayByPhone application, which has a PIA completed.
9. Engagement and Communications Considerations: N/A
10. Human Resource Implications: N/A
11. Procurement Implications: Procurement is being conducted for the chargers and installation according to the procurement act and City procedures.
12. Information Technology Implications: N/A
13. Other Implications: N/A

Recommendation:

That Council approve the revised implementation schedule and EV Charger rates.

Prepared by:

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Approved by:

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	Public Electric Vehicle Charging Network New Installations and Rates.docx
Attachments:	
Final Approval Date:	Aug 6, 2025

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

David Crowe - Jul 25, 2025 - 11:58 AM

Lynnann Winsor - Aug 6, 2025 - 1:09 PM