



COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT AGENCY
PLANNING DIVISION

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ASSISTANT DIRECTOR

November 3, 2020

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Marin County Board of Supervisors
3501 Civic Center Drive
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SUBJECT: Proposed ordinance to amend Marin County Code Title 19 (Building Code) to expedite Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment (EVSE) permit processing as mandated by the State of California.

Dear Supervisors,

RECOMMENDATION:

Initiate an amendment to the Building Code adding provisions for streamlined electric vehicle charging station permitting by taking the following actions:

1. Conduct public hearing
2. Consider adopting proposed ordinance with an effective date of December 3, 2020.

SUMMARY:

Electric vehicles (EVs) are a critical component of Marin's efforts to meet local greenhouse gas emission reduction goals, improve local air quality, and address climate change. The proposed ordinance outlines changes to the Building Code to streamline the process of permitting EV supply equipment (EVSE), commonly referred to as EV charging stations. These code changes are mandated by California Assembly Bill 1236, which requires local agencies to adopt an ordinance that creates an expedited and streamlined permitting process for electric vehicle charging systems. This checklist and ordinance were developed in partnership with other Marin County jurisdictions through the Marin Climate and Energy Partnership (MCEP), building on a long history of efforts to streamline and collaborate on countywide permitting efforts.

The County's Building Department currently issues permits for residential EV charging stations through an online self-serve electrical permit and will continue to do so. This is a cost-effective and time-sensitive way to allow residents to supply Level 2 charging at their homes. An electrical permit is required to install a "Level 2" charging station which requires a 240-volt outlet. "Level 1" charging, in comparison, is available through a standard 120-volt wall outlet. Level 2 charging adds about 25 miles of Range Per Hour (RPH), while Level 1 charging only adds about 4 miles of RPH.

This ordinance, and the associated checklist, reduces existing barriers to larger EVSE projects, such as those at commercial and multifamily properties, including Level 3 "fast chargers," which can fully charge most electric vehicles in about thirty minutes. This ordinance creates a clear outline of requirements for these larger EVSE

installation projects and support consistent best practices for permit applicants. Under the revised permitting process, a commercial or multifamily EVSE building permit application deemed complete and in accordance with the applicable permit submittal requirements, including payment of permit fees, shall be reviewed and either processed and approved for issuance, or, if determined to be deficient, shall be conveyed back to the submitter, along with a list of deficiencies to be corrected, no later than the end of the third business day following a submitted application that is deemed complete.

This ordinance also creates a place in the Building Code for future efforts to streamline permitting processes, which can be an important step to reducing barriers to adoption of green alternatives.

FISCAL/STAFFING IMPACT:

This action does not impact the General Fund.

REVIEWED BY: (These boxes must be checked)

| | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Department of Finance | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> County Counsel | <input type="checkbox"/> N/A |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Human Resources | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> N/A |

SIGNATURE:

Approved by:



Alice Zanmiller
Planner



William Kelley
Deputy Director

Attachments:

1. Ordinance
2. Residential and Non-Residential Checklist for Permitting Electric Vehicle Service Equipment (EVSE)