

Contra Costa County Sustainability Exchange

August 18, 2022

9:30 am – 12 pm

Contra Costa County Department of Conservation and Development

30 Muir Road

Zoning Administrator's Room

Martinez, CA

Meeting Objective

Identify participants' barriers to electric vehicle (EV) fleet adoption and infrastructure installation and come away empowered with action items.

Agenda

Time	Activity
9:30 am	EV Car Show
10 am	Introductions & Open Forum
10:25 am	Presentation on Contra Costa Transportation Authority's (CCTA) EV Readiness Blueprint
10:40 am	Leveraging EV Readiness Blueprint: City of Richmond & Charge Up Contra Costa
10:50 am	Contra Costa County EV Supply Equipment (EVSE) Project Update
11:00 am	Q&A
11:20 am	Small Group Breakout Groups
11:40 am	Report Out + Next Steps

Notes

Open Forum

- The Contra Costa County DCD is working on sea level rise adaptation planning, updating the County's General Plan and CAP (Envision Contra Costa 2040), and planning for a Just Transition.
- MCE is working with CCTA on a grant to help businesses install EV chargers.
- The Contra Costa County Employment and Human Services Department is looking into replacing current cars with EVs for social workers.
- Earlier this week, the Town of Moraga's Planning Commission was presented with an EV streamlining ordinance. The Town is exploring how to incentivize EVs in its General Plan update.
- The City of Hercules is looking into how to install more EV chargers.
- The Contra Costa County Flood Control District is working on the Lower Walnut Creek Restoration Project and carbon sequestration accounting on the project's marshland.
- The Contra Costa County Public Works Department is working towards installing EV chargers for the County fleet, employees, and, if possible, the public as well as implementing the County's Distributed Energy Resources Plan.
- The City of San Pablo is working on a mobility hub vision plan at Contra Costa College.

- The City of Richmond is working on fleet electrification, EV infrastructure in the city, an EV on-demand shuttle, and opportunities to collaborate and learn from others on EV grant opportunities.
- Saint Mary's College is exploring the possibility of installing EV chargers.
- The City of Antioch is working on SB 1383 implementation.
- The City of El Cerrito is working to electrify their fleet.
- CCTA is working on an EV Grant.
- The City of Concord is working to improve bike access to downtown Concord.

Presentation on CCTA's EV Readiness Blueprint

Corinne Dutra-Roberts from 511 Contra Costa on behalf of CCTA provided an overview of CCTA's [EV Readiness Blueprint](#). She identified the Blueprint's four focus areas and what jurisdictions could do to advance EV infrastructure.

Dutra-Roberts noted that CCTA was awarded California Energy Commission (CEC) Phase 1 and Phase 2 grants. The CEC Phase 1 grant was used to identify holes in EV adoption, charging, and workforce development. This effort resulted in the EV Readiness Blueprint. She highlighted CCTA's [EV readiness mapping tool](#) designed to help jurisdictions find the best sites for EV chargers. The tool itself needs to be updated; future funding could be used to update the Blueprint. The CEC Phase 2 grant has been used to start [Charge Up Contra Costa](#).

Dutra-Roberts's full presentation can be found on the Sustainability Exchange website.

Leveraging the EV Readiness Blueprint: City of Richmond & Charge Up Contra Costa

Denee Evans from the City of Richmond provided insight into [Richmond's involvement](#) with Charge Up Contra Costa. In partnership with local entities, Richmond provides workforce development opportunities for EV charging station installation and an EV car share system as part of Charge Up Contra Costa. Evans shared anecdotally that the EV Installation Training Program (EVITP) has been a roadblock with EV charging station installation. She also shared that three City employees who used the EV carshare program had such a good experience that they ended up buying their own personal EVs.

Evans's full presentation can be found on the Sustainability Exchange website.

Contra Costa County EVSE Project Update

Brendan Havenar-Daughton from Contra Costa County's Public Works Department provided an overview of the County's EVSE project. Havenar-Daughton pointed to two main policy drivers: the County's EV Purchasing Policy and the draft CAP goal to have an all-electric fleet by 2030. He identified automated load management as a potentially favorable EVSE strategy to serve multiple parking stalls with one charging unit. He noted that the main barrier to EVSE implementation is electrical capacity at identified County sites. He highlighted some opportunities for countywide collaboration through the Energy Efficiency Collaborative, opportunities to update the EV Readiness Blueprint, and by coordinating a larger EV Car Show.

Havenar-Daughton's full presentation can be found on the Sustainability Exchange website.

Small Group Reports

Each group was given the same breakout group questions.

The first group identified staff capacity, site electrical capacity, and high repair costs for cars because of supply chain issues as barriers to EV deployment.

The second group focused their conversation around how to act on the implementation strategies identified in the EV Readiness Blueprint. They suggested having a half or full day workshop at a future Sustainability Exchange or Energy Efficiency Collaborative focused on digging into the different strategies presented (design charette-style) with industry experts from CCTA and other organizations to help inform how cities can implement the Blueprint strategies. They also suggested having a ride and drive event for medium and heavy duty EVs.

The third group reported challenges with staff capacity, dedicated funding, electrical capacity, and support from City Council. The group floated the idea of requiring EV charging station conditions of approval. For example, if an application comes in for a new gas station or remodel, jurisdictions could include conditions of approval to require installation of EV chargers as well. The group also discussed potential workforce development opportunities for electricians to install EV charging stations.