

# RIVERSIDE PUBLIC UTILITIES

## Board Memorandum

**BOARD OF PUBLIC UTILITIES**

**DATE:** SEPTEMBER 4, 2015

**ITEM NO:** 12

File ID – 15-2816 – D

**SUBJECT:** ACCEPTANCE OF THE CALIFORNIA ENERGY COMMISSION GRANT FOR INSTALLATION OF ELECTRIC VEHICLE (EV) CHARGING INFRASTRUCTURE AT CITY HALL

**ISSUE:**

The issue for Board of Public Utilities consideration is to recommend that the City Council accept a California Energy Commission (CEC) grant through the Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA) for the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure at City Hall.

**RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the Board of Public Utilities recommend that the City Council:

1. Accept a \$50,000 CEC grant through SCPPA for the installation of electric vehicle charging infrastructure at City Hall;
2. Approve the use of Greenhouse Gas (GHG) allowance proceeds to pay for Riverside Public Utilities' share of capital infrastructure in the estimated amount of \$28,225 for Work Order No. 1508874; and
3. Approve the use of Public Benefits Funds to pay for energy consumption by electric vehicle customers during a 16 month period of research and development in the estimated amount of \$15,000.

**BACKGROUND:**

In 2011, in support of the City's policy to promote alternative fuel transportation, the City in coordination with Riverside Public Utilities (RPU) installed eleven Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations at various public locations in the City in alignment with Seizing Our Destiny's "Becoming a Green Machine" initiative. As part of that pilot project, two Level 2 charging stations were installed at City Hall. Since that time, the need to install additional charging stations has increased and it is evident that RPU plays an important role in adopting and supporting EV charging infrastructure.

In April 2014 the CEC approved a grant application submitted by the Southern California Public Power Authority (SCPPA) under the Program Opportunity Notice (PON) 13-606 Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure for the development EV charging infrastructure in the greater Southern California region in accordance with SCPPA Resolution number 2014-004. In connection with the grant, RPU was awarded CEC grant funds for a Direct Current (DC) Fast Charging Station through a joint proposal submitted by SCPPA for EV charging infrastructure at many member utilities including the cities of Burbank, Pasadena, Anaheim, Banning, Cerritos and Colton. Although not a member of SCPPA, the City of Moreno Valley was allowed to participate in the grant application to provide additional electrical vehicle

charging infrastructure in cities west of Palm Springs. RPU will install one DC Fast Charging Station on the north parking lot at City Hall, next to the existing two Level 2 chargers. The DC Fast Charging Station will serve as a research and development pilot project to demonstrate fast charging equipment, which is capable of charging an EV battery in 20 to 30 minutes.

To pay for RPU's share of capital infrastructure installation costs, staff proposes to use Greenhouse Gas (GHG) allowance proceeds. The EV DC Fast Charging Station is being used as a research and development project over the next 16 months to determine customer acceptance and impact on RPU's electric distribution system. The Board of Public Utilities and the City Council previously approved the City's Policy of Permissible Use of GHG Allowance Value and Proceeds which includes using GHG funds for publicly-available electric vehicle charging stations or infrastructure.



*Efacec QC50 DC Fast Charger at City Hall parking lot*

DC Fast Charging is a new technology with little empirical data to support rate design. Staff proposes to provide EV DC Fast Charging without charge to retail customers until December 2016 to collect customer acceptance/usage and electrical load information. This data is necessary to support meaningful rate analysis for this type of service, and to determine the impact on the electric distribution system. The charging station is fed from a dedicated electric meter to allow for the collection of energy consumption (kWh) and demand (kW) usage data for the station. The electric account will be billed at a commercial rate and be reimbursed with Public Benefits funds. Public Benefits funds can only be utilized for purposes set forth under the guidelines determined by the State. Expenses associated with the energy consumption and demand charges for this project are allowed under the law. After the research and development phase (ending in December 2016), staff will propose an EV charging pricing policy.

Riverside Public Utilities engineering staff performed the design to eliminate any negative visual impacts to the project and surrounding area, with sensitivity to the existing neighborhood and within City Planning guidelines for the designated area of the project.

The project breakdown is proposed as follows:

<b>Project Breakdown</b>	
Engineering Performed By:	RPU engineering staff
Civil Construction Performed By:	Greenlots, SCPPA Contractor under Resolution No. 2014-006
Electrical Work Performed By:	RPU field forces & Greenlots Contractor
Coordination Required With:	Public Works and General Services
Reimbursements:	None

**FISCAL IMPACT:**

The total estimated cost of the project is \$93,225. The CEC grant funds of \$50,000 (54% of the total estimated cost) will cover the share cost of the equipment, materials and labor of the installation. The capital expenditure for Work Order No. 1508874 is estimated to be \$28,225 for capital infrastructure, and will be funded with GHG allowance proceeds in accordance with City policy. Sufficient funds are available in Public Utilities' Distribution Line Extension Account No. 6130000-470601. The energy consumption and demand charges are estimated to be \$15,000 during the research and development period. Sufficient funds are available in the Public Utilities' Public Benefits Funds Account No. 6020100-456026 for this purpose.

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Approved by: John A. Russo, City Manager  
Approved as to form: Gary G. Geuss, City Attorney

Certifies availability of funds Laura Chavez-Nomura, Public Utilities Assistant General Manager/Finance

Attachment: Project Site Map