



Public Electric Vehicle Charging Program—FAQ

What is the program?

Seattle City Light is installing publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) fast chargers throughout the utility's service area. City Light is running this pilot program to own and operate EV fast chargers in order to understand the impacts of EV charging on the electrical system and to support City Light's Transportation Electrification Strategy and Plan, which strives to remove barriers to EV adoption and reduce carbon emissions across the transportation sector.

What are EV fast chargers?

There are three types of EV chargers: Level 1 (110-volt alternating current [AC] power), Level 2 (240-volt AC power) and fast chargers which use direct current (DC) to quickly charge an EV. City Light is installing 50-kilowatt (kW) or greater DC fast chargers at all locations and Level 2 chargers at select locations. Charging times depend on the EV battery and its state of charge, but the fast chargers can provide a typical EV with up to three miles of range per minute of charge time.

Why is Seattle City Light doing this?

Seattle City Light has a responsibility to its customers to invest in and implement solutions that support sustainability, including transportation electrification. Chargers will be distributed equitably throughout the utility's service area so that EV fast charging is accessible to customers across City Light's service territory, especially in areas where the private sector is not installing EV infrastructure. City Light's public charging pilot program is primarily focused on EV fast chargers.

This pilot program leverages City Light's clean electricity and will play a critical role in helping the City of Seattle reach its carbon neutral goal by 2050. The program is part of Seattle's Clean Transportation Electrification Blueprint, which focuses on delivering community-focused transportation solutions.



What should I expect when I charge my vehicle at a site?

Users will pay by the kilowatt-hour (kWh) to use City Light's chargers. Payment processing is managed by the network provider Shell Recharge at Seattle locations and ChargePoint at our Burien location. Users can activate and pay for a session by using either the network provider's phone app, RFID card or by calling the provider to pay by credit card.

Each charger will be equipped with CHAdeMO and SAE Combo connectors which are compatible with all fast-charge capable EVs (Tesla vehicles require an adapter). Only EVs will be allowed to use the charging spaces, while actively charging. Electric vehicle charging will be time limited. Signs will be used to indicate maximum parking time limits.

Parking restrictions will be posted on signs at the charging station. Enforcement will be managed by the City of Seattle or local city jurisdictions within King County. Vehicles in violation of the parking restrictions may be fined or towed away at the owner's expense. Chargers will include contact information for customer questions and payment by phone.

How can I find public EV chargers?

To find active and proposed Seattle City Light EV charger locations, visit our map at seattle.gov/city-light/electric-vehicles.

Plugshare.com offers a comprehensive map of EV charging stations, and convenient filtering tools (plug type, network and location restrictions) to find the right charger for you.

How much will it cost to charge my electric vehicle?

The cost to charge at a City Light EV charger depends on the charger type (Level 2 or DC fast) and time of day (see table below). A typical charging session at a fast charger may take 30-minutes to deliver 20 kWh, and cost \$4-\$7 depending upon location and time of use. 20 kWh can power approximately 60 miles of driving. The cost to charge is updated per department policy III-1102 found here seattle.gov/city-light/about-us/what-we-do/public-policies.

Fees are per kilowatt-hours (kWh).

DC Fast Chargers

Sunday

\$0.22 All Day

Monday–Saturday

\$0.22

\$0.36

\$0.22

12 am 7 am 7 pm 12 am

Level 2 Chargers

\$0.21 All Day

Who can I contact for more information about the program?

Seattle City Light Public EV Charging Team
SCL_ElectricVehicles@seattle.gov
(206) 684-3800
seattle.gov/city-light/electric-vehicles