



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: June 8, 2021

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Transportation Planning and Parking Division, Public Works Department
Energy and Climate Division, Sustainability and Resilience Department

SUBJECT: Introduction Of Ordinance To Execute An Agreement With Tesla To Operate 15 Electric Charging Stations In Lot 10 (Ortega Garage)

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council introduce and subsequently adopt, by reading of title only, an Ordinance of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Authorizing the Public Works Director to Execute an Agreement with Tesla, Inc. to Operate 15 Electric Charging Stations in Lot 10 (Ortega Garage).

DISCUSSION:

As a part of the City's continued sustainability efforts and good customer service, staff is proposing a partnership with Tesla to provide Supercharger Charging stations in downtown Santa Barbara at the Ortega Garage. According to the Department of Motor Vehicle records, over 60 percent of all electric vehicles sold in Santa Barbara in 2020 were Teslas. By all other accounts, Tesla vehicles have a significant share of the Santa Barbara auto market and are also the most likely electric vehicle to be used to visit Santa Barbara.

Staff is recommending entering into an agreement with Tesla to install 12 Tesla Supercharger stations, which can only provide charging to Tesla vehicles, as well as three Level 2 Chargers that can accommodate all electrical vehicle types. In addition, Tesla will, at its own cost, install electrical service and a separate meter in order to accommodate up to four additional City-owned Direct Current Fast Chargers (DCFC), otherwise known as Level 3 charging stations. Though the City's DCFC stations will not be built as part of this project, Tesla's installation of the electrical infrastructure will significantly facilitate the City's installation of these universal fast chargers.

This project is a benefit to the City in that, though the City has been working to expand its electric vehicle charging infrastructure, it has not yet installed any level 3 "fast"

chargers due to electrical service constraints and costs. The advantage of level 3 chargers is that, due to high electrical output, they can charge a vehicle much more quickly than a level 2 charger. Thus, with this project the Tesla will install superchargers to accommodate the growing population of Tesla vehicles in Santa Barbara, install additional level 2 chargers for use by any electric vehicle driver, and reduce the City's capital costs for installing its own DCFC chargers at this location.

Tesla will be responsible for acquiring City permits and constructing the electric vehicle charging stations, which will be located on both the second and third floors of Lot 10 of the Ortega Garage. The new charging stations would also require a new electrical service to the location which will be installed by Tesla and Southern California Edison. Tesla would also be responsible for the on-going maintenance of the Charging Stations and their removal should the agreement be terminated. Tesla will also be responsible for all electrical costs associated with operating the 12 superchargers and three level 2 chargers. Tesla will not be responsible for maintaining the City's DCFC chargers once they are installed.

The lease agreement and ordinance is proposed to be five years and renewable at no-cost to Tesla. Tesla typically installs Superchargers in large parking lots without paying fees because vehicle charging also brings retail customers to the area while they are charging. Additionally, expanding electric vehicle charging infrastructure, especially with fast charging capability, is a critical step in achieving the City's carbon neutrality goal. Customers of the electric vehicle chargers will be responsible for all applicable parking fees. Additionally, Tesla will install, at its expense, three additional Level 2 chargers which will be available for charging all electric vehicles, not just Tesla vehicles.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

Entering into the proposed agreement for the installation of electric vehicle charging stations will not require any financial commitment from the City or Downtown Parking. Adding the stations will likely have a small increase in revenue because of the new parking customers that the charging stations will attract.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

Transportation-related greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions accounts for nearly 60 percent of Santa Barbara's overall GHG emissions. One of the critical pathways to reducing these particular emissions is by encouraging and facilitating the adoption of electric vehicles throughout the community. The addition of these charging stations will increase the overall integrity of the Santa Barbara electric vehicle infrastructure, contribute to reliable paths of travel for electric vehicles, and help reduce potential range anxiety, thereby reducing several significant barriers to entry to electric vehicle adoption.

A copy of the agreement is available from the Public Works Department; please email PWInfo@SantaBarbaraCA.gov to request a copy.

Council Agenda Report

Introduction Of Ordinance To Execute An Agreement With Tesla To Operate 15
Electric Charging Stations In Lot 10 (Ortega Garage)

June 8, 2021

Page 2

PREPARED BY: Robert J. Dayton, Transportation Planning and
Parking Manager/mj
Alelia Parenteau, Energy and Climate Manager

SUBMITTED BY: Joshua Haggmark, Acting Public Works Director
Renè Eyerly, Acting Sustainability and Resilience Co-Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office