

Background

The purpose of this report is to provide the Finance and Administration Committee with information on the Natural Resources Canada (NRCan) Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program.

In 2019, Council declared a climate emergency. A target of net zero greenhouse gas emissions by 2050 was directed by Council Resolution (CC2019-151). This was reaffirmed in the 2019-2027 City of Greater Sudbury Strategic Plan to build climate resiliency into existing programs.

This program supports the City's strategic plan to support ecological sustainability, strengthen strategies and policies to mitigate the impact of climate change and build climate resiliency into existing programs.

Electric Vehicle (EV) charging is an important component of the Community Energy & Emissions Plan (CEEP), tied to building a Sustainable City. The CEEP illustrates what is required to achieve a 2050 net-zero emissions target in the City of Greater Sudbury. Although substantial effort is required to reduce energy use and transition from fossil fuel supplied energy, the environmental, financial, and community benefits indicate that the endeavor is worthwhile.

In order to support the electrification of transportation, the Government of Canada has launched the Zero-Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Program by NRCan. This is mainly to support access to localized and visible charging infrastructure, which is key to alleviate consumer concerns about where to charge their vehicle and to subsidize deployment of a network of zero-emission vehicle charging (level 2 and higher) and refueling stations in more localized areas.

According to the Electric Vehicle Society- Greater Sudbury, there are 14 EV charging locations located in Greater Sudbury. A listing of these locations can be found in appendix- A

Program Details

Both the provincial and federal governments have increased investment in EV charging infrastructure. The objective of this Project is to support the deployment of infrastructure in public places, on street, multi-unit residential buildings, workplace, as well as, strategic infrastructure projects for mass transit, urban delivery, and fleet applications.

The Zero Emissions Vehicles Infrastructure Program (ZEVIP) objective is to address the lack of charging and refueling stations in Canada, one of the key barriers to EV adoption, by increasing the availability of localized charging opportunities where Canadians live, work, and play. With the number of electric vehicles on the road positioned to grow at an exponential rate (to reach 30% of the global market share by 2030), it may be prudent to incorporate EV charging systems at our City parking arrangements. The program will support 50% of the project costs- up to a maximum of \$5,000,000 per project.

Conclusion

EV's are a crucial piece of the net- zero greenhouse gas emission by 2050 objective declared by Council. The ZEVIP program will provide 50% funding up to a maximum project cost of \$5 million.

Staff recommend that Council authorize a business case to be developed for consideration for the 2021 budget.