

Subject: LMM 25/07/2023 - EV KERBSIDE CHARGING GRANTS

MOTION:

That City of Newcastle:

1. Notes that in December 2022, through a partnership with Ausgrid and electric vehicle (EV) infrastructure provider EVX, Newcastle became home to Australia's first power pole mounted EV charger, building on our track record of embracing emerging clean energy technology;
2. Continues to help support our community's transition to EVs with the ongoing development of a council-owned public EV charging network, which currently includes seven chargers installed across four sites, providing 11 public charging bays;
3. Welcomes the announcement from the Minister for Energy and Climate Change, the Hon. Penny Sharpe MLC, that the NSW Government has made \$3 million available for the installation of at least 500 EV chargers at kerbside locations throughout NSW, noting that the Newcastle Local Government Area is eligible to apply;
4. Applies for a grant through the NSW Government's EV Kerbside Charging Grants program, following the identification of additional key locations throughout the Newcastle LGA that would assist in the uptake of electric vehicles.

BACKGROUND:

Electric vehicle kerbside charging grants



EV kerbside charging grants to reduce charging worries

The NSW Government is making it easier for drivers of electric vehicles to keep them powered, by making \$3 million available for the installation of at least 500 electric vehicle (EV) chargers at kerbside locations.

The vast majority of EV charging is done at home, but 30% of NSW drivers are unable to do so as they don't have access to off-street parking. Kerbside charging will provide EV drivers with another option to meet their charging needs.

This is the first funding round for chargers at kerbside locations in NSW. It will focus on 26 eligible local government areas that have the least access to off-street parking based on population density and housing type.

Charge point operators and councils can apply for co-funding to install EV chargers.

The EV kerbside charging grant includes co-funding up to:

- 80% of total installation and equipment costs of an EV charger (capped at \$10,000 per charge port)
- 80% of a 3-year software subscription for an EV charger software, where third-party software is used
- \$800,000 per applicant.
- Grant applications can be made from Monday 17 July to Friday 17 November 2023.

More information and guidelines for the EV Charging Grant:

<https://www.energy.nsw.gov.au/business-and-industry/programs-grants-and-schemes/electric-vehicles/electric-vehicle-kerbside>

Energy Minister Penny Sharpe said:

“These grants are part of the NSW Electric Vehicle Strategy and with at least 500 new kerbside chargers will give more EV drivers confidence they’ll be able to charge their vehicle locally, even if they don’t have a private carparking spot.

“The transport sector is a growing source of greenhouse gas emissions. In 2020, transport made up 20% of NSW emissions, with almost half from passenger vehicles. Reducing transport emissions is crucial to meeting our net zero target.

Eligible LGAs:

- Bayside
- Blacktown
- Burwood
- Canada Bay
- Canterbury-Bankstown
- Cumberland
- Fairfield
- Georges River
- Hunters Hill
- Inner West
- Ku-ring-gai
- Lane Cove
- Liverpool
- Mosman
- Newcastle
- North Sydney
- Northern Beaches
- Parramatta
- Randwick
- Ryde
- Strathfield
- Sutherland Shire
- Sydney
- Waverley
- Willoughby
- Woollahra

Australia’s first power pole mounted EV charger installed in Newcastle

20 December 2022

Located at Dixon Park Beach car park in Merewether, this Aussie first pioneered by Ausgrid is being deployed by EV infrastructure company EVX in partnership with the City of Newcastle.

Ausgrid has today opened the first power pole mounted electric vehicle charger in Australia, as a part of a broader program that aims to deliver up to 30,000 pole mounted EV chargers across the Ausgrid network by 2029.

We are incredibly excited to be delivering this innovative Australian first with the City of Newcastle and EVX. These pole-mounted chargers will help to address EV accessibility by providing chargers for people without home systems, and those traveling outside of their local areas.

Ausgrid CEO, Richard Gross.

"We believe it is our role as the electricity distributor to seek opportunities to help deliver innovative technologies for our customers, and we're excited to continue rolling out this program across our network." Mr Gross said.

Councillor Carol Duncan said City of Newcastle is committed to creating a sustainable future for our city by implementing the actions of our adopted Climate Action Plan.

As part of City of Newcastle's Climate Action Plan we have set an aspirational goal of seeing 10,000 registered electric vehicles in our city by 2025.

Councillor Carol Duncan.

"To achieve that we need to work with our partners such as Ausgrid and EVX to support the supply of suitable charging stations, both in new buildings and in public places. I welcome the installation of this charger at Dixon Park beach, which will allow our community or visitors to charge their car while enjoying our beaches, cafes, parks and pathways," Cr Duncan said.

EVX CEO, Andrew Forster, said: "This is essential community infrastructure for the future, and we are so excited that this partnership is off the ground."

The project will make EV charging more accessible and affordable for both residents and visitors to Newcastle while contributing to the battle against climate change.

EVX CEO, Andrew Forster.

Pole mounted chargers are faster and cheaper to deploy than other kerbside charging units, and they don't add to urban clutter, causing less disruption to the surrounding communities. The specific locations of the pole mounted EV chargers will be determined over the coming months.

Customers in Newcastle should download EVX app to activate the charger. Charging costs \$0.50 per KW/h flat rate.