

COUNCIL MEETING
PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT SERVICES

REPORT P&B-2025-12
April 8, 2025

SUBJECT: **Installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Behind City Hall**

AUTHOR: **Grant Munday**
 Director of Planning & Development Services

APPROVING: **Rob Axiak**
 Chief Administrative Officer

RECOMMENDATION:

THAT COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF WELLAND approves spending \$23,000.00 from the Building Permit Reserve Fund to install two additional level 2 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations (4 charging heads), three e-bike/scooter charging stations, three park benches and three bike racks behind City Hall.

RELATIONSHIP TO STRATEGIC PLAN

This recommendation is aligned to Council’s strategic priority of ensuring “**Environmental Stewardship**” to protect the ecosystems through a responsible approach to minimize the impact on the environment through supportive decision-making, professional processes, incentives, policies, and operational practices.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:

The City was approved for a \$30,000.00 grant under the EV ChargeON program to install two additional level 2 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations (4 charging heads), three e-bike/scooter charging stations, three park benches and three bike racks. With reference to Appendix 1, the charging stations would be located beside the existing EV charging stations behind City Hall. The EV charging stations would be available for 24/7 public charging and City EV fleet charging. This report seeks Council approval to use \$23,000.00 from the Building Permit Reserve Fund to construct the project.

BACKGROUND:

On January 16, 2024 City Council approved a recommendation from the Green Advisory Committee directing staff to apply for an EV charging grant under the EV ChargeON program to add additional charging capacity behind City Hall. Staff applied for the grant and have received approval. The City currently has a fleet of 11 EV's and the capability to charge 4 vehicles at one time. Since the City's adoption of EV's it has resulted in reducing greenhouse gas emission by over 25,161kg. This is like planting 645 trees and letting them grow for 10 years. Other benefits include a reduction in the staff time involved in refueling comparable gas powered vehicles and the opportunity for public EV charging for a fee.

The City does not currently have dedicated e-bike/e-scooter charging. With changing demographics of the population, there has been, and will continue to be an increase in use of electric mobility devices and e-bikes.

DISCUSSION:

With reference to Appendix 1, the proposal is to install two additional level 2 electric vehicle (EV) charging stations (4 charging heads), three e-bike/scooter charging stations, three park benches and three bike racks. These additions would be added beside the existing EV charging infrastructure behind City Hall.

Since the original EV charging infrastructure was installed the City the following factors necessitate increasing the EV charging capacity behind City Hall:

- The City has increased its EV fleet by four vehicles with future plans to replace existing gas vehicles to EV's,
- Public charging has increased over time thereby using up charging capacity for fleet charging, and
- The funding received for the original EV charging infrastructure limits public charging to occasional use (Currently offered 8:30am-4:30pm daily)

FINANCIAL:

The estimated total cost of the project would be \$53,000.00 inclusive of HST. The approved \$30,000.00 EV ChargeON grant would bring the cost to the City down to \$23,000.00 inclusive of HST. This amount is to be funded by the City's Building Permit Reserve Fund since a portion of the total costs can be attributed to the delivery of building permit services.

ATTACHMENT:

Appendix 1 – EV Charging Concept Plan