

# ACTION ITEMS FOR **EV READY COMMUNITIES**

**Electric vehicles (EVs) are becoming an important part of our transportation landscape. Municipalities are in a unique position to use planning and policy tools to encourage a simple and successful transition to EVs.**



## **CLIMATE SMART COMMUNITIES**

A network of New York communities engaged in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and improving climate resilience. [Climate Smart Communities includes a certification program, one element of which is EV charging stations.](#) The Climate Smart Communities program is jointly sponsored by six New York State agencies: Energy Research and Development Authority; Department of Environmental Conservation; Public Service Commission; Department of State; Department of Transportation; and the Department of Health. [www.dec.ny.gov/energy/76483.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/energy/76483.html)

## **ADD EV CHARGING LANGUAGE TO THE MUNICIPAL ZONING**

Update zoning laws to include EV charging equipment definitions, list EV charging infrastructure in Use Tables, and ensure zoning resolutions and ordinances allow EV charging in logical locations

## **SUPPORT EV INFRASTRUCTURE DEPLOYMENTS**

Incorporate EV readiness into the Comprehensive Plan's sustainability goals, or create an EV Infrastructure Plan to make charging readily available which encourages EV use and helps improve air quality.

## **ESTABLISH REGULATIONS FOR EV CHARGING USE**

Regulations on EV charging station use clarifies the expectations for EV drivers and non-EV drivers. Regulations can impose fines or tow non-EVs parking in EV charging station spaces.

## **REQUIRE EV CHARGING STATIONS OR PREPARATIONS THROUGH CODE**

Require conduit and sufficient electrical capacity for EV charging in parking lot projects, set numerical or percentage-based goals or limits for EV infrastructure in new construction, or establish standards for safety and scope of EV charging stations.

## **STANDARDIZED EV SIGNAGE**

Establish a standard for EV charging station signage so both EV and non-EV drivers can identify charging station locations and understand any applicable regulations.

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## **CLEAN ENERGY COMMUNITIES**

A program for local governments in New York State to implement clean energy actions, save energy costs, create jobs, and improve the environment. In addition to providing tools, resources, and technical assistance, the program recognizes and rewards leadership for the completion of clean energy projects. One of the activities municipalities can complete to become a Clean Energy Community is a Clean Fleet project, which includes installing a charging station or adding an EV to the municipal fleet. At no cost to the local government, Clean Energy Communities Coordinators are available to help local leaders to: develop and prioritize clean energy goals; access guidance resources such as templates for legislation, procurement, and contracts; and take advantage of available funding and technical assistance opportunities. [www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Clean-Energy-Communities](http://www.nyserda.ny.gov/All-Programs/Programs/Clean-Energy-Communities)

## **ADOPT A VEHICLE FLEET EFFICIENCY OR EV PROCUREMENT PROGRAM**

Advance sustainability measures by adopting a fleet efficiency policy and replacement plan, or incorporate electric vehicle procurement goals into local purchasing policies.

## **SET GOALS FOR EV DEPLOYMENT**

Local and regional governments committed to establishing sustainable and resilient communities are setting goals or requirements for the adoption of EVs in fleets or the deployment of EV charging stations for development through executive orders.

## **SIMPLIFY THE PERMIT PROCESS FOR EV CHARGING STATIONS**

The permitting process for residential and commercial EV charging station installations can take a long time, during which a purchased EV or charging station can not be used. Simplify and streamline the process, and if possible, accept online applications.

## **BE A ROLE MODEL**

Install EV charging stations in municipal parking lots and use EVs in the fleet to convey a commitment to sustainable transportation and set an example for others. There may be funding for these actions and they could also qualify the municipality for additional funding.

## **TRAIN MUNICIPAL STAFF AND INSPECTORS ON EV CHARGING STATIONS**

Inspectors and other municipal staff members should be educated and informed on EV technology so they can explain the recommended installation and safety measures to assist a site host with the successful implementation of EV charging infrastructure.