

REPORT FROM

## OFFICE OF THE CITY ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICER

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Date: October 13, 2022

CAO File No. 0220-06019-0000

Council File No. 21-0890-S1

Council District: All

To: Honorable Members of the City Council

From: Matthew W. Szabo, City Administrative Officer



Subject: **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program Requirement**

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### RECOMMENDATION

The City Council INSTRUCTS the General Services Department to include in the Electric Vehicle Masterplan a requirement for prime contractors and subcontractors hired for the installation of the City's electric vehicle charging stations to be certified in the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP).

### SUMMARY

On June 28, 2022, Council adopted recommendations from the Energy, Climate Change, Environmental Justice and River Committee, which instructed the City Administrative Officer's Office of Procurement, with the assistance of the General Services Department (GSD), Department of Water and Power, Bureau of Contract Administration and other relevant departments, to review and recommend the inclusion of the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Training Program (EVITP), as prescribed by the California Public Utilities Code 740.20, in the City's contractual standards for contracts for electric vehicle (EV) installation projects. This Office finds that the adoption of this training requirement is consistent with US Department of Transportation and State of California standards. Therefore, the adoption of the EVITP training requirement would ensure that the City's contractors are trained at the same level required of EV contractors at both the state and national levels. Adoption of the EVITP training requirement is anticipated to have minimal impact on the City, and its contractors, as many of the City's existing vendors are currently EVITP certified. This certification is accessible to all state-certified electricians.

### FINDINGS

As of 2021, Los Angeles residents own approximately 83,000 plug-in EV throughout the City. By 2025, the City plans to have at least 250,000 plug-in EVs, representing 10 percent of the statewide registered fleet. By 2030, the Department of Water and Power projects that the LA region will have over 750,000 plug-in EVs and a projected infrastructure gap of approximately 97,000 level 2 chargers and 2,500 level 3 chargers. To ensure that new chargers installed by the City are completed in accordance with existing safety standards, the City Council instructed this Office, with the assistance of other relevant departments, to review the merit of incorporating state-mandated

EVITP training requirements (California Assembly Bill 841-Ting) to the City's contractual standards.

The EVITP was an education initiative launched in 2012 by the University of Michigan with partnerships from automotive and battery manufacturers, investor- and municipal-owned utilities, EV supply manufacturers, electrical inspectors, electrical contractors, and first responders to address technical requirements, safety imperatives, and performance integrity. A nonprofit organization was created to provide the training program to other states. Any licensed or certified electrician in the state or local jurisdiction where the electrician resides is eligible to take the EVITP. The program consists of a 20-hour online training course conducted by subject matter experts on residential, commercial, and industrial charging stations. The curriculum includes, but is not limited to, training on electric vehicle supply equipment, the 2020 and 2017 National Electrical Code, load calculation, site assessment, commissioning, and troubleshooting. EVITP indicates that the curriculum is updated with changes to the industry's technology, products, and practices. The program currently costs \$275, which includes the instruction, exam proctoring, and certification. Certification is contingent on receiving a passing score on the proctored online exam and may be credited towards the continuing education unit credit requirements of a certified electrician.

The United States Department of Transportation and the State of California require that electricians working on their electric vehicle chargers are EVITP-certified. This Office, with the assistance of the Bureau of Engineering, identified that many of the current City contractors that install the City's charging stations have already received their EVITP certification. Therefore, it is unlikely that the adoption of the training requirement will result in a significant impact on the number of available contractors in the City. Current City contractors using uncertified electricians may increase its cost to incorporate EVITP certification cost into their bid, which may result in a slight increase in their bids.

This Office finds that the implementation of the mandated EVITP training requirement for contractors hired to install the City's EV charging stations would be advantageous for the City. Adopting the requirement would put the City in line with other state and federal agencies that are installing EV charging stations. The EVITP curriculum is in addition to what is required to become a certified electrician. Due to the specialty work that EV chargers require; additional training may improve safety for both the contractor and users of EV chargers. The training is provided at a low cost without the need for intensive time investment to complete the certification. EVITP certification is not a barrier to becoming a contractor to install EV chargers.

## **FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT**

Minimal to no General Fund impact is anticipated as many existing City vendors are already certified, and uncertified vendors may increase bids to incorporate the cost of EVITP certification.

## **FINANCIAL POLICIES STATEMENT**

The recommendation in the report complies with the City's Financial Policies in that City expenditures are subject to the appropriation of available funding.