Electric Vehicle Charging in West Seattle

WHAT IS THE PROJECT?
Seattle City Light is proposing to build a curbside electric vehicle (EV) fast charging station on 39th Avenue SW, between SW Oregon Street and Fauntleroy Way SW. The public charging station is being proposed as part of a pilot program to install EV charging infrastructure throughout the utility’s service area.

If built, the location will include two 50-kilowatt (kW) fast chargers located along the curb. Two existing street parking spaces would be converted to “EV charging only” spaces, and drivers would be limited to one hour of parking while charging at these spaces. These 50kW fast chargers can provide a typical EV with about three miles of range for every minute of charging. Average charging sessions are expected to last for 15 to 30 minutes. The chargers are anticipated to have a useful life of ten years.
WHY WAS THIS LOCATION CHOSEN?

This location is considered an excellent site for an EV fast charging station for several reasons:

- The proposed charging station would be easily accessible for drivers, given its proximity to the primary West Seattle access routes of Fauntleroy Way SW and the West Seattle Bridge.
- The proposed EV charging station is sited near several stores and amenities. This area also includes apartments and condominiums that often do not have on-site options for EV charging.
- This block of 39th Avenue SW is much wider compared to other streets. It provides ample space for street parking and charging station infrastructure.
- This location has relatively easy access to the high-voltage electricity needed for these types of chargers.
WERE OTHER LOCATIONS CONSIDERED? WHY WEREN’T THOSE LOCATIONS SELECTED?

City Light investigated several locations for charging stations throughout the West Seattle area before deciding on the 39th Avenue SW site. Other locations weren’t feasible due to the lack of high-voltage electrical service, high site development costs, or other restrictions.

Other locations that were considered for the public EV charging program include:

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<tr>
<th>Surface Parking Lots in the West Seattle Junction</th>
<th>Surplus Utility Properties / Former Substation Properties</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>While surface lots are normally a good location for charging stations, the surface lots in the West Seattle Junction are slated for redevelopment, and as such, are not a good place for an investment like this.</td>
<td>Seattle City Light investigated utility-owned surplus properties in and around the West Seattle area. These locations are unsuitable or unavailable for an EV charging station.</td>
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<tr>
<th>Streets in the West Seattle Area</th>
<th>Seattle Public Parks / Municipal Properties</th>
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<td>The Seattle Department of Transportation (SDOT) has a pilot program for electric vehicle charging in the public right-of-way (EVCROW). The program defines siting criteria for curbside EV chargers that include minimum sidewalk and parking lane widths. These requirements ensure that EV chargers are accessible and do not interfere with pedestrian, bicycle or vehicle traffic. The geography of West Seattle includes several dense neighborhoods and narrow streets. Because of this, there are limited curbside locations that have enough space to accommodate a charging station.</td>
<td>City Light is working with Seattle Parks &amp; Recreation (SPR) to install EV charging stations at Magnuson and Gas Works parks. SPR identified Don Armeni Boat Ramp as a potential charging station site in West Seattle. However, the site development costs were too high. City Light also investigated municipal properties in West Seattle but could not find a viable location.</td>
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DOES THIS PROJECT CONFLICT WITH THE SEATTLE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION’S RESTRICTED PARKING ZONE (RPZ) PROPOSAL FOR THE WEST SEATTLE JUNCTION AREA?

The proposed EV charging site is located on the west side of 39th Avenue SW. This location does not fall within the proposed RPZ signed block on this street. For more information about the RPZ proposal, please visit: https://www.seattle.gov/transportation/projects-and-programs/programs/parking-program/community-access-and-parking-program/west-seattle-junction-area.

HOW MUCH DOES IT COST TO INSTALL A DC FAST CHARGER?

The average installation cost for each City Light fast charger is estimated at $100,000 per charger. This location will include two fast chargers and cost an estimated $190,000.
Seattle City Light installed its first EV fast charging station on 16th Avenue South, near the Beacon Hill Light Rail Station.

WHERE ELSE IS SEATTLE CITY LIGHT BUILDING EV CHARGING STATIONS?

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>EV Charging Location</th>
<th>Open/Planned for Public Use</th>
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<tr>
<td>North Beacon Hill (near Beacon Hill Light Rail Station)</td>
<td>Open</td>
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<tr>
<td>City Light’s South Service Center (SODO)</td>
<td>3rd Quarter 2019</td>
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<tr>
<td>Gas Works Park</td>
<td>3rd Quarter 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Magnuson Park</td>
<td>3rd Quarter 2019</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Burien Library</td>
<td>4th Quarter 2019</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
| Tukwila (near Interstate 5 and State Route 599)           | 4th Quarter 2019              

WHY IS SEATTLE CITY LIGHT DOING THIS?

- Seattle City Light has a responsibility to its ratepayers to invest in and implement solutions that support sustainability.

- City Light’s chargers will be distributed equitably throughout the utility’s service area so that DC fast charging is accessible to customers across City Light’s service area, especially in areas where the private sector is not installing EV infrastructure.

- City Light’s public charging pilot program focuses on DC fast chargers, which can charge electric vehicles much faster than most charging stations currently found in our region.

- This pilot program leverages City Light’s clean electricity and will play a critical role in helping the City of Seattle reach its carbon neutral goal by 2050.

- The City Light chargers will situate the utility to partner with organizations that are developing community-focused transportation options.
WHAT ARE THE SITE CONSIDERATIONS FOR THE PROGRAM?

- Equitably distribute DC fast chargers across City Light’s service area (includes areas outside of the city of Seattle).
- Locate chargers near amenities and public transit options for zero-emission first mile/last mile transportation options.
- Serve historically underserved communities and areas with poor air quality.

WHAT IS THE PUBLIC OUTREACH PROCESS FOR THIS PROJECT?

Seattle City Light will be reaching out to West Seattle stakeholders and community groups to gather input on the proposed EV charging location. Seattle City Light will mail a notification out to addresses within the proposed site to inform the public of the project.

WHEN IS CONSTRUCTION SCHEDULED TO START?

City Light will begin the engineering and design process in the second/third quarter of 2019. Construction is scheduled to follow. Customers near the proposed location will be notified before any construction work begins.

WHO CAN I CONTACT FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE PROGRAM?

Seattle City Light Public EV Charging Team
SCL_ElectricVehicles@seattle.gov
(206) 684-3800
seattle.gov/light/electric-vehicles