2011 Council Study Issue

CDD 11-01 Requiring Electric Car Chargers in New Residential Developments

Lead Department Community Development

History **1 year ago** None **2 years ago** None

1. **What are the key elements of the issue? What precipitated it?**

   This study would examine the feasibility of requiring new residential dwelling units to be pre-wired for electrical vehicle charging. The majority of electrical vehicles on the market use 220 volt power for charging. All new homes are currently provided with 220 volt power from PG&E by their standards/requirements (which are set by the California Public Utility Commission). PG&E has been providing 220 volt power to residential buildings for over 60 years, as this type of power is a commonly used for appliances in residential buildings (i.e. clothes dryers or electric ranges). With the 220 volt power already supplied, adding a receptacle to the garage for vehicle charging would not be difficult or costly for a property owner.

   Pre-wiring the garage may increase the number of citizens purchasing electrical vehicles. Increased usage of electrical vehicles would result in improved air quality by reducing the emissions from fossil fuel-burning vehicles.

2. **How does this relate to the General Plan or existing City Policy?**

   Air Quality Sub-Element

   Policy A.2 - Reduce automobile emissions through traffic and transportation improvements. Since traffic congestion delays increase the level of emissions, congestion management has air quality benefits.

3. **Origin of issue**

   Council Member(s) Griffith, Whittum

4. **Staff effort required to conduct study** Moderate

5. **Multiple Year Project?** No **Planned Completion Year** 2011

6. **Expected participation involved in the study issue process?**

Does Council need to approve a work plan?	No
Does this issue require review by a Board/Commission?	No
If so, which?	
Is a Council Study Session anticipated?	No

7. **Briefly explain cost of study, including consultant hours, impacted budget program, required budget modifications, etc. and amounts if known.**

8. Briefly explain potential fiscal impact of implementing study results (consider capital and operating costs, as well as potential revenue).

9. Staff Recommendation

Staff Recommendation Against Study

If 'For Study' or 'Against Study', explain
Staff believes the study is not necessary since all residences are already provided with the voltage necessary to charge an electrical vehicle. Homeowners can easily add the required receptacle in the garage if needed. Additionally, demand for electrical cars is market driven and, therefore, developers would likely offer this option if the demand grows for electrical vehicles.

Reviewed by

4/21/10

Department Director **Date**

Approved by

4-22-10

City Manager **Date**