

COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND
Legislative Session 2022, Legislative Day No. 13

Resolution No. 29-22

Mr. Wade Kach, Councilman

By the County Council July 5, 2022

A RESOLUTION of the Baltimore County Council requesting that the Baltimore County Planning Board conduct a review of public electric vehicle charging stations and consider recommendations for possible amendments to the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to integrate this relatively new technology as a permitted use in said Regulations; this review should also include examining the laws, regulations, policies, and best practices of other similar counties and municipalities regarding the zoning, siting, and permitting of public electric vehicle charging stations. The Planning Board is requested to report its findings and recommendations to the County Council on or before February 1, 2023.

WHEREAS, during the past decade, the adoption of electric vehicles (EV) and plug-in hybrid vehicles (PHEV) has increased; as of October, 2021, nearly 40,000 registered EVs are registered in Maryland, representing an increase of over 10,000 new EVs registered just in 2021; and

WHEREAS, commitments by the state and federal government to expand EV infrastructure and accelerate electrification of fleets are providing new resources and incentives for businesses to build EV charging stations; and

WHEREAS, according the Maryland's Zero Emission Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council, EV charging generally falls into one of three categories. **Level 1 chargers** use a car's charge cord to plug into a common 120v outlet, available virtually everywhere. Most EVs can maintain more than 40 miles a day if charged overnight at home. A level 1 charger typically

takes 11-20 hours to fully charge. Each hour adds 2-5 miles of driving range. **Level 2 chargers** require additional equipment and utilize 240v outlet – similar to the power required for a washing machine. Level 2 charging is also available at public charging stations for a fee based upon kWh used. A 7.2 kWh level 2 charger typically takes 3-8 hours to fully charge. Each hour adds approximately 20 miles of driving range. **DC Fast Chargers** are typically available at commercial sites and along highways. Depending on battery size, DC Fast chargers can charge some EVs up to 80% in as few as 20-30 minutes. Each hour adds approximately 100 miles of driving range; and

WHEREAS, other Maryland jurisdictions have begun to integrate EV infrastructure into their planning polices and zoning regulations. For example, in December, 2020, Montgomery County developed a set of residential EV charging permitting guidelines and is integrating solar canopies in charging infrastructure and requires a fast track permitting process for public EV charging stations. In 2021, Prince George’s County purchased a fleet of 12 battery-electric buses and is building out a public EV charging system to accommodate both personal EVs and the new bus fleet. In recent years, Howard County (and other counties) enacted EV charging station requirements for new parking lots, such as requiring at least one out of every 50 parking spaces be reserved for a Level 2 Charger or a DC Fast Charger. Finally, on October 8, 2021, County Executive Olszewski signed Executive Order 2021-24, requiring all new and replacement passenger vehicles for the Baltimore County government fleet to be either a hybrid vehicle or an EV; and

WHEREAS, EV technology continues to evolve and the potentially adverse effects of charging stations and other required infrastructure on nearby residential communities – similar to the effects the proliferation of large fuel service stations have had on nearby neighborhoods – is still relatively unknown and should be studied and considered with any recommendations; and

WHEREAS, with the growing adoption of EVs, integration of public EV charging station requirements into the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations is needed to guide the demand for charging infrastructure; now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF BALTIMORE COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Baltimore County Planning Board is hereby requested to conduct a review of public electric vehicle charging stations and consider recommendations for possible amendments to the Baltimore County Zoning Regulations to integrate this relatively new technology as a permitted use in said Regulations; this review should also include examining the laws, regulations, policies, and best practices of other similar counties and municipalities regarding the zoning, siting, and permitting of public electric vehicle charging stations. The Planning Board is requested to report its findings and recommendations to the County Council on or before December 31, 2022.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this Resolution be sent to the Baltimore County Planning Board and the Department of Planning; and

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this Resolution shall take effect from the date of its passage by the County Council.