

Final Report
Local Government
MSRC Contract ML18161
City of Indio

Prepared for the Mobile Source Air Pollution Review Committee (MSRC) under the AB 2766 Discretionary Fund Work Program.

Acknowledgments

The City would like to acknowledge the contributions to this project from the following city staff:

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Disclaimer

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Project and Work Performed

The MSRC Local Grant provided funding to support the purchase of a light-duty zero emission vehicle and two public EV charging stations. The City purchased an all-electric Chevrolet Bolt that allows city staff the use of a vehicle that produces zero emissions. This vehicle added to the additional fleet vehicles that have been purchased or upgraded to reduce mobile source emissions from municipal services. The public charging stations were installed at City Hall located at 100 Civic Center Mall, Indio, 92201, and are capable of charging four vehicles at one time. The city purchased the EV chargers from ChargePoint and included an extended warranty to ensure the chargers would be maintained and in use for the duration of the grant contract.

Place Light-duty Zero Emission Vehicle into Service

The MSRC Local Grant provided partial funding for a zero emission Chevrolet Bolt. This vehicle has a range of over 200 miles. The total cost of the vehicle was \$35,473.15. Staff obtained a purchase order for the Bolt following city purchasing protocol. The vehicle was purchased utilizing \$10,000 from the MSRC grant and the balance was paid from the city's vehicle replacement fund. The vehicle was then given an internal asset number, delineated with Indio logo information and the MSRC funding information per the grant guidelines. The vehicle was then entered into services.

Install and Enter into Service EV Charging Stations

The City purchased CT4000 Level II EV Charging Stations from ChargePoint. The City started this project working to release an RFP however, learned that ChargePoint was approved through Sourcewell contract 051017-CPI, which allows the city to move forward with this contractor without a formal process. This allowed the project to move forward more efficiently. The City worked with Greenwealth to install the EV Chargers because they were a local approved installer for ChargePoint. The cost of the installation was \$71,173.48 and the MSRC grant funded \$15,000. The City utilized AB2766 funding to support the remaining costs. Costs included the charging units, concrete bollards and asphalt work to construct the "plumbing" for the chargers. The cost also included a 5 year Assure Plan for parts, repair and maintenance to ensure the chargers would be maintained and working for a minimum of 3 years per the grant specifications.

Problems Encountered

The City did not encounter any problems purchasing the zero emission vehicle. Vehicle purchases are done through the Fleet services department on an on-going basis and the purchase of the Bolt was consistent with the protocols and procedures for the purchase of any city vehicle.

The cost for purchase and installation of the EV Charging stations was much higher than anticipated. The City estimated approximately \$20,000 for the EV Charger project which actually cost \$71,173.48. The cost of the chargers alone was \$14,420 and there were also high costs for asphalt work, conduit and the extended warranty. The City was able to increase the allocation from the AB2677 funds to complete the project.

Originally, contract ML18161 included a project to purchase an on-road heavy-duty near zero emission vehicle. This funding was requested to purchase an alternative fuel street sweeper. The City identified a used sweeper for purchase however, it was found that the used sweeper would not meet the 0.02 g/bhp-hr NOx required to satisfy the grant conditions. In order to satisfy the emission reduction requirements, the city would have to purchase a new alternative fuel street sweeper. The used sweeper cost \$100,000 less than a new sweeper that would satisfy the grant emission requirement. The MSRC grant allowed \$25,000 toward the purchase of an on-road heavy-duty near zero emission vehicle therefore, the city purchased the used sweeper for fiscal reasons. The City requested a contract modification to remove the on-road heavy-duty near-zero emission vehicle project and this was approved. The City recommends increasing the maximum discretionary funds payable for on-road heavy-duty near-zero emission vehicles.

Emissions Benefits

According to Hirneisen (2022), the largest source of greenhouse gas emission in California are “mobile sources.” In 2020, the Governor signed Executive Order N-79-20 setting zero-emission vehicle targets for California including 100 percent of in-state sales of new passenger cars and light-duty trucks will be zero-emission by 2035. California created the ZEV Market Development Strategy, in part, to support Order N-79-20 and lower greenhouse gas emissions and toxic air contaminants from internal combustion vehicles in California. The zero emission vehicle purchased with support from the MSRC funding allowed another vehicle on road and path to a 100 percent zero emission vehicle future.

Charging stations alone do not quantify mobile source emission reductions however, zero emission electric vehicles cannot be adopted in a meaningful way without vast

charging station infrastructure. The California Zero-Emission Vehicle Market Development Strategy identifies infrastructure as one of the four pillars that are fundamental to ZEV market development (State of California, 2021). According to the California ZEV Market Development Strategy ZEV Pillar Priorities – Implementation, in most cases, charging stations must be installed ahead of demand. It is clear that EV charging stations supports the larger roll out of EVs (State of California, 2021).

These projects support the reduction of pollutants form mobile sources both directly and indirectly. The zero-emission vehicle directly reduces emissions and also indirectly educates about zero-emission vehicles through the grant required outreach. The charging stations provide the necessary infrastructure to support zero-emission vehicle adoption.

Photographs & Outreach

The City conducted a robust outreach program utilizing the website, social media posts and photos from the projects. The city also included information about the new chargers in the monthly electronic newsletter, Indio Live, in the November 2020 edition, volume 44. The city used photos of the electric vehicle, with the MSRC sticker, on social media posts to acknowledge the importance of zero emission vehicles and the support from MSRC and the AB2766 funds. The EV charging stations were also outreached using an informative approach, but also as a means to invite the public to utilize them. The city allows the first four hours of charging at no cost to the EV drivers.

ChargePoint Charging Stations at City Hall



Chevrolet Bolt Zero Emission Vehicle



PLUG IN!

Give your Volt a jolt at Indio's two new electric vehicle charging stations. The two dual port level 2 ChargePoint stations were installed in October, and will be ready for public use within the next two weeks, allowing for up to four vehicles to charge at one time.

The ChargePoint stations are available on the Smurr Street side of the parking lot directly east of City Hall, and initially will provide up to four hours

of free charging per vehicle each day.

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Summary and Conclusions

The MSRC Local Government Grant program supported the city's purchase of one all-electric zero emission vehicle and the purchase and installation of two (2) level two EV charging stations at city hall. These projects reduce air pollutants from mobile sources in both direct and indirect ways. The zero-emission vehicle operates without emissions and the EV charging stations support the adoption of more electric vehicles. The funding allowed the City to move forward with its own sustainability goals while also supporting some of the goals of the California Zero-Emission Market Development Strategy.

Works Cited

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