

BOARD MEETING DATE: September 1, 2023

AGENDA NO. 6

PROPOSAL: Approve Additional Funding for Residential Electric Vehicle Charging Incentive Program

SYNOPSIS: Since 2015, the Residential EV Charging Incentive Program provides rebates to offset the cost of residential Level 2 (240V) EV chargers. Currently, the program provides up to a \$250 rebate, plus an additional \$250 for low-income residents within the South Coast AQMD four-county jurisdiction. Staff is proposing to revise this program to focus solely on low-income residents while still providing the same \$500 rebate on a first come, first serve basis. This action is to request funding of up to \$200,000 from the Clean Fuels Program Fund (31) to continue the year-round Residential EV Charging Incentive Program.

COMMITTEE: Technology, August 18, 2023; Recommended for Approval

RECOMMENDED ACTION:

Approve funding of up to \$200,000 from the Clean Fuels Program Fund (31) to continue the Residential EV Charging Incentive Program.

Wayne Nastri
Executive Officer

AK:WS

Background

In September 2015, the Residential EV Charging Incentive Program was launched in part of the Governor's ZEV Action Plan, which set a goal of establishing infrastructure to support one million clean vehicles by 2020 and having 1.5 million clean vehicles on the road by 2025. Since its inception, the program has served residents within the South Coast AQMD four-county jurisdiction by providing incentive rebates to offset the hardware cost of Level 2 EV chargers. The Residential EV Charging Incentive Program is a first-come, first-served program offering rebates up to \$250 for the cost of hardware,

with an additional incentive of \$250, for a total of \$500, available for low-income residents. To date over 3,200 rebates have been provided under the program.

Proposal

This action is to approve the use of a total amount not to exceed \$200,000 from the Clean Fuels Program Fund (31) to continue the year-round Residential EV Charging Incentive Program for low-income residents only. The rebates will cover up to \$500 for the cost of hardware for Level 2 EV chargers. Participants will be required to complete and submit an application for the rebate along with documentation verifying low-income eligibility (e.g., utility bill showing low-income utility rate from California Alternate Rates for Energy or Family Electric Rate Assistance Program, or a current CalWorks or Temporary Assistance for Needy Families membership card). The EV charger installations will need to be hard-wired to ensure the most efficient and safest operational approach and participants must meet a three-year commitment to use the EV hardware funded under the program. This rebate program will continue until funds are expended or until staff returns to the Board to seek approval for additional funding in the future.

Benefits to South Coast AQMD

The Residential EV Charging Incentive Program will continue to accelerate deployment of PEVs and associated infrastructure to residents who are not early adopters of these technologies and might not otherwise purchase these vehicles, further reducing vehicle emissions and will assist to reduce NOx emissions, which are needed for the attainment of federal ozone standards. Also, the refocus of the program towards low-income areas is consistent with the Chair's priority.

Resource Impacts

Total funding for this Program shall not exceed \$200,000 from the Clean Fuels Fund (31). Sufficient funds are available from the Clean Fuels Fund (31), established as a special revenue fund resulting from the state-mandated Clean Fuels Program. The Clean Fuels Program, under Health and Safety Code Sections 40448.5 and 40512 and Vehicle Code Section 9250.11, establishes mechanisms to collect revenues from mobile sources to support projects to increase the utilization of clean fuels, including the development of the necessary advanced enabling technologies. Funds collected from motor vehicles are restricted, by statute, to be used for projects and program activities related to mobile sources that support the objectives of the Clean Fuels Program.