FACTSHEET

Commercial Garage Electric Vehicle Charging Ordinance

Ordinance No. 244-19 requires publicly accessible commercial garages and lots with 100+ parking spaces to install electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at 10% of parking spaces by January 1, 2023

2023 UPDATE

• The City and County of San Francisco understands that businesses have been impacted by the pandemic and some sites are still recovering.
• As a result, San Francisco Environment Department (SF Environment) is providing sites with additional time in 2023 to meet compliance or receive a waiver.
• SF Environment and San Francisco Police Department (SFPD) are working together to communicate ordinance requirements as part of the 2023 Commercial Garage Permit Renewal process.
• Failure to comply with the ordinance or complete the waiver process by end of 2023 may result in fines, or your permit to operate may be suspended or revoked.

Who is affected?

• The ordinance affects San Francisco-based parking garages and lots on privately owned land where the public may park or store motor vehicles for a fee (Police Code Sections 1215 through 1215.7).
• Residential-only parking facilities, free parking facilities, and City-owned garages and lots are excluded and will not be affected by the ordinance.

Why it’s important

• San Francisco’s Citywide EV Roadmap calls for all new cars to be zero emission by 2030 and all transportation in, out, and through the City to be zero emission by 2040.
• A recent study¹ shows that by 2030, 20% of light-duty cars registered in the City will be electric.
• San Francisco needs 6,000 public chargers to support these vehicles. As of January 2023, the City had about 830, thus the charging network needs to grow by nearly 20% per year to meet demand.

Get started – it’s as easy as 1, 2, 3

• Step 1: Contact at least two EV service providers (EVSPs) to arrange a site assessment and feasibility study. There is no approved list of EVSPs – check out these resources to get started:
  o EV Service Provider Information Packet
  o CALeVIP Connects
  o GoElectric Drive
  o Internet search

• Step 2: Work with the EVSP to consider next steps, including financing, incentives, and installation. EVSPs may provide funding to cover installation and maintenance costs. Consult with EVSPs directly for more details.

• Step 3: Complete an online compliance or waiver form to initiate the process with SF Environment. Once your form is approved, SF Environment will notify SFPD directly to update your records for future Commercial Garage Permit Renewal.

Incentives and financing

• Take advantage of incentive funding. Incentive programs may have strict application windows and eligibility requirements. Charging projects may be eligible for multiple incentives, so stay up-to-date to stack incentives and save more.

• Incentive funding may be available from state and regional agencies. Find out if your site qualifies for incentives:
  o DriveClean Incentive Tool
  o Subscribe to Clean Cities Newsletter for Incentive Updates

Charging station requirements

• Beginning January 1, 2023, affected garages and lots must provide Level 2 charging stations (less than 40 kW) to at least 10% of parking spaces, up to a maximum 200 stations.

• Alternatively, garages or lots may install DC fast charging stations (more than 40 kW)
  o Fewer than 750 parking spaces: at least 2 fast chargers
  o For every additional 250 parking spaces: 1 additional fast charger, up to a maximum of 8

Compliance and waivers

• Not all parking garages and lots have the capacity to install cost-effective charging. In that case, a full or partial waiver may be issued for:
  o Inability to supply sufficient electrical capacity to meet the requirements
  o Technical infeasibility to comply with the requirements due to site conditions
  o Financial infeasibility to comply with the requirements if garage/lot demonstrates good faith efforts to enter into an agreement with at least two EVSPs

• Sites that can only install a portion of required chargers should seek a partial waiver

• Sites that cannot accommodate any of the required chargers should seek a full waiver

Contact us

Stay informed! Email ChargingMadeEasy@sfgov.org to receive alerts about upcoming webinars, funding opportunities, and get your questions answered.