



## Memorandum

To: Members of Sustainability Committee

From: Michael Peters, Sustainability Coordinator

cc: Mayor David E. Weiss  
Jeri E. Chaikin, Chief Administrative Officer

Date: April 5, 2022

Re: **Electric Vehicle Infrastructure / Shaker Plaza**

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The City has been requested by Tesla to host a Supercharger electric vehicle charging location in the City-owned parking lot at Shaker Plaza. The site is the lower level parking lot adjacent to the shopping center and the RTA Blue Line rapid terminal. This Supercharger location would host 12 charging stations, which is reported by Tesla to be their standard configuration.

The addition of this infrastructure is consistent with the City's electric vehicle charging and overall sustainability initiatives. It is complementary to the electric vehicle charging stations installed by the City and in the nearby Van Aken District parking garage and in aggregate remains a small fraction of the overall public charging facilities that will be required as electric vehicle (EV) adoption continues to grow exponentially.

This location will establish the Van Aken District as a regional electric vehicle charging hub and is expected to benefit the City and its residents and businesses. A Supercharger location, which to date is rarely found away from an interstate highway, will be an attraction for EV drivers who will then likely patronize the local businesses in Shaker Plaza and the Van Aken District. This location will appear in all Tesla vehicles in the navigation system as a charging location and draw drivers to the area.

The much faster charging speeds of these chargers will also allow residents who live in multi-family housing and may not have access to charging to also realize the benefits of driving an EV (including much lower operating and maintenance costs).

Currently the Superchargers are limited to charging Tesla vehicles; however, Tesla has committed to opening the charging network to additional EVs and is piloting such a program in Europe currently. Tesla representatives have indicated that this location would similarly be opened to other EVs as the program is expanded to the U.S. (however no firm timeline has been announced). Additional DC Fast Chargers, similar in capacity to the Superchargers, are also scheduled to be installed through a NOACA program on Tuttle Road later this year. These will be compatible with nearly all EVs and mitigates the concerns over the initial limited availability of the Superchargers.

According to the Drive Ohio / ODOT database, as of January 2022 there are 98 battery electric vehicles registered in Shaker Heights. Of those, 68 are Tesla models, or 69%.

### **CITY OF SHAKER HEIGHTS**

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Tesla is requesting a license to install the 12 Superchargers and accompanying equipment in the City-owned parking area and it will be responsible for all costs associated with installing and operating the Superchargers. The agreement is being finalized but anticipates a 5-year initial term with two 5-year renewals. There is a relocation provision. The City would receive no revenues or direct payments. In contrast, the two DC Fast Chargers being installed by NOACA will be installed by NOACA but the City will assume operational responsibility, including the electric service. For the 2023 budget, \$12,000 is being projected for net costs to the City for operating the chargers.

The Sustainability Committee is requested to recommend to City Council that it authorize the Mayor to enter into the license agreement, once finalized, with Tesla for the construction and operation of the Shaker Heights Supercharger location. The Finance Committee will also review this matter prior to discussion by City Council.