



NEWS RELEASE

For Immediate Release

Contact:

*Sara Spaulding
Communications Director
970-244-1507
saras@gjcity.org*

THE CITY OF GRAND JUNCTION OPENS PUBLIC INPUT ON A DRAFT PLAN FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLE READINESS

GRAND JUNCTION, Colo. July 19, 2023 – The City of Grand Junction has developed a draft Electric Vehicle (EV) Readiness Plan that will prepare for and maximize the benefits of EV adoption for the motoring public. The public comment period for community input on the draft plan is now open at [EngageGJ.org/EV](https://engagegj.org/EV). The deadline for public comment is Monday, August 7, 2023.

As the largest city between Salt Lake City and Denver, the increase in charging infrastructure will help bolster economic development in the Grand Junction area via tourism and recreation and will ensure local EV drivers have convenient locations at which to charge their vehicles while traveling.

With the guidance of staff, consultants and the addition of community input, the city's council-appointed EV Action Team helped to develop and refine the goals, vision, and short and long-term strategies of the draft EV Readiness Plan.

"Located at the crossroads of two major regional travel corridors, Grand Junction is uniquely situated to benefit from the ongoing transition by many motorists to electric vehicles," stated Tamra Allen Community Development director. "Nearly 10 percent of newly registered vehicles in Colorado in 2022 were EVs, making the state one of the top-five national leaders in EV adoption. One million Colorado-registered EVs are expected to be on the road by 2030. By implementing infrastructure and policies that support EV drivers, the city will be well positioned to adapt to the changing needs of both regional and local drivers," continued Allen. This effort further implements the city's adopted 2020 One Grand Junction Comprehensive Plan which called for the city to identify needs and expand electric vehicle charging stations as part of the city's infrastructure and the regional electric vehicle charging network.

Over the past seven months, the city has been working with consultants from Partners in Energy, a free Xcel Energy consulting service, to create a plan that will help Grand Junction maximize the local benefits of increased EV adoption, while supporting fair access and realistic opportunities across the community. Focus areas of the plan include incentivizing public adoption of electrified mobility options, increasing public charging infrastructure, and transitioning institutional fleets.

###