

# FAQ PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE EV CHARGERS



## **Q: What are EV chargers?**

A: EV chargers or EVSE (Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment) are equipment used to recharge the battery in an electric vehicle (EV). Just like gas-powered vehicles need to refuel with gasoline, electric vehicles need to refuel with electricity.

## **Q: I heard there are different levels of chargers. What are they?**

A: There are Level 1, Level 2, and DC Fast Chargers. Each EV comes with a Level 1 charger, which plugs into a standard 120v outlet and can fully charge the vehicle in about 20 hours. Some EV owners purchase and pay an electrician to install a Level 2 charger for use at home: Level 2 chargers require a 240v outlet and can fully charge an EV in about 4 hours. Level 2 and DC Fast Chargers (which can fully charge an EV in about 20 minutes) are also publicly available in fixed locations around Baltimore City. They are usually slim cabinets with a cord and plug that electric vehicle owners park next to and plug in to recharge their vehicle.

## **Q: What does PABC have to do with EV chargers?**

A: Although many EV owners charge at home, substantial numbers of Baltimore City residents do not have a garage or parking pad to do this. Those EV owners have to rely on publicly accessible chargers. PABC helps decide where to locate EV chargers on city-owned property, like in public garages and lots, in city parks, and within the city right-of-way (on the street). PABC is working to make these publicly accessible chargers safe, accessible, and distributed equitably, and to limit impacts on existing parking.

# FAQ PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE EV CHARGERS P2



## **Q: What does PABC look for in a good EV charger location?**

A: EV chargers on city property should be accessible the vast majority of the time, ideally 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Beyond accessibility, PABC is generally interested in facilitating EV chargers on city property in locations that have relatively high population density, are near amenities used by multiple populations, and limit interference with existing parking.

In addition, PABC and other city agencies are committed to locating a significant portion of new publicly-accessible EV chargers within Equity Zones (defined as census tracts in the lowest quartile of household median income for Baltimore). Other considerations include proximity to an interstate highway, hospital, or grocery store. Some locations are not feasible because of the lack of necessary electrical connections.

## **Q: Where can I find publicly accessible chargers in Baltimore City?**

A: Many different companies have installed publicly accessible chargers in Baltimore City. You can use various websites or apps to see where they are located and view information about each charger. [Open Charge Map](#), [PlugShare](#), and [ChargeHub](#) are three options. [Maryland EV](#) is also helpful.

# FAQ PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE EV CHARGERS P3



**Q: Who can use the publicly accessible EV chargers on city property?**

A: Anyone with an electric vehicle can use these chargers.

**Q: Do the publicly accessible chargers on city-owned property work with any EV?**

A: Many publicly accessible chargers on city-owned property can charge any EV. Tesla owners may need to use their Tesla adapters. However, it is advisable to always check a particular charger's details online before visiting. All maps publish plug details, and many indicate if the charger is offline or currently being used.

**Q: Does it cost money to charge an electric vehicle?**

A: It depends on the charging station. EV chargers located in garages or lots may require a fee to enter the facility. EV chargers on-street where parking demand is high may require paying a meter. In addition, some charging stations require a fee to charge your EV. You may need to download an app to charge your vehicle.

**Q: How fast will my EV charge?**

A: On city property, there are both Level 2 chargers and DC fast chargers. For a typical EV, Level 2 chargers can add about 25 miles of range to your battery for every hour of charging. DC Fast charging can add over 100 miles of range in 30 minutes.

# FAQ PUBLICLY ACCESSIBLE EV CHARGERS P4



**Q: Can I park in EV charging spaces even if I don't have an electric vehicle?**

A: No. Only actively charging electric vehicles are allowed to park in designated charging spaces in Baltimore City. The charger locations on city-owned property are being vetted to ensure limited impacts on existing parking.

**Q: If I'm not in my vehicle, how will I know when my EV is done charging?**

A: For most charging stations, there is a remote alert system; you will get a notification on your smartphone.