

# DRIVING TOWARDS AN ELECTRIC FUTURE: POLICY & RESEARCH FOR ELECTRIC VEHICLES

## RESILIENT COMMUNITIES PROJECT

The City of St. Anthony Village is a first-ring suburb adjacent to Northeast Minneapolis, Columbia Heights, New Brighton, and Roseville. The city is located in both Hennepin and Ramsey Counties and there are an estimated 4,248 households, with a total city population of 9,234.



### Project description

The purpose of this project is to explore the feasibility of electric vehicle and bike (EV) infrastructure within St. Anthony Village, considering the growing popularity of EVs throughout the Twin Cities, the state and the entire country.

As the number of St. Anthony residents who have purchased EVs continues to rise, City Hall staff receive more frequent inquiries and requests to make EV infrastructure available to support this growing transportation technology.

This is a timely topic that larger communities around St. Anthony (including St. Paul, Golden Valley, and St. Louis Park) have started exploring in recent years, yet our small city size poses challenges when trying to find resources and staff time to explore this topic on our own.

Our project goal is to become better informed on the research and policy aspects of making EV chargers available to our residents and visitors, either in the near future or in the longer-term. We also hope to gain knowledge of further considerations regarding restrictions and limitations for implementation in a community of this size.

## Key issues, questions, and ideas to explore

1. Research and compile case studies demonstrating EV charging policies and programs in surrounding suburbs and greater Minnesota.
  - a. What are other cities and communities doing to promote or incentivize the use of such infrastructure?
  - b. Are there common standards generally being used to evaluate matters such as charger location, city vs. user payment for electricity, charger types?
  - c. What kinds of ordinances have been passed and what is applicable and scalable for St. Anthony Village?
2. How much charger usage would be from local residents vs. residents of other cities who are just passing through? Is there value in serving non-residents by providing electric chargers?
3. Establish a community engagement initiative to obtain data about community support and opinions regarding EV infrastructure through formal surveys and other means.
  - a. Are residents supportive of such an initiative? Is there a true interest and current demand in the city that needs to be met, or is it only perceived?

## How will students' work be used to build community resiliency?

- To directly inform priorities and direction for a potential EV ordinance in the city, or a draft model ordinance written by students themselves (time permitting).
- To facilitate city leader's understanding of the community's opinions on installed EV infrastructure and to provide background and context for city staff and elected officials to learn foundational information on EV technology and infrastructure design.

## Potential community partners or stakeholders

- Three Rivers Park District: Silverwood Park
- Minneapolis Park & Recreation Board: Gross National Golf Club
- Citizens for Sustainability Parks & Environmental Commission
- St. Anthony Village: Tesla Car Club
- Commercial property owners

## Existing Plans & Reports

- 2040 Comprehensive Plan (2018)
- St. Anthony Sustainability Plan (2012)
- Case study: The Landings at Silver Lake Village, a multi-family housing complex in St. Anthony
- Summary of Best Practices in Electric Vehicle Ordinances, report by Great Plains Institute (includes ordinance language for St. Paul, Golden Valley, St. Louis Park)

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