



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: December 17, 2013

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Facilities Division, Public Works Department

SUBJECT: Renewal Of Electric Vehicle Charging Network Services Agreement

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council authorize the Public Works Director to negotiate and execute a five-year contract with ChargePoint, Inc., subject to approval of the City Attorney, for continued enrollment in the ChargePoint Network.

DISCUSSION:

In 2012, the City entered into an agreement with Coulomb Technologies (now ChargePoint, Inc.) to acquire and install eight Electric Vehicle (EV) charging stations. Two stations were installed at the Granada Garage, two at the Library Garage, two at the Helena Street Lot, and two at the Waterfront. ChargePoint, Inc. installed the EV charging stations and offered its network operating software known as "ChargePoint Network" at no cost to the City for one year. The original one year agreement will be terminating on December 31, 2013 and City staff desires to continue using ChargePoint, Inc. as its network service provider for operation of the EV charging stations.

The ChargePoint Network is a financial and energy use information system. It allows users to find open EV charging stations, keep track of usage and, in some instances, it allows for advance reservation of a particular station. Because it is the largest network of its kind, it allows for greater accessibility to EV travelers. The network also allows the City to run reports on energy use and how often the stations are used. As part of this service, ChargePoint, Inc. charges an annual per station fee.

Additionally, the ChargePoint Network provides revenue processing services on the City's behalf through the collection of fees generated while a vehicle is utilizing the charging station. In exchange for providing these revenue processing services ChargePoint, Inc. assesses a per-session processing fee of 10% of the total session fee.

Currently, users pay a charging fee of \$1/hour. Under the terms of the contract, 10% of this fee will be retained by ChargePoint for revenue processing and the remaining 90% (\$0.90/hr of charging) will be remitted to the City. The revenue collected by the City is used to offset energy costs and ChargePoint Network fees. Users of the charging stations are subject to parking fees, where applicable.

Now that the initial subscription is expiring, staff recommends renewal of the City's subscription to the ChargePoint network. Due to a reduced rate for a multi-year subscription, staff recommends entering into a five-year agreement with ChargePoint. The charging stations acquired by the City are proprietary to the ChargePoint system so the City must subscribe to the ChargePoint network services in order to collect revenue. The City could opt not to subscribe to these services and provide electric vehicle charging for free. During this first year of operation, ChargePoint has provided customer service with minimal user complaints and has provided the City with reports, when asked in a timely manner.

BUDGET/FINANCIAL INFORMATION:

The annual fees levied by ChargePoint for all eight stations are as follows:

Station	1-year renewal	2-year renewal	3-year renewal	4-year renewal	5-year renewal
Cost per/year	\$1,840	\$1,640	\$1,547	\$1,500	\$1,456
Total	\$1,840	\$3,280	\$4,640	\$6,000	\$7,280

There will be a savings of \$1,920 over five years if the City commits to 5-year service contract with ChargePoint, as shown in the table above.

The City has received \$4,175.38 in revenue since the start of the charging program in August of 2012. Staff anticipates that the energy and services costs will be offset by the revenue received from station use, and expects to see increasing use of the stations.

Six of the charging stations are managed by the City's Downtown Parking Program and two charging stations are managed by the Waterfront Department. There are sufficient funds in each department's budget for the annual fees.

SUSTAINABILITY IMPACT:

Electric vehicles use electricity from California's electrical grid. As the percentage of renewable electrical energy increases in California, more of the transportation sector emissions will use renewable energy, reducing greenhouse gas emissions. There have been 2,901 charging sessions since the stations launched in April of 2012, which have resulted in an estimated savings of 7,366 kg of greenhouse gas emissions and 2,201 gallons of gasoline.

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SUBMITTED BY: Rebecca Bjork, Acting Public Works Director

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office