On August 5, 2021, President Biden signed an Executive Order that sets an ambitious new target for the country to make half of all new vehicles purchased by 2030 zero-emissions, including battery electric, plug-in hybrid electric, or fuel cell electric vehicles. This $7.5 billion dollar plan will include a path towards a national Electric Vehicle (EV) network in partnership with the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) and other labor leaders.

In Los Angeles, previous efforts such as the LA Green New Deal (2019), and the LA Sustainability Plan (2015) have placed goals for EV installation throughout the city. In 2019, the Department of Water and Power Board of Commissioners adopted a resolution (Board Resolution 20-024, Aug 27, 2019) authorizing the prioritization and funding of City transportation and electrification projects through the development of MOUs. Through the sale and utilization of Low Carbon Fuel Standards (LCFS) developed by the LADWP (AB 32), the board action was executed to reduce the carbon intensity of transportation fuels. Departments including Recreation and Parks and General Services have executed several MOUs for EV installation. The practical purpose of this policy was to build infrastructure to support the electrification of gas or diesel powered vehicles, including cars, buses, trucks, shuttles, trains, and all other transportation.

Now is the time for the City to create a citywide electric vehicle strategic long term infrastructure plan, unifying all efforts in coordination with City agencies to maximize placement while taking advantage of federal and state funding and policy efforts. The Biden and Newsom administrations have and are working on the expansion of dollars in this area, with a focus on urgently fighting the climate crisis. The recent LA100 plan also identifies the electrification of the transportation sector as a key and necessary provision in a 100% carbon free Los Angeles. The placement of EV infrastructure will be essential to our energy goal’s success, as the location, time and length of said vehicle charging will play a significant role in the defined energy and financial benefits to both the resident and city.

The Department of Water and Power with the assistance of each partner city agency, building upon previous work, should report on recommendations to streamline current EV projects, while focusing on the creation of a citywide Electric Vehicle Master Plan that prioritizes smart and equitable placement of these transportation resources.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the Department of Water and Power, with the assistance of appropriate City agencies, create a strategic long term citywide Electric Vehicle Master Plan that prioritizes smart and equitable placement of Electric Vehicle infrastructure citywide. This plan should include incentives for the adoption of Electric Vehicles for both residential and commercial / industrial customers, with a focus on maximizing current and future renewable infrastructure.

Presented By: MITCH O’FARRELL
Councilmember, 13th District

Presented By: PAUL KREKORIAN
Councilmember, 2nd District

Seconded By: [Signature]

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