



TOWN OF MOUNT DESERT SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE

DISCUSSION DRAFT

Electric Vehicle Charger Policy

The Town of Mt Desert (TMD) maintains electric vehicle charging stations to support its goals for economic development and sustainability. TMD desires not to unfairly compete with private efforts providing the same service.

Therefore:

1. TMD owned and/or managed electric vehicle chargers open to the public must charge an energy rate that meets or exceeds the Town's ongoing costs to maintain and manage the chargers.
2. TMD owned and/or managed electric vehicle chargers will limit time on charge to two hours for the months of May-October inclusive. The cost of energy shall triple after two hours.
3. TMD owned vehicles should not charge on public chargers.
4. Parking slots allocated for electric vehicle charging shall be posted as No Parking for non-electric vehicles subject to \$100 usage fee.

DISCUSSION

As electric vehicles [Battery Electric (BEV), Plug in Hybrid Electric (PHEV)] gain market share the rationale for providing free or low-cost energy at electric vehicle charging stations to attract traffic for economic development no longer holds. Drivers certainly prefer free energy but are otherwise almost price independent, reacting more to the fact that a charger is available. An owner will not drive to a village of TMD simply to obtain free or low-cost energy. Additionally, taxpayers of TMD otherwise have no interest in using tax dollars to support travel by visitors or residents having concluded that electric vehicle use is adequately supported by the qualities of the vehicles themselves as well as substantial State and Federal incentives.

It is now customary in the marketplace to limit time on charger with the goal of providing maximum access to charging. The travel distance gained with two hours of Level 2 charging varies by vehicle but is adequate to provide on average about 50 miles of range.

TMD has difficulty providing adequate parking spaces for residents and visitors during the prime season. It behooves the TMD to protect charging slots for the use of charging vehicles.