

Resolution No. \_\_\_\_

RESOLUTION: To approve the Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan in support of the transition to clean fuel vehicles to reduce greenhouse gas emissions

WHEREAS, the transportation sector is the second largest source of greenhouse gas emissions (35%) in Rockville and is a contributing factor to air pollution and climate change, threatening the health of our residents and the environmental sustainability of our planet; and

WHEREAS, the Washington DC metropolitan region, including Montgomery County, is currently designated as non-attainment for the federal health standards for ozone pollution and a primary source is motor vehicle emissions from petroleum fuel combustion; and

WHEREAS, electrification of on-road vehicles is needed to achieve deep reductions in carbon pollution, and the benefits grow over time as utilities transition to higher levels of clean renewable energy; and

WHEREAS, the City of Rockville supports the transportation sector's transition to clean fuel vehicle technologies, including vehicle electrification and charging infrastructure, to meet its goals for reducing greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, electric vehicle and plug-in hybrid electric vehicle ownership in Rockville more than doubled from 2021 to 2023 and is increasing throughout the United States, and the availability of home, work, and publicly accessible charging is a key barrier to further adoption of electric-only vehicles identified in the Rockville Electric Vehicle Survey; and

WHEREAS, home charging is the most common and convenient way to charge electric vehicles and many City residents face barriers to home charging including renting their home, residing in a multi-unit apartment or condominium development that lacks chargers, or lack of a garage, driveway or designated parking space; and

WHEREAS, local governments can take action to support the move towards adoption of clean fuel vehicle technology, including electric vehicles (EVs), such as streamlining permitting, leveraging grants and partnerships to install publicly accessible charging stations on City-owned property, modifying codes and ordinances to support or require charging infrastructure, conducting

education and outreach, converting their fleets to clean fuel vehicles and installing fleet chargers, and other strategies; and

WHEREAS, the Rockville Comprehensive Plan and Climate Action Plan recognize that a sustainable transportation system involves access to safe bicycle and pedestrian facilities, transit, access to walkable and bikeable destinations, and electrification of vehicles for unavoidable trips as part of an overall strategy to expand safe, efficient, affordable, and equitable multi-model transportation options that utilize clean and efficient energy sources and reduce reliance on vehicles; and

WHEREAS, the Rockville Climate Action Plan includes action C-11 to “Develop a Rockville Community Electric Vehicle (EV) Readiness Plan” and outlines a strategy to further accelerate electric vehicle conversions and assist in meeting infrastructure needs; and action C-12 to “require new developments and redevelopments to be electric vehicle ready” to help meet demand for electric vehicle charging; and

WHEREAS, the Rockville Climate Action Plan includes action M-06 to “convert the City fleet to cleaner and more efficient fuel sources” and M-07 to “establish a new Capital Improvement Project to expand electric vehicle charging infrastructure on City property to serve employees, fleet and the community” which was funded in the FY 2023 budget and used to leverage grant funding opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and Council of Rockville adopted Resolution 02-22 to transition the City’s fleet to clean fuels and establish a petroleum reduction goal of reducing gasoline and diesel consumption of the City’s on-road fleet vehicles by 20 percent between FY 2023 and FY 2028, using a petroleum consumption baseline of fiscal year 2019 to reflect pre-pandemic fuel consumption conditions, and is implementing the fleet plan; and

WHEREAS, the Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan recommends four goals and twenty-six actions based on a review of community feedback, electric vehicle ownership and charging needs projections, current policies, codes and permitting processes, charger business models, incentives and funding sources, and best practices to support equitable electric vehicle and charging opportunities; and

WHEREAS, the Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan involves coordination with the State of Maryland, the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments, Montgomery County, Pepco, Maryland Clean Energy Center, and others to ensure consistency throughout the region and form partnerships to leverage funding opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE MAYOR AND COUNCIL OF ROCKVILLE, MARYLAND, that:

1. The Electric Vehicle Readiness Plan is hereby approved;
2. The Mayor and Council directs the City Manager to implement the Electric Vehicle Readiness Recommendations; and
3. The Mayor and Council directs the City Manager to report progress as part of the annual report on the Climate Action Plan.

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I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution adopted by the Mayor and Council at its meeting of March 24, 2025 .

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Sara Taylor-Ferrell, City Clerk/Director of Council Operations