



MAR VISTA COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Marvista.org

Community Impact Statement



TITLE: [Council File 23-1056 \(E-BIKE SUBSIDY PROGRAM / LOCAL REBATES / RESIDENTIAL CHARGING STATIONS\)](#)

COMMITTEE: Transportation, Infrastructure, and Sustainability (TI&S) Committee

POSITION: SUPPORT

THE MOTION: The Mar Vista Community Council supports the development of an e-bike incentive program in Los Angeles, helping people to acquire e-bikes as an incentive (akin to the EV incentive) to transition away from carbonized vehicles.

BACKGROUND: At the end of 2023, the Council adopted a motion requesting that the Department of Water and Power submit a report to City Council on the feasibility of an e-bike incentive program. The brief report was submitted at the end of April and encouraged the creation of an e-bike subsidy program, but the Energy and Environment Committee and the broader Council have not yet taken action on it.

As a reminder, the most popular electric vehicles are not cars—they are electric bikes, which outsold electric cars in 2021 and 2022. They can increase the reasonable range of two-wheeled commuting from 5 miles to 25 miles. Because of their motor assistance, e-bikes can be a true car replacement, especially given that the majority of trips within Los Angeles are less than 3 miles. They allow anyone to be able to go up a hill, carry groceries or children, and arrive without breaking a sweat. While there are many federal and state incentives for people to buy electric cars (EVs), there are no currently active federal, state, or local incentives in Los Angeles that lower the cost of purchasing an e-bike, despite the fact that e-bikes are far better for the environment than electric cars. Programs in other cities, such as Denver, have been wildly popular and have helped people move to an e-bike for their daily errands, reducing vehicle miles traveled. Santa Monica also has an e-bike rebate program for all incomes and plans to expand its subsidies greatly for low-income residents. The North Westwood Neighborhood Council and the Del Rey Neighborhood Council both support this program.

Given that this program is targeted at electric options, and not all alternate modes, our Council also wanted to emphasize the importance of considering how to incentivize the use of other modes as well. For example, bikes, which are even cheaper than e-bikes, could be subsidized as a commuting vehicle. If the program does move from a LADWP program to a LADOT-administered program, the City should consider how efficient it would be to subsidize several active transportation modes, such as e-bikes, bikes, e-scooters, and more, under this same program.



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DIRECTED TO: City Council and Committees, including the Energy and Environment Committee

Katy Yaroslavksy and CD5

Traci Park and CD11

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ACTION/VOTE COUNT:

MVCC T&I Committee meeting, July 15th, 2024

Motion of support moved by Figone, seconded by Kuhns

Motion of support approved by MVCC TI&S Committee 5Y-0N-0A

MVCC Board Meeting, January 24th, 2024

Motion of support moved by Director XXX, seconded by Director XXX

Motion of support approved by the MVCC Board XX-XX-XX

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