



STAFF REPORT
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF COBOURG

Regular Council

Report to: Mayor, Deputy Mayor, and Councillors
From: Brian Geerts; Director, Community Services
Report Number: (assigned by Clerks)
Council Meeting Date: 18 December 2024
Subject: **EV ChargeON Grant Award**

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1. Recommendation:

THAT Council receive this report for information purposes,

FURTHER THAT Council accepts the award of the EV ChargeON – Community Stream Program grant funding - \$30,000 for Albert St Public Parking Lot, Four Level 2 ports,

FURTHER THAT Council authorizes the Mayor and Clerk to execute the funding agreement and enabling bylaw, recognizing that the project is subject to detailed technical review,

FURTHER THAT Council authorizes the Mayor to send thank-you letters to the members of the EV Charger volunteer team, commending them on their service to the Town of Cobourg.

2. Executive Summary:

The EV ChargeON program provides funding for installing public electric vehicle (EV) chargers in Ontario communities outside of major cities.

EV ChargeON aims to:

- increase the number of public EV charging stations throughout Ontario to build a more connected network

- make public chargers more accessible and affordable
- encourage more people to switch to EVs.

The Town of Cobourg applied 4 times to the program for four public parking sites: Marina, Covert St, Community Centre, and Albert St parking lots. Albert St was awarded funding.

3. Background

The grant focuses on specific target areas outside of major centres:

EV charging station sites must:

- be publicly accessible 24/7
- at minimum, include at least one of:
 - four Level 2 ports
 - one Level 3 port and one Level 2 port
 - two Level 3 ports
- include the following connector types:
 - Level 2 chargers: SAE J1772 standard connector
 - Level 3 chargers: Combined Charging System (CCS) connectors must represent a minimum of 25% of the connectors at a site; remaining connectors may include CCS, NACS, and/or CHAdeMO
- be located in a community with a population of 170,000 or less or in any Indigenous community in Ontario

More detail is available here:

[Electric vehicle \(EV\) ChargeON Program | ontario.ca](https://www.ontario.ca/electric-vehicle-chargeon-program)

Knowing that grants may become available in the future, during the 2024 Capital budget process, the Council approved project 2474123, “EV Charger Project.” The estimated project cost was \$120,000 and the Grants and Subsidies target was -\$108,000. This revenue forecast left a net tax requirement of \$12,000.

4. Discussion:

The Town applied four times for four public parking sites in February of 2024. Staff completed a survey in July 2024 to confirm that the Town was still interested in the project applications. Funding was awarded to one site, the Albert St. parking lot, in late November of 2024.

The EV Chargers volunteer group was coordinated through Community Services and heavily researched the details of these grant applications. Members of the group included:

- David Kuhnke
- Randy Curtis
- Kent Shadwick

- Judy Smith

This highly active group did thorough research into potential public charger sites, equipment, and servicing, interviewed local vendors, organized several meetings, and surveyed other municipalities as comparators. The volunteer team was highly effective, communicated well, and worked closely with the grant and policy writer to submit the Town's applications.

While the funding is confirmed, further work is required to confirm the site location, ensure details of site compatibility, update the parking regulations and signage, consult stakeholders, implement the project, and initiate maintenance practices. The Town already has access to competitive pricing for grant-compliant equipment through group purchasing contracts.

This report and resolution need to be considered at this time to meet the requirements of the funding agreement:

- Council resolution and signed copy of agreement returned to Ministry by December 20, 2024.

5. Financial Impact and Budget

The award for the project, as detailed in the attachments to this report, is \$30,000. This may fund up to 75% of the project, as detailed in the funding guide. The amount of Town funding from the existing 2024 capital project 2474123, \$12,000, is sufficient to cover the remaining 25% and includes a small contingency amount.

While staff are confident that the detailed preparations for this project will ensure its success, if yet unknown insurmountable challenges are uncovered, the grant funding can be returned to the EVChargeON program. The Ministry of Transportation will direct the funding to another suitable site.

The new EV chargers will be user-pay and will not incur additional utility expenses for the Town.

6. Relationship to Council's Strategic Plan Priorities 2023 to 2027 and beyond:

Thriving Community

Provide the physical infrastructure to support a healthy community that will enable each of us to flourish and reach our full potential

Service Excellence

Embrace new technologies that will improve customer service and increase efficiency and accessibility.

Sustainability

Further our commitments to environmental leadership.

7. Public Engagement:

This report was published publicly as part of the Council agenda process. The research, funding application, and monitoring was completed by a diligent group of community-minded residents.

8. Attachments:

Funding award letter and agreement.

9. Report Not Considered by Standing Committee Because:

Time Sensitive Issue (information received too late for Standing Committee consideration)

Urgent Matter (issue arose after this month's Standing Committee Meeting)

Other: Click or tap here to enter text.

Report Approval Details

Document Title:	EV ChargeON Grant.docx
Attachments:	- EV ChargeON Letter of Agreement 2024-01-1-2361619760.pdf
Final Approval Date:	Dec 13, 2024

This report and all of its attachments were approved and signed as outlined below:

No Signature - Task assigned to Tracey Vaughan, Chief Administrative Officer was completed by workflow administrator Kristina Lepik

Tracey Vaughan, Chief Administrative Officer - Dec 13, 2024 - 11:43 AM