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CITY OF WESTMINSTER INSTALLS FIRST ELECTRIC CHARGING STATIONS

CITY OF WESTMINSTER, CA - [February 21, 2017] - The City of Westminster is installing the first Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations in the city to promote the use of clean air vehicles. With the help of a grant of \$115,000 in Clean Transportation Funding from the Mobile Source Air Pollution Reduction Review Committee (MSRC), the City is installing five dual-chargers and one single DC fast charger at the new Civic Center parking garage for public use, and four single chargers at the City's Corporation Yard for the City's fleet use.

The City received funding through the MSRC's Local Government Match Program, which provides a dollar-for-dollar match to co-fund clean air projects implemented by eligible cities and counties within the South Coast region. The MSRC allocates Clean Transportation Funding from a \$4 surcharge on vehicle license fees, specifically to be used for local projects designed to reduce air pollution from mobile sources such as cars, trucks and buses. Over its 25-year history, the MSRC has distributed more than \$400 million in funding to innovative clean air projects, like Westminster's new charging stations, throughout Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino Counties that have helped to remove as much as 13,000 tons of air pollution from the skies of Southern California.

The City's matching funds, in the same amount as the grant, enabled it to expand the scope of the project. "Currently there is a lack of charging stations between the 22 and 405 Freeways," noted Marwan N. Youssef, Public Works Director/City Engineer, "This project will fill the void and provide an overall better EV charging network for drivers of electric and plug-in hybrid vehicles" Youssef added. Moreover, now that the City has its own charging stations, it will begin to explore purchasing clean fueled vehicles for its fleet to take advantage of these new fueling opportunities.

With all the recent improvements to the Civic Center, the addition of EV chargers will be a big plus. The Civic Center houses a courthouse, a library, a theater, banquet facility, as well as Coastline Community College. "With visitors coming to these venues, there will likely be a big demand for the new charging stations" Youssef explained.

The project should be completed by the end of March.

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