

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY COUNCIL

COMMITTEE REPORT

2022 Legislative Session

Reference No.: CR-120-2022

Draft No.: 2

Committee: Committee of the Whole

Date: 10/18/2022

Action: FAV/A

REPORT:

Committee Vote: Favorable as Amended, 11-0 (In Favor: Council Members Hawkins, Harrison, Burroughs, Dernoga, Franklin, Glaros, Ivey, Medlock, Streeter, Taveras, Turner)

The Committee of the Whole convened on October 18, 2022, to discuss this legislation.

CR-120-2022 (DR-2) is concerning the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure and Deployment Advisory Group.

The purpose of establishing an Electric Vehicle Infrastructure and Deployment Advisory Group is to study the feasibility of establishing an Electric Vehicle Purchasing Cooperative in the County.

This resolution is patterned after Montgomery County's launching of the region's first Electric Vehicle Purchasing Cooperative, a pilot program that it is working with the MWCOG to expand across the region to encourage residents and businesses to buy EVs, as well as help the county reach its greenhouse gas reduction goals.

Similarly, Prince George's County would solicit co-op members and partners to seek to educate residents and businesses and negotiate favorable pricing for EV purchases and leases on behalf of those who have taken the pledge to commit to the purchase of EV's.

The pilot program also will include information resources for consumers and dealerships, as well as a program to offer EV training to dealership sales teams and support residents and local businesses in owning electric vehicles (EVs).

Online education and resource hub -- together with an expanding network of community partners, participating organizations, and dealers -- will answer consumer questions, support unique local benefits for EV drivers, and make EV ownership attractive, convenient, and cost-effective.

The Electric Vehicle Infrastructure and Deployment Advisory Group shall be comprised of seven voting members with staggered two-year terms. The Directors or their designees of the Department of the Environment, the Office of Central Services, the Department of Public Works and

Transportation, the Department of Permitting, Inspections and Enforcement and the Prince George's County Planning Department, as well as, if feasible, a representative of the Metropolitan Washington

Council of Governments are ex officio nonvoting members of the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure and Deployment Advisory Group. If determined advantageous and desirable, it may be reauthorized in subsequent years by Council Resolution.

The Electric Vehicle Infrastructure and Deployment Advisory Group shall include one member representing the banking industry, one member representing utility companies, two members of a non-profit organizations, one member representing consumers, one member representing the automotive industry, and one member representing dealership sales teams.

An Electric Vehicle Purchasing Cooperative shall be established in the County, if deemed feasible and recommended by the Electric Vehicle Infrastructure and Deployment Advisory Group.

If established, the Electric Vehicle Purchasing Cooperative, in conjunction with the County through the Community-Wide EV Deployment Strategy, shall facilitate a public-private-partnership/philanthropic or multi-government partnership for the provision of Community-wide training, best practices, educational resources, and analysis support, creating a one-stop shop to support EV transitions.

Proposed DR-2 has two amendments.

On page 3, strike beginning with County in line 9 down through the second “the” in line 10. On page 3, strike line 27 and substitute “Council Resolution”. These amendments provide for the Council’s appointment of members to its Citizens Advisory Board.

Council Member Taveras, the sponsor of the legislation, thanked the members for considering and supporting this legislation and indicated that this legislation will move the County forward and help position the County in supporting EV fleets and developing additional public-private partnerships.

Ms. Terry Bell, the County Executive’s Legislative Liaison to the County Council, expressed the County Executive’s support for the legislation.

Mr. Kenneth Battle, Committee Director for the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment Committee indicated that the Electric Vehicle Purchasing Cooperative aligns with the County’s Climate Action Draft Plan pertaining to transportation. According to the Draft Plan, currently there are approximately 620,000 vehicles on the road in the County and to support the goal of 50% emissions reduction by 2030, the County aims to have at least 15% of those vehicles (approximately 100,000) powered by electricity. To support this transformation of the transportation sector, the County will develop a Community-Wide EV Deployment Strategy by 2024.

Mr. Alex Hirtle, Legislative Budget and Policy Analyst, in his Policy Analysis and Fiscal Impact Statement provided in-depth information about incentives for electric vehicle purchasing provided in local jurisdictions, other states and other countries. Mr. Hirtle identified the opportunity the County has to meet its greenhouse gas emission reduction goals through transitioning both private and business vehicles from internal combustion to electric vehicles.

After the discussion, the Committee voted favorably with amendments on CR-120-2022 (DR-2) by a vote of 11-0.