Yarra Ranges Council Public Electric Vehicle Charging on Council Land Policy <2026>

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Approved by <Council/ELT>:	<MONTH YEAR>
Review Date:	<2 Years TBC >
Policy Owner:	<CEO/Director/Manager/Executive Officer>
Applicable to:	<E.g. All Council Employees>

Acknowledgement of Country

Yarra Ranges Council acknowledges the Wurundjeri and other Kulin Nation peoples as the Traditional Owners and Custodians of these lands and waterways. We pay our respects to all Elders, past, present, and emerging, who have been, and always will be, integral to the story of our region. We proudly share custodianship to care for Country together.

Yarra Ranges Community Vision 2036

The Yarra Ranges Community Vision 2036 has been developed to describe the communities and Council's aspirations for the future of the municipality. It's based on input from over 1,000 community members and reflects the local communities' aspirations for the municipality.
Whether you live here or visit, you will see how much we care for Country, how inclusive and connected our communities are, and how balanced growth makes this the best place in the world.

What Council Wants to Achieve

Four strategic objectives guide all activity as Council works towards delivering the Yarra Ranges Community Vision 2036. These strategic objectives have been developed in response to the communities' priorities and the big issues facing Yarra Ranges. All policies and activities completed by the organisation contribute to one or more of these objectives.



1. Purpose

This Policy establishes Yarra Ranges Council's (Council) approach to enabling public electric vehicle (EV) charging on Council land.

2. Introduction

EV ownership continues to increase dramatically. Battery operated cars accounted for 15.4% of all new light vehicle purchases in March 2026, a rise of 86% compared to March 2025. *(Source: Department of Energy, Environment and Climate Action, Victoria, Report April 2026)*. With this increase the demand for public charging infrastructure will grow, particularly in tourist destinations such as the Yarra Ranges. While EV owners with access to off-street parking charge their vehicles at home, public EV charging will be used by residents without access to home charging, and by tourists for longer trips and for 'top-ups'.

Facilitating convenient access to public EV charging will support the transition to EVs and enable Yarra Ranges residents and visitors to access charging where and when they need it. Public EV charging can boost local economies through tourism benefits and increased visitation to townships while help contribute to improved air pollution and emissions reduction.

3. Scope

This policy

- applies to the provision of new public EV charging infrastructure on Council owned/managed public land within Yarra Ranges. It does not apply to EV charging on private land such as businesses or other developments. Any existing CPO licences will be transitioned to this Policy when the current licence expires.
- applies to Charge Point Operators (CPO), community stakeholders, and EV users and their EVs. This includes battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrid electric vehicles.
- provides clarity on the expectations by Council of CPOs in the provision and management of public charging.

4. Definitions

Table 1. Definitions

Term	Definition
Alternating Current (AC) slow charging	Ranging from 1.4kW to 22kW AC charging capability. Slow charging can be done by plugging into a regular power point or with a dedicated charger with its own plug or socket or with a dedicated EV charger. An AC charger supplies the EV's onboard charger, which converts the AC power to DC power so the vehicle battery can then be supplied with DC electricity.
Charge Point Operator (CPO)	An organisation (commercial or otherwise) that installs, operates, maintains, repairs and decommissions EV chargers. CPOs ensure that EV charging meets service and reliability standards. A CPO may operate their own EV charging stations, install and maintain them for a third party or commission a third party to install and maintain on their behalf.
Carparking bay (as defined in the Road Safety Rules 2017)	Means an area for parking a single vehicle that is indicated by: a. Road markings consisting of lines, studs or other similar devise; or b. A different road surface. c. Supporting parking signage indicating relevant restrictions.
Charging Site	A specific carparking bay(s) (usually within a priority location) that has been allocated for public EV charging.

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Council owned/ managed land	Public land that Council controls, e.g. Council-owned land, Crown Land, roads such as municipal roads and parts of arterial roads and some ancillary areas (as defined in the Road Management Act 2004).
Direct Current (DC) fast charging	This is the fastest charging option, offering 25kW to 350kW DC charging capability. A DC charger converts Alternating Current (AC) electricity from the grid to Direct Current so the electricity can be supplied from the charger directly to the vehicle battery, which reduces the time it takes to charge compared to AC charging.
Electricity Distributor	Organisation that transports electricity from transmission networks to end-use customers. The high voltage electricity that is used for transmission from the generator is converted to lower voltages by substation transformers. The electricity distributor in Yarra Ranges is AusNet Services. AusNet is responsible for allocation of electricity supply to properties in their Network area.
Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment	The equipment that delivers power from an electricity source, commonly the electricity grid, to an electric vehicle, allowing it to recharge.
EV Charging Bay	A carparking bay that has been designated by signage and/or road markings for the purpose of EV charging.
Policy	A statement or rule that is followed to guide action and make efficient and consistent decisions. It helps the Council and Council officers meet their collective responsibilities, reduce risks, guide decisions, and serve the community in a fair and consistent way.
Priority Location	An area (e.g. a locality, township) that has been identified through analysis and stakeholder engagement as an area that would benefit from the provision of public EV charging and to investigate for suitable charging sites. EV charging bays within these locations will be identified based on factors such as accessibility and safety, available space, access to electricity network infrastructure etc.
Public EV Charging	EV charging located within land that is owned/managed by Council, including in the on-street network and Council managed off-street parking areas, available for public use.
Public Land	Land owned and/or managed by Yarra Ranges Council used for a public purpose.

5. Policy Statement

Yarra Ranges Council (Council) is committed to facilitating the development of a network of public EV charging stations across the municipality to support the uptake of EVs.

In general, Council will not own and/or operate public EV chargers. Council will primarily leverage private sector investment or that by other appropriate organisations in public EV charging and ensure that public EV charging is provided in a way that minimises cost to Council and maximises benefits to local and regional tourism, economic development and the community.

Council will review EOI proposals from CPOs that identify locations for public EV charging on Council land, and work with CPOs to facilitate the planning, installation, operation and maintenance and end of life removal and disposal of EV charging infrastructure at charging sites within these locations.

6. Principles

The following principles establish the framework for decision-making on Policy implementation:

1. Support the move away from reliance on fossil fuels, to deliver a more sustainable region and encourage community to be part of better environmental outcomes.

2. Provide choice for community and visitors by offering a range of charging locations, types of chargers, and operators.
3. Ensure public EV charging on Council land benefits both Council and the community, including local economic development.
4. Ensure CPOs cover the costs (including establishment, ongoing maintenance and repairs) of public EV charging on Council land.
5. Council reserves the right to charge an appropriate fee to CPOs for the use of Council land. A list of fees will be included in the Operational Framework and updated annually.
6. Support the installation of accessible EV charging where possible, ensuring equal access to public EV charging, and that the provision of public EV charging does not negatively impact vulnerable road user groups (e.g. the elderly, children and people with disability).

7. Roles and Responsibilities

The Infrastructure Operations Department is responsible for the management and ongoing reviews of this Policy and support of any licenced CPOs.

Details on operational delivery of engagement with CPOs by Council teams is provided in the Public EV Charging on Council Land Operational Framework.

8. Related Documents

This policy was designed with information derived from the following data sources:

- Yarra Ranges Council Action Plan 2025 – 2029, strategic objectives in
  - Healthy Connected Communities
  - Quality Infrastructure and Liveable Places
  - Prosperous Community and Vibrant Economy.
- Yarra Ranges Council Economic Development Strategy 2022 - 2032
- Draft Yarra Ranges Council Climate and Environment Strategy 2026 – 2036
- AustRoads Guidelines for Low and Zero Emission Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Installation Guideline AP-G98-22 2022
- Electric Vehicle Council State of Electric Vehicles 2024
- Electric Vehicle Council Local Government Resource Pack 2019
- Central Victoria Greenhouse Alliance Charging the Regions 1: Local Government EV Charging Network Study 2020, prepared by Ndevr Environmental
- South East Councils Climate Change Alliance (SECCCA) 2022, Electric Vehicle Charging Roadmap, prepared for SECCCA by the Institute for Sensible Transport

9. Monitoring and Evaluation

The monitoring and evaluation of this Policy will be overseen by the Manager, Infrastructure Operations who will conduct reviews every two years, reporting the findings to the Executive Leadership Team. These reviews will assess:

- Timeliness and responsiveness to EOIs.
- Compliance with procedures in the Policy.

10. Policy Review

This Policy will be reviewed every two years. From time to time, circumstances may require minor administrative amendments to be made to this document. Where such an amendment does not materially alter the intent of the document, this may be made administratively with the approval of the Manager Infrastructure Operations, without the need to be approved by Council.

11. Revision History

Version	Date	Summary of revisions

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