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Board Matter

Chairman McKay

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Carbon-Free Fairfax envisions a future for Fairfax County that is healthy, sustainable, and economically prosperous without greenhouse gas emissions. One of the most important steps we can take to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in Fairfax County is to transition to electric vehicles.

The Board of Supervisors (Board) will recall that at the October 19, 2021 Board meeting, Supervisor Storck and I brought forward a board matter requesting that our Land Development Services analyze the waiver of permitting fees associated with the installation of electric vehicle infrastructure. Staff has conducted this analysis and has worked closely with my office to develop cost-incentives within our permitting process to encourage the use of electric vehicles in Fairfax County.

To ensure public safety, the Uniform Statewide Building Code (USBC) requires permits for all Electric Vehicle Charging (EVC) infrastructure construction.

Notwithstanding, the county may, by ordinance, exempt the fees associated with permitting these installations. Exempting EVC permit fees on a trial basis can help incentivize use of electric vehicles enabling residents, businesses, and organizations to take small actions to decrease emissions. Even small actions can make a big impact.

Therefore, I move that the Board authorize staff to draft and present an amendment to the appropriate Fairfax County Ordinances exempting all electrical, building and sign permit fees exclusively associated with EVC infrastructure for 18 months, effective with the next release of PLUS (Planning and Land Use System) expected for October 31, 2022. Staff should return to the Board in 12 months with metrics regarding installations as well as a recommendation regarding future fee discounts as an incentive to increase EVC infrastructure in the county.