



City of
Portland



Bureau of Planning and Sustainability
Innovation. Collaboration. Practical Solutions.

September 12, 2022

Oregon Public Utility Commission
201 High Street SE, Suite 100
Salem, OR 97301

Dear Commissioners,

The City of Portland appreciates the opportunity to write in support of item UM 2165, PGE's Municipal Charging Collaboration Pilot Proposal and urges the Commission to approve this pilot.

This proposal aligns with and supports many citywide policy priorities. For example, on August 24, 2022, Portland City Council adopted the Climate Emergency Workplan as the City's new climate action plan and as a follow up to its Climate Emergency Declaration, which committed the City to reduce carbon emissions by at least 50% (below 1990 levels) by 2030 and achieve net zero carbon emissions before 2050.¹ The Climate Emergency Workplan includes the expansion of public EV charging as one of its nine transportation sector decarbonization priorities for 2022-2025.² While enabling and expanding public EV charging has been called out in several plans and strategies before this point, its inclusion in the Climate Emergency Workplan confirms again that transportation electrification is a key strategy required to meet the City's carbon reduction, air quality, and equity goals. Providing access to EV charging in the public right-of-way is particularly important to meet the anticipated charging needs and ensure equitable access to affordable, reliable, and convenient charging for those unable to charge at home, such as residents of multi-unit dwellings or single-family homes without garages or driveways. The City looks forward to our continued collaboration with Portland General Electric (PGE) and other stakeholders to achieve these important goals.

PGE's Municipal Charging Collaboration Pilot will help cities like Portland continue to make progress on our climate goals. The City and PGE have already accomplished a successful pilot demonstration of utility-pole mounted chargers in the public right-of-way, and we are eager to strengthen our partnership through expanded programs.

We urge the Commission to approve this pilot and look forward to continuing to collaborate on reducing carbon emissions in our communities and ensuring that all benefits are equitably distributed. Thank you for considering our feedback.

Sincerely,

Chris Warner
Director, Portland Bureau of Transportation

Donnie Oliveira
Director, Bureau of Planning and Sustainability