Dear ZEV Stakeholder,

From everyone on the GO-Biz ZEV team, we sincerely hope you and your loved ones are safe and healthy in these turbulent times. So much has changed over the past few weeks, but our commitment to supporting local governments and businesses remains the same – we are here to support you, the people of California.

Please visit the state’s websites regularly to get up to date information on California’s COVID-19 guidance:

- California’s comprehensive COVID-19 website: [https://covid19.ca.gov/](https://covid19.ca.gov/)
- Business assistance can be found through GO-Biz: [https://business.ca.gov/coronavirus-2019/](https://business.ca.gov/coronavirus-2019/)

How Can We Help?

Our office is determining how to best support local governments with ZEV readiness during this time. We emailed a survey to our local government contacts. In case you missed it, [here is the link to the survey](https://example.com). Please respond by May 1st.
Overcoming Barriers Together
Starting with this edition and going forward, each newsletter of The Plug and the Nozzle will highlight one common problem or barrier to installing electric vehicle charging stations and how streamlining the permitting process can help overcome that barrier.

Understanding EV Parking Space Counts
‘Electric City’ is in the process of reviewing a permit for DC Fast Chargers at a local grocery store. The parking lot of the grocery store has 172 parking spots. Once the chargers are installed, 9 of the parking spots will be turned into charging spots where EVs can charge up while customers shop at the grocery store. Electric City is supportive of the project, but is concerned that installing these chargers will impact the parking minimum at this location in their city.

Rest assured, charging spots count as parking spots. **AB 1236** makes this clear and it is reaffirmed by **AB 1100**, charging spots should not negatively influence parking minimums at sites. **Parking counts should not delay the charging station permitting process.** In addition, **AB 1100** specifies that a van accessible charging spot counts as **two parking spots**.

Our Future is Bright
On a lighter note, we wanted to share a great story from the Sacramento Municipal Utility District (SMUD). The utility held a contest in middle schools, to encourage students to research and learn about electric vehicles. The Charge Up Change competition challenged these students to create two-minute videos illustrating “why electric vehicles are cool.” Based on these videos, our future seems very bright.

*Update - Grant Funding Opportunity: Hydrogen Refueling Infrastructure (GFO-19-602)

The California Energy Commission has extended the $45.7 million GFO application deadline from April 30, 2020 to May 22, 2020.

Want more? Sign up for the GO-Biz Newsletter to get the latest information from our office on economic development in California.

Check out the latest GO-Biz podcast Made in California. In this episode, the GO-Biz team discusses small business support in a time of COVID.

Don’t forget - the 2020 Census is happening now! Respond to the Census to make sure everyone is counted.