

VALLEY CLEAN ENERGY ALLIANCE

Staff Report – Item 13

TO: Board of Directors

FROM: Mitch Sears, Interim General Manager
Rebecca Boyles, Director of Customer Care and Marketing

SUBJECT: Electrify Yolo Project Update

DATE: September 9, 2021

REQUESTED ACTION

Informational item. The purpose of this report is to give an update on the status of the Electrify Yolo (SACOG grant) project.

BACKGROUND

In December 2018, the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG) authorized the award of a Green Region grant in the amount of \$2,912,000, representing the regional “Electrify Yolo” project, with the purpose of installing publicly accessible electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. Originally, only VCE and the City of Davis were involved, and Woodland, Winters and unincorporated Yolo County joined the project prior to submitting the grant application in August 2018. The City of Davis distributed funds to each entity once the Memoranda of Understanding (MOUs) were approved by each jurisdiction. All projects are to be finished by December 31, 2023.

UPDATE

EV charger installations have been subject to some delays, including impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. All MOUs were signed (Davis, VCE/Winters, Woodland, unincorporated Yolo County) as of April 2021, and some EV charger installation projects have begun.

The City of Davis and Frontier Energy held a kickoff meeting on June 29 and anticipate moving very quickly on this project. The analysis and design are estimated to take approximately 3 months once the agreement is signed.

The City of Winters finalized a contract with Ample Electric to install the charging infrastructure: two level 2 Blink chargers at the community center and one level 2 and one DC fast charger at the First/Abbey parking lot. The two level 2 Blink chargers have been installed at the community center, and the City is preparing to make them ready for public use. Both projects should be completed by Q4 2021.

Due to competing priorities and staffing issues, Woodland has not yet moved forward with their project; however, they remain committed to completing the project on time.

Yolo County is in discussion with ChargePoint about the feasibility of completing the project from beginning to end. There are a number of potential County-owned sites under consideration for charger locations, as well as solar-powered mobile chargers being considered.

VCE Staff is working with each jurisdiction to design banners to be hung at each charging station with logos of all project partners. These banners will inform members of the public that there will be EV chargers coming soon in that location and aim to increase the public's brand association with VCE and electric vehicles.