



PRESS RELEASE

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AEA and DOT&PF Secure Approval for Alaska's EV Infrastructure Deployment Plan

The announcement unlocks \$19 million to expand EV charging infrastructure in Alaska

(Anchorage) — Today, the Alaska Energy Authority (AEA) and the Department of Transportation & Public Facilities (DOT&PF) received <u>approval</u> from the United States Department of Transportation Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) to implement <u>Alaska's Electric Vehicle</u> (EV) <u>Infrastructure Deployment Plan (The Plan)</u> to build a network of EV charging stations along Alaska's highway corridors.

As part of the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, AEA will receive \$7.8 million in federal fiscal year 2022 and \$11.2 million in federal fiscal year 2023 under the FHWA National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Formula Program. AEA anticipates receiving approximately \$52 million over the next five years through this program.

"Now, the work begins to turn The Plan's vision into a reality," said **Curtis W. Thayer, AEA Executive Director.** "We look forward to continuing our efforts with DOT&PF and other agencies and stakeholders to use these federal dollars to build a statewide interconnected EV charging station network making EV charging infrastructure more accessible and connected for visitors and Alaskans."

"This is one of the first steps in developing DOT&PF's Sustainable Transportation Plan, which strives to reduce energy costs for Alaskans," said **DOT&PF Commissioner Ryan Anderson, PE**. "In collaboration with AEA, we will ensure efficient and equitable deployment across Alaska."

Alaska suffers from some of the highest fuel costs in the nation. The implementation of transportation electrification will help to lower the cost of transportation energy for all Alaskans by ensuring that they can transition to EVs, which typically have a lower total cost of ownership.

As NEVI funds must be used initially on federally-designated Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFC), Phase 1 of The Plan will focus on the installation of EV charging stations every 50 miles along the state's designated AFC, which is the 358 miles of Glenn and Parks Highways between Anchorage and Fairbanks. The new charging stations must have at least four EV fast charging

ports and be located within one travel mile of the highway. Phase 1 is expected to be complete by 2024. After that, AEA will deploy NEVI funds to build out the state's remaining highways including communities along the Alaska Marine Highway and rural hub communities.

AEA's primary mission is to lower the cost of energy in Alaska. A secondary mission is to reduce barriers to EV adoption. The Plan provides the framework for utilizing NEVI formula funds to deliver EV charging infrastructure and enable passenger EV travel throughout the state. The charging network will provide EV drivers with confidence when traveling for work, recreation, and tourism.

With the <u>approval</u> of EV Infrastructure Deployment Plans for all 50 States, each State now has a wide range of options to use NEVI Formula funding for projects directly related to the charging of a vehicle including:

- Upgrade of existing and construction of new EV charging infrastructure
- Operation and maintenance costs of these charging stations
- Installation of on-site electrical service equipment
- Community and stakeholder engagement
- Workforce development activities
- EV charging station signage
- Data sharing activities
- Related mapping analysis and activities

For more information about the Alaska's EV Infrastructure Deployment Plan, please review it <u>here</u>. For future community engagement opportunities, please visit <u>https://www.akenergyauthority.org/evs.</u>

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The Alaska Energy Authority is a public corporation of the State of Alaska governed by a board of directors with the mission to "reduce the cost of energy in Alaska." AEA is the state's energy office and lead agency for statewide energy policy and program development.

The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities oversees 237 airports, 9 ferries serving 33 communities along 3,500 marine miles, over 5,600 miles of highway and 839 public facilities throughout the state of Alaska. The mission of the department is to "Keep Alaska Moving through service and infrastructure."