



TO: City Manager LaPere & City Council
FROM: Bryan Myrkle, Community Development Director
SUBJECT: Electric Vehicle Charging Stations - update
DATE: MARCH 29, 2021

You may remember that, last fall, the City of Charlotte authorized an agreement with Red E Charging to install a two-bay, level 2 electric vehicle charging station in the City's public parking lot on Bostwick Street (the one with the USPS box in it).

Unbeknownst to me, and to Red E, the Charlotte Community Library was working on a proposal to Consumers Energy for the installation of a charging station at the same time. Because there is no established demand for these chargers in Charlotte as of yet, this created a bit of a dilemma.

Neither Consumers Energy (which provides the financial incentive making this possible), nor Red E (which would own and maintain the charging station), wants to pursue both proposals at the same time. This remains a speculative exercise for Charlotte, and two charging stations would effectively double the risk.

From a Community Development perspective, it doesn't make very much difference if the charging station is in one location or another, as long as it is downtown and publicly available. In fact, it seems likely that the station would be monitored better in the library parking lot than in one of our public lots.

As a result, our agreement with Red E and Consumers will be put 'on hold' for the time being, while the charging station at the library is established. If there is sufficient demand, there is a chance it might be revisited; if not, there will still be a publicly available electric vehicle charging station downtown, which was the goal all along.

Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions about this, thank you.