



Mildura Rural City Council

Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure Policy

Policy – CP053

| Prepared | Reviewed | Approved | Date | Council Minute No. |
|---|--|------------------------------|------------|--------------------|
| Energy & Water Innovation Officer | Environmental Sustainability Coordinator | Council | April 2023 | 2023/0051 |
| Trim File: 18/02/01 | | To be reviewed: April 2025 | | |
| Document Owner: Manager Community Futures | | Review Frequency: Biannually | | |

1. The purpose of this policy is

This policy provides guidance on electric vehicle (EV) charging infrastructure in the municipality.

2. Policy Statement

Mildura Rural City Council (MRCC) declared a state of climate change emergency in February 2020. Since that time, Council has developed and is implementing its Towards Zero Emissions Strategy 2021-2050 with a commitment to achieve net zero emissions for council operations by 2040 (excluding landfill) and 2050 (including landfill). MRCC has also committed to achieve a zero emissions light fleet by 2030 and a zero emissions heavy fleet by 2040.

MRCC is committed to improve environmental sustainability and transport connectivity in the municipality. Facilitating the transition to EVs, including convenient access to EV charging infrastructure, plays a significant role in meeting this commitment.

EVs are the basis for current and future transportation, both in Mildura Rural City, and beyond. With the environmental impact of transport a significant issue for councils and state and federal governments, EVs offer a sustainable and increasingly affordable future.

3. Principles

The key objectives of this policy include:

- To provide guidance to EV charging network operators, residents, businesses, commercial property owners and developers on the installation of EV charging infrastructure;
- To ensure a consistent approach is taken when EV charging network operators approach Council about installing EV chargers on Council owned land;

- To drive further investment in public EV charging infrastructure in the municipality to increase uptake of EVs, reducing emissions and improving air quality;
- To encourage the coordinated roll-out of EV charging infrastructure across the Mildura region;
- To position MRCC as one of the most EV friendly municipalities in Australia, along with the aim to become RV friendly, further driving tourism and smart city opportunities in the region.

Implementation of EV charging infrastructure is a fundamental step towards the wide-scale uptake of EVs. Benefits include:

- Reduced dependency on fossil fuels
- Reduced greenhouse gas emissions
- Reduced air pollution (with associated health benefits)
- Reduced transport costs
- Future proofing transport/mobility
- Enhanced energy security

EV Charging Infrastructure

EV charging infrastructure comes in a number of different forms, as indicated in figure 1 below. There are also different scenarios where EV charging infrastructure can be installed. All scenarios require a different approach.

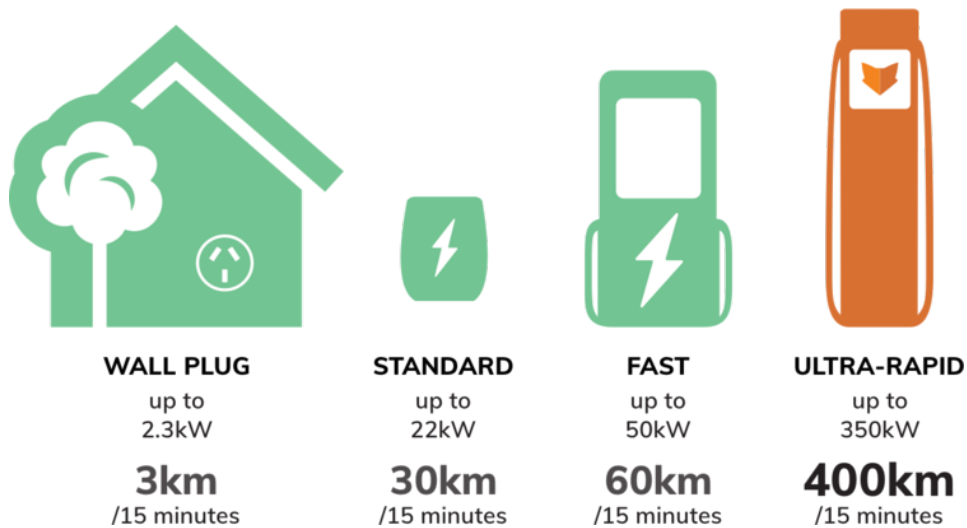


Figure 1: EV charger types (Source: Chargefox.com)

Public Spaces and Places

On behalf of the community, Council owns, maintains and manages a wide array of public spaces and places, including kerbsides, parks, sporting facilities, on-street and off-street parking facilities. Council may consider proposals to install EV charging infrastructure on Council managed land. In such instances, proposals will be subject to:

- MRCC Land Manager Consent and Licence Agreement process;

- A 'public-interest' test – assessing the proposal's community/commercial benefit, project costs (both financial and non-financial), and associated risks;
- Adherence to all Council requirements; and
- Comparison to other EV charging options.

Council does not have an allocated budget for investing in, or subsidising, EV charging infrastructure, and expects the private sector to lead investment opportunities and leverage state and federal government funding opportunities. In this regard, Council may also initiate an Expression of Interest (EOI) process, seeking market interest to install EV charging infrastructure in a public space/place.

Council requires all proposals for EV charging infrastructure in public places to address:

- Consultation with utilities and the community, particularly neighbouring residents/businesses;
- Public use of the EV charging infrastructure at standard industry rates;
- Full life-cycle responsibility for infrastructure, from installation, operation, maintenance and removal;
- All costs to be covered by proponent;
- Electrical infrastructure is powered by 100% renewable energy;
- Appropriate EV parking signage;
- Inclusion of lighting should existing lighting not be sufficient;
- Compliance with the *Disability Discrimination Act 1992*;
- Adherence to best practice service standards, relating to reliability, safety, customer service etc.

EV car parking bays will be for the exclusive use of EV vehicles, and when unattended, the vehicle must be plugged in and actively using the charger.

New Developments – Commercial/Industrial/Residential

Council encourages all new commercial/industrial/residential developments to include an appropriate standard of EV charging infrastructure. Decisions on EV charging in the Mildura CBD are guided by the *Mildura CBD Plan 2020-2035 and Mildura CBD Access and Mobility Strategy*.

Council encourages consideration of environmental impacts in all building and planning applications at the planning stage including incorporating EV charging infrastructure into the development. Whilst full-scale EV charging infrastructure may not be installed as part of new developments, infrastructure facilitating future installation (ie. conduit and electrical capacity) is to be included in the scope of new developments of this nature.

Council will continue to collaborate with developers and other Councils in support of a state-wide approach to EV charging infrastructure requirements for new developments. Council will continue to advocate best practice guidelines, as well as advocating for changes to the planning scheme to create mandatory inclusion of EV charging infrastructure provisions.

Existing Commercial/Industrial Premises – Private and Public Use

Council encourages the installation of EV charging infrastructure at existing commercial/industrial premises, both for private and public use (as determined by the responsible person/entity). In most instances, Council advice or approval will not be required to progress installations. However, installers are required to ensure industry standards are met.

Council will not be offering subsidies, nor will it be required to consider requests of this nature, for the installation of EV charging infrastructure at commercial/industrial premises.

Private Residence – Private Use

In most instances, installation of EV charging infrastructure within a private residence, exclusively for private use, will not require advice or approval from Council. Residents should ensure any installation meets relevant Australian standards for electrical works and safety.

Installation of EV charging infrastructure may, in some instances, have implications on heritage landscapes. Residents should seek further advice from Council's Planning Department if the residence is subject to heritage or other requirements and proposed infrastructure will be viewed from the street.

For residents without off-street parking who wish to utilise public space for charging (i.e. parking bay adjacent to their property) their enquiry will be assessed on a case by case basis and a set of protocols will be developed to ensure community safety and compliance with local laws and planning regulations.

Private Residence – Under Lease

Installation of EV charging infrastructure at a residence under lease would be subject to the terms and conditions of the lease, and in most instances, would not require Council advice or approval. As above, advice from Council should be sought if the site has heritage or other controls.

4. Implementation

The Strategic Management Team is responsible for implementing this policy.

5. Definitions

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|----------------------------------|--|
| Battery electric vehicles (BEVs) | These vehicles are fully electric, meaning they are solely powered by electricity and do not have a petrol, diesel or LPG engine, fuel tank or exhaust pipe. |
| CCS2 | Combined Charging System Type 2 EV charging connector with both AC and DC option, allowing both DC fast charge and Level 2 AC charge. |
| CHAdeMO | Means 'CHArge de Move' and is a DC charging standard for EVs. |

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| Electric vehicles (EVs) | Cars or other vehicles that are propelled by motors that are powered by electricity, unlike traditional internal combustion engine vehicles that use liquid fuels. |
| Fuel cell electric vehicles (FCEVs) | These vehicles use a fuel cell instead of a battery, or in combination with a battery or super capacitor, to power their electric motors. FCEVs are typically fuelled by hydrogen. |
| Plug-in hybrid electric vehicles (PHEVs) | These vehicles are powered by a combination of fuel and electricity. They can be charged with electricity using a plug but also contain an internal combustion engine that uses liquid fuel. |
| Type 2 socket | EV charging connectors designed to specification IEC 62196 (commonly referred to as Mennekes). |

6. Legislation and other references

6.1 Legislation

For further information related to this policy see:

- *Victorian Climate Change Strategy*
- *Victorian Zero Emissions Vehicle Roadmap*
- *National Electric Vehicle Strategy (in development)*

6.2 Documents

This Policy is implemented in conjunction with the following documents:

- Towards Zero Emissions Strategy 2021-2050
- Mildura CBD Plan 2020-2035
- Mildura CBD Access and Mobility Strategy
- Mildura Planning Scheme
- Local Laws (Parking)
- Environmental Sustainability and Climate Change Policy – CP041
- Asset Management Policy – CP031
- Procurement of Goods, Services and Works Policy – CP083
- Fleet and Plant Management Policy – OP002
- Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure on Council Land Guidelines, 2023

6.3 Risk Assessment Reference

Please tick the corporate governance risk(s) that this policy is addressing.

| Risk Category | ✓ | Risk Category | ✓ |
|----------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|
| Asset Management | ✓ | Financial Sustainability | |
| Committees | | Human Resource Management | |
| Compliance – Legal & Regulatory | | Leadership & Organisational Culture | ✓ |
| Contract Management | | Occupational Health & Safety | |
| Contract Tendering & Procurement | | Organisational Risk Management | |
| Corporate Governance | | Project Management | |
| Environmental Sustainability | ✓ | Public Image and Reputation | ✓ |