MCEv Charging for Your Workplace or Multifamily Property

The MCEv program is now offering an expanded charging rebate for workplace and multifamily properties to help you save significantly on hardware installation costs for electric vehicle (EV) charging stations. Plus, the program is offering free technical assistance for the first 40 projects, providing you with an EV charging expert and electrician to help make your project a reality. This charging rebate and technical assistance is available on a first-come, first-served basis.

Why Install an EV Charging Station?

- **It Makes Dollars & Sense:** You can offset ongoing costs by requiring users to pay for charging as well as help attract and retain employees, tenants, and customers by offering it as a benefit.
- **If You Build It, They Will Come:** Commuters are 6 times more likely to drive an EV if their workplace or multifamily property offers charging capability.
- **Our Future Depends on It:** Hosting a charging station at your workplace or multifamily property will exemplify your environmental values and help reduce pollution associated with gas-powered cars.

To be eligible for this MCEv charging rebate your workplace or multifamily property must be an MCE customer and either be a: Workplace that will offer charging for your employees and/or fleet, Multifamily Property of 4 or more units that will offer charging to your tenants, or Commuter Parking Lot, such as a park & ride or ferry terminal. For more information visit: [www.mcecleanenergy.org/ev-charging](http://www.mcecleanenergy.org/ev-charging).

Recycling Legislative Updates

Please find highlights below on new State laws that became effective January 1, 2022.

- **SB 343** (Allen) prohibits manufacturers from using the “chasing arrows” recycling symbol on items that are not recyclable.
- **AB 881** (Gonzalez) helps the state accurately measure how much plastic gets recycled and prohibits plastic exports to other countries being counted as being “recycled.”
- **AB 1201** (Ting) updates labeling for compostable products by requiring compostable products to break down in composting conditions, bans toxic PFAS “forever chemicals,” and requires manufacturers to ensure that their products don’t contaminate organic agriculture.
- **AB 962** (Kamlager) makes it easier for brewers and other beverage producers to create reusable glass bottle systems.
- **AB 1276** (Carrillo) reduces plastic foodware waste by requiring food providers to only give takeout customers foodware accessories (e.g., utensils) they request.

For more information on these and other similar legislation and regulations visit [https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/laws](https://www.calrecycle.ca.gov/laws).
Curbside Organics: What Goes in and What Doesn’t?

Have you had an organics (green waste) cart at your home or business for several years? Do you know if you are using it correctly? Below is a guide to help you sort properly.

Acceptable items include:
Food Scraps, Food soiled paper (used paper plates, used coffee filters, etc.), Pizza boxes, Yard clippings, and other vegetative matter. Example items are shown at right.

Unacceptable items include:
Ashes, Bamboo, Ivy, Palm, Concrete, Dirt, Rocks, Sand, Dead Animals, Diapers, Human or Pet Waste, Glass, Lawn sod, Liquids, Manure, Metal, Milk Cartons, Plastic of any kind, Biodegradable plastics (utensils, plates, bowls, cups, etc.), Wood (treated, coated, or painted).

For more information about Curbside Organics please visit: el-cerrito.org/MandatoryOrganicsRecycling or visit recylemore.com/what-to-do/green, or contact City Staff by phone at (510) 215-4350 or by email by contacting greenassistant@ci.el-cerrito.ca.us.

New Requirements for Recycling & Composting

As of January 1, 2022, under Senate Bill (SB) 1383 (Short-Lived Climate Pollutant Reduction Strategy), all businesses and multifamily properties of 5 or more units are required to recycle and to properly manage all organic materials generated. Organic waste includes all landscaping debris, food scraps, food-soiled paper and untreated wood.

In addition, Multifamily properties of 5 or more units must provide an organics cart for tenant food waste.

YOUR ACTION IS REQUIRED TO COMPLY WITH THE LAW

1. Subscribe to organics collection* by contacting East Bay Sanitary at (510) 237-4321
2. Subscribe to recycling collection* by contacting the City at (510) 215-4350
3. Properly sort organic waste and recyclables from the trash

*If you already participate in the organics and recycling program, no action is required.

For more information please visit el-cerrito.org/MandatoryOrganicsRecycling.

Amended Foodware Ordinance Effective July 2022

In support of the City’s goal to keep more materials out of the landfill, the City of El Cerrito made changes to the 2013 Foodware Ordinance – which prohibited Expanded Polystyrene Foam (“Styrofoam”) containers and is now requiring foodware to be packaged for take-out in reusable or compostable containers. The new changes will phase out single-use plastic foodware items within the City of El Cerrito and will become effective July 1, 2022.

Single-use foodware includes all containers, bowls, plates, trays, cartons, cups, lids, utensils, forks, spoons, knives, straws, and other items that are designed for one-time use and disposal. Starting in July, all food providers in the City are required to procure and use reusable or compostable foodware.

The City will assist food providers by providing resources, training, technical support, and will continue to build public awareness to support a smooth transition. Given the impact of the pandemic on local businesses, the City is planning to phase implementation of the proposed ordinance, with enforcement to begin after January 1, 2024. For more information on the expanded Foodware Ordinance visit: el-cerrito.org/foodware