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DATE: April 24, 2023

TO: Wade Bryson, Chair
Public Works and Facilities Committee

THROUGH: Katie Koester, Director Engineering and Public Works

FROM: Alan Steffert, Engineer

SUBJECT: Resolution of Support for EV Charging Infrastructure Grant

Currently, Juneau has around 40 public accessible EV chargers, mostly Level 2. Over half those chargers are operated by CBJ.

A major federal funding opportunity for expanding and enhancing EV charging infrastructure was announced March, 2023, through the U.S. DOT Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program (CFI Program). The CFI program was created by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to strategically deploy publically accessible electric vehicle charging infrastructure. Individual grants range from \$500,000 to \$15 million. There is a 20% local match requirement. Grants are competitive, and applications are due May 30, 2023.

To take advantage of this new funding opportunity CBJ staff are working with Devon Kibby, of Alaska Electric Vehicle Association, to draft a grant application for expanding and improving Juneau's EV charging network. In order to be grant eligible, all charger sites must be publically accessible. Existing and potential charger sites have been identified in Douglas, Downtown, Salmon Creek, Lemon Creek, Mendenhall Valley, Auke Bay and out the road. A major criterion for final site selection is proximity to underserved areas. The grant also requires a minimum of four EV chargers be installed at each site. If 6 new sites were developed, 24 new chargers would be added to the existing charger network.

Another consideration is that bigger electric vehicles with larger batteries (e.g. pickup trucks) are being seen more frequently in Juneau. EV trucks require more powerful and faster chargers (Level 3, or DC Fast Chargers) than the typical Level 2 charger. DC fast chargers are complicated expensive pieces of equipment to buy (\$100K +) and require costly electrical infrastructure (480v) to run. The CFI Grant provides the opportunity to cover the 80% of the significant capital cost of purchasing and installing DC fast chargers at suitable proposed sites, and provides for a portion of the maintenance/operations costs for the first five years of operation. Additional Level 2 chargers (\$1K +) will be installed adjacent to DC fast chargers as needed to meet the four charger per site requirement.

A preliminary budget for drafting a EV charging plan and implanting the EV charging network expansion is estimated at \$5 million (\$4 million federal + \$1 million CBJ).

Action Requested

Move to approve forwarding draft Resolution 3027 to the Assembly for consideration.