



Charging Smart

About the Program

The Charging Smart program administered by Interstate Renewable Energy Council (IREC) helps local governments remove barriers to Electric Vehicle (EV) charging station deployment by establishing proper codes, policies and procedures to support EV charging stations and EV adoption.

Local governments that participate in Charging Smart can receive **free technical assistance** to facilitate EV charging station deployment and make Northern Illinois EV-friendly.

Benefits

- **Free Guidance:**
 - Local governments receive technical assistance at no cost
- **Designation:**
 - Local governments that complete the program earn a 'Charging Smart' designation that demonstrates your agency is ready and suited for private sector charging station investment.
- **Save Money & Time:**
 - Streamlining policies, procedures and permitting shortens timelines and reduces the cost of deploying charging stations in your community.
- **Comprehensive Planning:**
 - Layering EV infrastructure analysis into your transportation planning allows your agency to accommodate tomorrow's transportation needs.
- **Sustainability:**
 - Streamlining deployment of EV infrastructure can accelerate EV adoption while lowering greenhouse gas emissions, thus improving air quality and public health.

Next Steps

Sign and return the attached Letter of Commitment template to R1 if your agency would like help obtaining a Charging Smart designation at no cost. R1 staff is seeking Letters of Commitment from 10 to 15 communities in the Rockford Region to participate in a Charging Smart cohort.

Who to Contact

Email R1 Research Analyst Hailey Blanchard at hblanchard@r1planning.org or Economic Development Director Isaac Guerrero at iguerrero@r1planning.org to learn more or get started.