

**CITY OF SANTA PAULA  
MEMORANDUM**

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Michael K. Rock, City Manager  
James Mason, Deputy Planning Director

Subject: Expedited Permitting Process for Electric Vehicle Charging Stations

Date: September 5, 2017

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**RECOMMENDATION:**

Staff recommends that the City Council:

- 1) Open the public hearing.
- 2) Receive testimonial and documentary evidence.
- 3) After considering the evidence, introduce and waive first reading of Ordinance No. 1271.
- 4) Take such additional, related action as may be appropriate.

**Presented by:** James Mason, Deputy Planning Director

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**BACKGROUND:**

AB 1236 (Chiu 2015) was signed into law on October 8, 2015. In an effort to make the permitting of electric vehicle charging stations more consistent statewide, the law requires each city and county to: 1) adopt an ordinance creating an expedited permitting process for electric vehicle charging stations; 2) adopt a checklist for permitting applications on their respective websites; 3) process electric vehicle charging station applications as nondiscretionary building permits; and 4) allow electronic submittal of applications and associated documentation. AB 1236 took effect on January 1, 2016, and mandates that jurisdictions adopt the required ordinance and permitting checklist by September 30, 2017.

**ISSUES / ANALYSIS:**

**General Discussion:** The passage of AB 1236 does not require the installation of electric vehicle charging stations as part of any public or private development project but only requires that the City implement, by ordinance, a simple and streamlined

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permitting process. Given the low impact of the installation of electric vehicle charging station equipment in single-family residential projects, the ordinance is primarily focused on the review and approval of non-residential development, including: commercial, industrial and multi-family residential. Proposed Ordinance No. 1271 is attached and accomplishes the requirements imposed by AB 1236.

**Environmental Review:** The proposed Ordinance is exempt from review under the California Environmental Quality Act (California Public Resources Code Sec. 21000 et seq., "CEQA") and the regulations promulgated thereunder (14 California Code of Regulations Sec 15000 et seq., the "CEQA Guidelines") because the ordinance does not have the potential to cause significant effects on the environment. Consequently, it is exempt in accordance with CEQA Guidelines Sec. 15061(b)(3) as CEQA only applies to projects that have the potential to cause a significant effect on the environment.

**Public Notification:** A notice of public hearing was published in the Santa Paula Times in compliance with state law. As of the date of this report, staff has not received any additional written or verbal comments regarding this project.

#### **FISCAL IMPACTS:**

Minimal budget impacts are expected as a result of implementing the proposed ordinance.

#### **PERSONNEL IMPACTS:**

Implementation of the proposed ordinance would require ongoing staff resources at the current level.

#### **OPTIONS:**

1. Adopt Ordinance No. 1271, per State mandate.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

A: City Council Ordinance No. 1271

B: Assembly Bill No. 1236

C: Eligibility Checklist for Expedited Electric Vehicle Charging Stations