

Residents' Guide to Electric Vehicle Charging at Multifamily Communities



Electric vehicle charging stations at multifamily communities can be a great amenity.

If you own an electric vehicle or are planning to purchase one, you will want to be able to charge at home. If your multifamily community does not offer charging, talk to your property owner, manager or homeowners' association and request that charging stations be installed. It is best to be prepared when making the request for charging stations, especially since the installation will be an investment in time and money. Below are steps to make a case for charging stations at your community.

Step 1

Do Your Homework

Start by educating yourself on charging stations - the levels, installation details, costs, operating models, etc. Refer to Plug-in NC's multifamily resource page for information on different topics. You don't need to be an expert, but be ready to answer potential questions that may arise.

Step 2

Talk to Neighbors

It is important to demonstrate the level of support within your community. Check and see if your neighbors are in support of charging stations or are considering purchasing an electric vehicle. A resident survey is a good way to gauge interest. If there are other advocates, ask them for help presenting your request.

Step 3

Send a Letter

Send a letter or email to your property manager to make your request and ask for some time to speak with them about installing charging stations. A sample letter is below.

Dear [community manager],

I am writing to request that we install electric vehicle charging stations in our resident parking lot. I would like to purchase an electric vehicle but need a way to charge at home. I have put a lot of time into weighing the costs and benefits of purchasing an

Know the Benefits of Having Charging Stations

Marketing Benefits

- Charging stations give the property a sustainable and tech-savvy image
- Charging stations are a unique amenity to offer residents

Sustainability Benefits

- Charging stations can help make the property a leader in sustainable practices
- Charging stations can provide LEED points for the property

Preparation Benefits

- Charging stations show that your community supports and adopts emerging technologies
- As the electric vehicle market grows, the number of requests for charging stations will as well

electric vehicle, and I'm excited about my decision, but I ask for your help to further support my choice.

Many multifamily communities in North Carolina are installing charging stations for residents and visitors to use. Communities see the benefits of promoting sustainability, providing an additional amenity and preparing for future resident needs.

There are thousands of electric vehicles registered in North Carolina, and the numbers are expected to continue to rise. As the electric vehicle market grows, requests for charging will as well.

I would appreciate the opportunity to share with you additional information on charging station options, installation details and maintenance needs. Please let me know if you have availability to meet or talk over the phone about this possibility.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Step 4

Prepare Responses to Concerns

Before attending a meeting, make sure that you prepare responses to concerns that may be raised. The table below details some examples.

Concern	Response
It's too expensive.	There are multiple options for charging stations and installation locations to minimize costs. Incentives and grants may be available, and we can also start with one station to save money.
No one will use it.	Electric vehicle sales are growing, and as more cars arrive, drivers will need a place to charge at home. We can survey our residents to see how many would use a charging station now or in the future.
It will use a lot of electricity.	The electricity used for charging can be tracked, and if it is too expensive, there are cost-recovery models like charging per use.
No one else is doing it.	Many multifamily communities are installing charging stations across the state and country to meet residents' requests and future needs.

Step 5

Provide Information and Continued Support

Installing charging stations can be a large investment in time and money. Offer as much information to your property manager as you can, and volunteer to provide additional assistance throughout the process. Visit the Plug-in NC website for additional resources.

For additional multifamily charging information or if you have any questions, visit the Plug-in NC website at www.pluginnc.com.

