

Libraries welcoming electric vehicles with charging stations

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Stanislaus County residents in Oakdale and Modesto can do more than check out a book at their local library -- they can plug in, too.

Residents who drive electric vehicles now have two new charging stations for use at the Downtown Modesto and Oakdale libraries.

In 2016 county officials noted that there were very few charging stations in the Central Valley county and most of them were located at car dealerships instead of public spaces. With approval from the Board of Supervisors, and grant funding, the process of installing the stations began.

The stations were opened for use this week. Modesto library on I street is the only charging station currently available in Downtown Modesto, according to the PlugShare app which locates and maps electric vehicle charging stations. Each site has one charging station which holds two ports (each port can charge one car at a time).

"The charging stations will promote clean air technology, and the use of low- or zero-emission vehicles enhances the library's digital presence, which may attract a new group of people to the library," says Library Director Diane McDonnell.

Both locations use Level 2 (240V) dual plug (J-1772) charging stations. To use the stations, electric vehicle drivers need a ChargePoint card or the ChargePoint app. A Level 2 voltage charge provides about twice the charging power of the average Level 1 home charger.

The total cost of the project was \$38,000 including installation. The project expense was shared by the Stanislaus County Library and General Services Agency Fleet Services Division, the Oakdale Tourism and Visitors Bureau and a *grant from the San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District*. There will be no fee for the use of any county charging station in the first year of operation. However, there is a four-hour charging limit per customer.

Valley gets Millions to cut transportation-related air pollution

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From electric locomotives to zero-emission port equipment, the state is spending more than \$200 million on projects to cut diesel pollution in disadvantaged communities.

A fair chunk of that money -- nearly half -- is headed to the Central Valley.

The projects range from electric locomotives, trucks and refrigeration trailers at railyards in Stockton and San Bernardino, to a hybrid tugboat and electric cranes and forklifts at the Port of Long Beach. All 11 projects being funded are located within disadvantaged communities that are heavily impacted by air pollution from freight facilities.

"The implications for the future are clear. Businesses will benefit by lowering their operational costs, and because all these projects are located in disadvantaged communities, residents who have long suffered the impacts of pollution will benefit by having cleaner air to breathe," says CARB Chairman Mary Nichols.

Each of the 11 projects will receive matching funds from private and public partners. Grants are expected to be executed over the coming months.

Here are the Central Valley projects getting CARB's money:

- The San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District will receive \$22.6 million to demonstrate a battery electric locomotive, zero-emission drayage truck, hybrid cranes and other equipment at intermodal rail yards in Stockton. Project partners will provide \$22.9 million in matching funds.

The District also will receive \$15.4 million to help replace all diesel-powered equipment at Frito-Lay in Modesto, including deployment of 15 heavy-duty Tesla battery electric tractors, 38 low NOx trucks fueled with renewable natural gas, and demonstrate six Peterbilt e220 battery electric trucks. The partner match is \$15.4 million.

- Project Clean Air will receive \$3.3 million to deploy and demonstrate five electric battery Class 7 trucks with all-electric transport refrigeration units with Moonlight Companies in Reedley. Partner match: \$3.3 million.

The Port of Long Beach will receive \$50 million for a project expected to benefit the Ports of Long Beach, Oakland and Stockton that will deploy 38 electric yard tractors, nine electric gantry cranes, 18 electric heavy lift forklifts, 15 zero emission Class 8 trucks, a hybrid tugboat, two ocean-going vessels with selective catalytic reduction installations, and other state-of-the-art port-related equipment. The partner match is \$52.9 million.

- The city of San Francisco will receive \$4.6 million to demonstrate 30 electric medium- and heavy-duty vehicles between the Bay Area and the Central Valley, to install fast chargers in San Francisco and Sacramento, and additional charging infrastructure at the San Francisco Wholesale Produce Market. Partner match: \$4.6 million.

Other projects getting money are:

- The South Coast Air Quality Management District will receive \$44.8 million to deploy 23 Class 8 Volvo battery electric trucks and 24 zero-emission forklifts, along with 58 heavy-duty fast chargers and other related equipment in Ontario, Chino, Fontana and Placentia. Partner match: \$45.9 million.

- The Center for Transportation and the Environment will receive \$5.4 million to deploy four fuel cell hybrid electric delivery vans for UPS for a minimum 12-month demonstration project in Chino. Partner match: \$5.8 million.

- The Gas Technology Institute will receive \$8 million to demonstrate two fuel cell yard trucks at the Port of Los Angeles. Partner match: \$6.3 million.

- The Port of Los Angeles will receive \$41.1 million to deploy ten Kenworth and Toyota fuel cell Class 8 trucks, build two new large-capacity hydrogen fueling stations in Wilmington and Ontario, and deploy two electric yard tractors at the Port of Hueneme and two zero-emission forklifts at Toyota's POLA warehouse. Partner match: \$41.4 million.

- The Center for Transportation and the Environment will receive \$5.5 million to deploy 21 battery-electric Class 8 trucks at four Anheuser-Busch distribution facilities, and to commission solar generation at its Carson facility. Partner match: \$5.8 million.

- The Center for Transportation and the Environment will receive \$4.3 million to expand a project with UPS in Ontario that will yield 15 new zero-emission vehicles. Partner match: \$5.2 million.

The projects were chosen based on the following criteria: technology and innovation, potential to act as a "showcase" to industry, benefit to disadvantaged communities, degree of industry collaboration, budget and match funding, and potential for market penetration.