

New electric-vehicle charging stations open in downtown Fresno

Staff reports

The Fresno Bee, Wed., May 13, 2015

Four new recharging stations for electric vehicles were opened Wednesday in downtown Fresno by the Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation.

The foundation installed the charging stations at its Downtown Business Hub, 1444 Fulton St. The charging stations are the product of a partnership between the Hispanic Foundation, the San Joaquin Valley Electric Vehicle Partnership and NRG eVGo, through a grant of almost \$20,000 from the California Energy Commission and other state agencies.

A ribbon-cutting ceremony and workshop were intended to draw attention to incentive programs available to businesses for electric vehicles, fleet programs and infrastructure, including charging stations.

Downtown Business Hub unveils vehicle charging stations

The Business Journal, Wed., May 13, 2015

The Downtown Business Hub in Fresno is the latest site of new electric vehicle charging stations for the Central Valley.

The Fresno Area Hispanic Foundation hosted a ribbon cutting event today to inaugurate the four Level 2 charging stations, in partnership with the San Joaquin Valley Electric Vehicle Partnership and NRG eVGo.

The stations were made possible with nearly \$20,000 in state grants.

"The Downtown Business Hub is showing the way forward for employers in California. NRG is pleased to be offering this solution to more worksites in the San Joaquin Valley at little or not cost to the property or employers," said Terry O'Day, vice president of NRG Energy, a Fortune 250 company with headquarters in New Jersey and Texas.

As part of the ribbon cutting at 1444 Fulton Street, attendees were also given the opportunity to test drive all-electric vehicles.

Last week, Fresno State unveiled its own electric car charging station featuring six stalls.

Rain holds off for Bike to Work morning rides in Modesto

By Deke Farrow

Modesto Bee, Thurs., May 14, 2015

Wow, Modestans, a lot of you get going early in the day.

When organizers of Bike to Work Day arrived at Tenth Street Plaza at about 6 a.m. to set up tables for information, freebies and food, a small crowd of cyclists already was waiting. By 6:30, when the Bike to Work gathering there opened, the courtyard was bustling, they said.

Organizers – and many cyclists, too – got their wish that the rain forecast today would hold off past 8:30 a.m. so that the rides to work and the 10th Street festivities didn't become damp or soggy. Whether the same can be said for rides home today remains to be seen.

For a full report on Bike to Work day, check back at modbee.com later today and see Friday's Bee.

Bike to Work ride in Stockton

Stockton Record, Thurs., May 14, 2015

Nearly 100 bicyclists participated in Wednesday's annual Bike To Work Day at Janet Leigh Plaza downtown, sponsored by the city of Stockton, Downtown Stockton Alliance and the San Joaquin Bike Coalition.

"The city is going to redo our bike plan; part of the issue is better roads that people feel safe on," said Gordon MacKay, Stockton's public works director, who rode to the event with friends from north Stockton.

"I think people will use them because we have the perfect climate, it's flat, and it's a great area to ride a bike."

Rides began at more than a dozen places in Stockton as cyclists worked their way to a gathering at the plaza.

Bike to Work Day will be held today in Lodi, which hosted the Amgen Tour of California this week. Bike to Work Day was held in Tracy on Tuesday.

A cyclist participating in Stockton's event was injured Wednesday morning while crossing North El Dorado Street in downtown Stockton.

The unidentified cyclist was the first in line to cross El Dorado at the lighted crosswalk near the movie theater complex when he was hit by a vehicle. The man got up on his own before being attended to by paramedics. He was taken to an area hospital with what appeared to be minor injuries.

The accident, according to an official with the San Joaquin Council of Governments who focuses on transportation issues, points to the fact that both motorists and cyclists need to be more aware of sharing the road with each other.

Rain won't halt Modesto's Bike to Work Day

Modesto Bee, Wed., May 13, 2015

Rain or shine, Bike to Work Day is a go in Modesto on Thursday.

"I really hope the rain holds off, but we will still have the event either way!" Megan Distaso, Rideshare coordinator for the City of Modesto, said in an email this morning.

Participants can join up at Tenth Street Plaza from 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. Thursday for a free breakfast of coffee, juice, rolls and fruit, as well as giveaways, including a free T-shirt to the first 150 people to join the party.

"We will move the tables under cover or inside" if it starts to rain, Distaso said. "It is looking fairly optimistic for the morning; hopefully, the rain will wait until 8:30!"

Mayor Garrad Marsh has a scheduling conflict Thursday morning, so his Bike With the Mayor ride will be Friday morning.

Riders will meet between 6:30 and 7 a.m. at Plantation Coffee, 3020 Floyd Ave., for departure at 7. The ride will go east on Floyd to Oakdale Road, south on Oakdale to Orangeburg Avenue, east on Orangeburg to the Virginia Corridor and south on that bike trail into downtown Modesto. The ride should finish at Tenth Street Plaza at 7:30.

Bike to Work Day promotes cycling in general, and specifically as a way to commute. Valley Bike Commute serves as a resource for Bike to Work events and year-round support for bicyclists and pedestrians in San Joaquin, Stanislaus and Merced counties, according to its website, www.valleybikecommute.com.

For more on Bike to Work Day, call (209) 571-5193.

Celebrate Bike to Work Week with the city of Lodi

By Kyla Cathey

Lodi News Sentinel, Thurs., May 14, 2015

At the Lodi City Council's May 6 meeting, Mayor Bob Johnson declared this week Bike to Work Week.

"This is the week bicycles are taking over the city of Lodi," he joked.

From 6:30 to 8:30 a.m. Thursday, the city will host a Bike to Work Week event at All Veterans Plaza. City Manager Steve Schwabauer will lead a short riding tour through Lodi. There will also be coffee and bagels, free T-shirts, bike tune-ups and a prize drawing for a gift certificate to a local bike shop.

The city will be joined by representatives from REI, Lodi Bicycle Shoppe, and the San Joaquin Bike Coalition. For more information, visit www.valleybikecommute.com.