



# The Plug and the Nozzle

- ZEV Infrastructure Permitting Newsletter No. 1 -

Dear ZEV Stakeholder,

Interested in the state of Zero Emission Vehicle infrastructure in California? The Plug and the Nozzle is here to provide you with the latest information on the status of California's ZEV infrastructure. From permitting challenges and best practices for local governments to celebrating the heroes of the ZEV infrastructure world, stay tuned as the Governor's Office of Business and Economic Development (GO-Biz) plugs you in.

## By the Numbers (November 2019)

	Type of Charger/Station	# of Charge Ports/Stations	2025 Goal
EV Chargers	Public Level 2 Chargers	18,675	240,000
	Private Shared Level 2 Chargers	20,000* Approx.	
	DCFC	3,272	10,000
Hydrogen Stations	H <sub>2</sub>	42	200

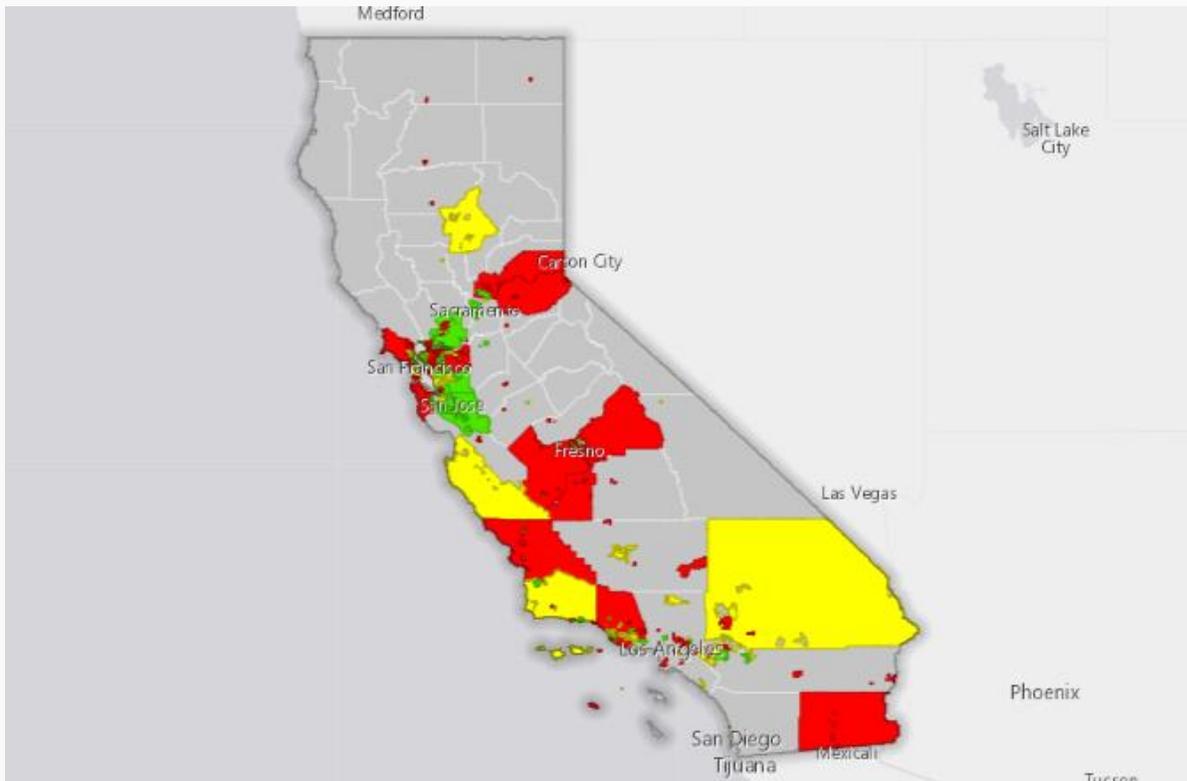
\* Information provided by charging station developers in California.  
Source: Alternative Fuels Data Center

# Streamlining the State: Stakeholder Tools

## 1. Turning the State Green: Mapping Jurisdictions' EV Charging Permit Streamlining Success

As a companion to the Electric Vehicle Charging Station Permitting Guidebook, discussed below, GO-Biz released the [Electric Vehicle Charging Station Permit Streamlining Map](#) to track progress towards streamlining permitting processes throughout the state. The map visually tracks the streamlining status of California's electric vehicle charging station (EVCS) permit streamlining law (Government Code Section 65850.7, also known as [AB 1236](#) (2015)).

Cities and counties displayed in green on the map have implemented permit streamlining best practices. GO-Biz staff is actively engaged in outreach with key partners, and will continue to evaluate jurisdictions across the state. Map viewers can find specific ordinances and permit checklists by clicking on any green jurisdiction. Cities and counties can leverage this info to easily replicate success and benefit from lessons learned.



### Status of California's EVCS Permitting: Have We Streamlined Yet?

As of today, GO-Biz has evaluated 181 jurisdictions in California. Of the one third of the state that has been graded, 40 cities or counties have been deemed **Streamlined**, 51 are **Partially Streamlined** and 90 are considered **Not Streamlined**. The GO-Biz Team is here to support cities and counties on their path to permit streamlining to scale the ZEV market in California. If we can provide any assistance or if you would like us to add your jurisdiction to the map, please email [zev@gobiz.ca.gov](mailto:zev@gobiz.ca.gov).

## 2. ZEVe- Award

GO-Biz is honoring six talented and dedicated individuals who have gone above and beyond to streamline the EVCS permitting practices in their communities. Success with permit streamlining can only take place by bold and determined action at the local level and this award – the ZEVe- (pronounced zev-y), seeks to honor those trailblazers. We will be issuing additional ZEVe-'s in future newsletters to highlight other ZEV heroes that are championing permit streamlining across California.



- **Robyn Eason**, *Senior Sustainability Planner, Planning & Development Services, City of West Hollywood* – The online resources for [EV Charge Up West Hollywood](#) are one of the best examples in California of a jurisdiction's commitment to permit streamlining. Robyn at the Planning Department in West Hollywood, in collaboration with Ben Galan and Cynthia Zabala of the City's Building & Safety Division, put together a clear and comprehensive overview of how to get a permit for a charging station on the city's website. Through Robyn and the city's leadership, West Hollywood is ready for EV infrastructure and cleaner air. The online resources provide a model for other jurisdictions hoping to attract EV investment into their communities.
- **Bonique Emerson**, *Former Planning Manager, Planning and Development Department, City of Fresno* - Based on feedback from the community, in the summer 2019, Fresno adopted an EVCS permit streamlining ordinance. Knowing that an ordinance, on its own, is not enough to improve permit processing timelines, Bonique and Devin Vongehr, a Fresno State intern, worked collaboratively with staff from the City's Public Works Department to come up with a simplified permitting process with the goal of bypassing the Planning process entirely. This new process went public in September of 2019 and resulted in quicker processing timelines for dozens of EVCS permits. Because

of Bonique's heroic effort, her city will have cleaner air and increased investment in Fresno from charging companies. As the largest city in the San Joaquin Valley and the fifth largest city in California, Fresno's streamlined EVCS process will have major implications for the region.

- **Jessie Denver**, *Manager, Distributed Energy Resources Program, East Bay Community Energy (EBCE)* - EBCE recognizes that reducing soft costs is key in accelerating market transformation for charging infrastructure and electric vehicles at scale. To that end, Jessie has been leading the way to streamline permitting across the East Bay, working with communities throughout Alameda County to ensure installing electric vehicle charging infrastructure is as simple as possible for all stakeholders. Jessie's team aims to streamline the entire East Bay by January 2020 and is working with GO-Biz to track progress.
- **Winfred DeLeon**, *Chief Building Official, City of Sacramento*; **Stacia Cosgrove**, *Principal Planner, City of Sacramento* and **Jennifer Venema**, *Sustainability Manager, City of Sacramento* - Sacramento is one of the most friendly EV cities in the United States. City staff have been early implementers of AB 1236, and under Winfred DeLeon's leadership the Building Division has created a streamlined process to quickly approve an array of EV charging technologies, including over 600 public Level 2 chargers and approximately 40 public fast chargers. Led by Stacia Cosgrove, the current Planning Division supports this process with streamlined plan check that keeps projects out of ministerial and discretionary review. Jennifer Venema supports by leading the City's community-wide EV initiatives and programs in California's Capital City, helping to prioritize EV efforts and advance the City's progress. This team effort has contributed to making Sacramento one of the easiest places to install EV infrastructure. The City team's effective approach to support EV projects has been vital to Sacramento's EV transformation.



### **3. Laying the Foundation: California's EV Charging Station Permitting Guidebook (released July 2019)**

California has the most robust ZEV infrastructure in the country, but also one of the most challenging permitting environments. To reach true market potential as quickly as possible,

California must be the most straightforward place in the country to install market enabling ZEV charging and fueling infrastructure.

The goal of the [Electric Vehicle Charging Station Permitting Guidebook](#) is to address these permitting challenges and hasten the transition to plug-in electric vehicles by simplifying the deployment of electric vehicle charging stations. The Guidebook helps create a shared foundation of understanding for how cities, counties, and developers can work together to streamline the planning, permitting, installation, and ongoing operation of charging stations and supporting equipment.

If you have any questions, please contact the GO-Biz ZEV team at [zev@gobiz.ca.gov](mailto:zev@gobiz.ca.gov).



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