



**TO:** Board of County Commissioners (“Board”)  
**FROM:** Michael Wurzel, Sustainability Coordinator  
**SUBJECT:** Go Electric Vehicle (GoEV) County Resolution  
**DATE:** Prepared for September 22, 2020 Board Regular Meeting Consent Agenda

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**BACKGROUND:**

GoEV City/County is a collaborative effort for local governments across Colorado to help lead the state-wide transition to electric transportation. This effort is being jointly coordinated by the Colorado Public Interest Research Group (CoPIRG), Southwest Energy Efficiency Project (SWEET), Clean Energy Economy for the Region (CLEER), Conservation Colorado and the Sierra Club, with free technical assistance and support from these entities provided to participating GoEV communities.

At a February 5, 2019 and September 15, 2020 work sessions, County staff and representatives from CoPIRG and SWEET provided the Board with an overview of the GoEV commitment, focusing on (a) how this effort would integrate with existing state and local efforts to transition to EVs, (b) what it would involve for Summit County to pursue this effort collaboratively with the towns, Xcel Energy and other key partners in the Summit Climate Action Collaborative, and (c) the next steps that can be pursued to move forward with becoming a GoEV County.

**PURPOSE:**

In Summit County, the Climate Action Plan inventoried local greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions and showed that 33% of the County’s total GHG emissions currently come from the transportation sector. Communities that adopt a GoEV Resolution make a commitment to embrace electric transportation in order to meet the community’s climate action goals and provide cleaner air, more affordable transportation, and leadership for greater EV adoption nationwide.

**OVERVIEW OF THE Go EV COMMITMENT:**

Similar to the 100% renewable electricity goals adopted by Summit County, the Town of Breckenridge and many other Colorado communities in 2017 and 2018, communities that adopt the GoEV commitment via a Resolution do the same type of goal setting in the transportation sector by **setting a goal to transition to electrification of the transportation sector and agreeing to pursue the following key actions:**

- Develop an **EV Readiness Plan** within 18 months of joining that establishes goals and implementation strategies required to transition the local transportation sector to zero emission vehicles. HC3 is currently drafting an EV Readiness Plan in partnership with the county and towns. This plan should be ready for review in late 2020.
- Work to **transition county / municipal fleet and transit vehicles to zero emission vehicles**. By replacing fleet vehicles with EVs, local governments can reduce emissions and operating costs. Local governments can establish incremental targets for purchases of EVs and consider EV procurement for any vehicle replacements when suitable EV options are available with equivalent operational capability. Group buy programs and state and federal grant funding can be used to help fund the cost of these vehicle purchases and build-out of the necessary charging infrastructure.
- Help to **facilitate the transition of all vehicles in the community to zero emission vehicles** through a range of possible policies and programs that will be outlined in the EV Readiness

Plan. Examples of recommended actions proven to advance the transition to EVs in Colorado communities include:

- **EV charging access & infrastructure** - Install workplace charging at county/municipal buildings, and increase access to EV charging by adopting EV-Ready building codes and providing incentives for businesses and multi-family properties to build their own. Communities can apply for state and federal grants to fund these projects and maintain affordable charging costs for users.
- **Engage in local, state and federal EV advocacy efforts.**
- **Working with electric utilities.** Local governments can work with electric utilities to advocate for utility investment in EV infrastructure and EV-specific rate design. Key areas of focus for Xcel include their EV Make Ready Infrastructure Program, and commitments to support 1.5 million EVs in their territory by 2030.
- **Develop rules, regulations and pilot programs for E-Bikes.**
- **Community education and outreach** to encourage residents to purchase EVs by promoting and hosting informational opportunities such as EV Ride and Drive events.

A sample GoEV resolution template is attached for the Board's reference, which can be customized to be appropriate for Summit County based on direction received from the Board and County Manager's office. The GoEV resolution recognizes GHG emissions from the transportation sector as one of the largest contributors to climate change and acknowledges a responsibility to reduce those emissions through local policy.

#### **STATEWIDE CONTEXT:**

In January 2018, the state of Colorado released the Colorado Electric Vehicle Plan, which sets the goal of nearly 1 million EVs on the road by 2030 (15-30% of total vehicles). Governor Polis' recent Executive Order Supporting a Transition to Zero Emission Vehicles provides further directives to accelerate widespread electrification of vehicles throughout the state and to focus all remaining Volkswagen settlement funds on supporting electrification of transportation, including transit buses, school buses and trucks. Achieving these EV goals is key to meeting state targets for carbon emissions reductions, and it requires local governments to get involved to help meet the challenge by implementing policies and strategies to kick the EV transition into high gear.

#### **STAFF RECOMMENDATION :**

Staff recommends the Board of County Commissioners pass the attached GoEV County Resolution as a commitment to electrify the local transportation sector, transitioning to 100% electric and zero emissions vehicles by 2050, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions in the transportation sector and meet its climate action goals.

#### **ATTACHMENTS:**

- GoEV Resolution

**CC:** Bentley Henderson, Assistant County Manager  
Jim Curnutte, Community Development Director  
Tom Gosiorowski, Public Works Director  
Chris Lubbers, Transit Director  
Susan Davis, Xcel Energy  
Jess Hoover, Climate Action Director, High Country Conservation Center