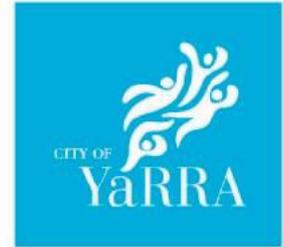


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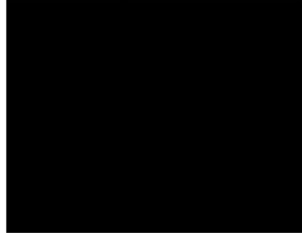


11 November 2025

Legislative Council Economy and Infrastructure Committee
Inquiry into Electricity Supply for Electric Vehicles

Submitted: <https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/get-involved/inquiries/electricvehicleinquiry/submissions/>

Yarra City Council



Re: Inquiry into Electricity Supply for Electric Vehicles

Thank you for the opportunity to provide this officer submission on behalf of Yarra City Council regarding the Inquiry into Electricity Supply for Electric Vehicles.

Yarra City Council is strongly committed to encouraging and supporting the rapid switch to EVs as decarbonisation of transport is critical to meeting our carbon reduction goals. As a member of the Northern Alliance for Greenhouse Action, Yarra supports the Victorian Greenhouse Alliances' (VGA) submission recommendations, particularly the following:

- Collaborate with local governments, distribution network service providers (DNSPs), and Charge Point Operators to develop a coordinated statewide plan for EV charging infrastructure, and co-fund chargers in areas where installation is more complex or commercially unviable.
- Work with local governments and DNSPs to enable equitable opportunities for grid-friendly EV charging, leveraging low-cost solar energy and spare network capacity during periods of peak supply.
- Expand purchase incentives and financing support for low- and middle-income households, small businesses, and heavy fleets, while leveraging state government purchasing power to accelerate fleet transitions and build market confidence.
- Foster ongoing collaboration among all levels of government and industry to ensure a coordinated EV transition within an integrated sustainable transport strategy, supported by increased investment in public and active transport.

Given the makeup of Yarra's housing stock, we would like to add to the VGA submission by highlighting specific challenges in Yarra and other inner-city areas. Up to 86.5% of Yarra households potentially face challenges charging EVs at their homes, either because they have no off-street parking or live in multi-unit developments. This challenge is exacerbated by the fact that 51% of Yarra residents are in private rentals or rented social housing.

The National Construction Code now mandates EV-ready infrastructure in new apartments, but existing multi-unit buildings face significant barriers such as limited power supply, high connection costs, and complex governance arrangements.

Yarra strongly encourages the Victorian government to **develop a statewide EV charging strategy and implementation plan** to support current and future demand with a more

coordinated and equitable rollout of EV charging infrastructure. This strategy should include a focus on providing legislative and financial support to help retrofit existing multi-unit developments for EV charging and general electrification.

Along with other inner-city councils, Yarra is facing increasing pressure from residents without off-street parking to permit home-to-kerb charging solutions to provide them with the lowest-cost option for EV charging and to enable participation in future vehicle to home/grid technologies. Investigation and trialing of potential solutions is proving to be resource intensive, while the perceived lack of charging options remains a key barrier to EV uptake.

This barrier is unlikely to be addressed solely by current initiatives such as pole mounted EV chargers or destination chargers. Whilst these solutions are essential in the creation of a robust EV charging network, their roll out is proving difficult for many reasons and are unlikely to provide sufficient charging capacity to meet the needs and accelerate uptake of EVs in inner-city councils at the rate required to reach local, state and federal government targets.

We would **encourage the Victorian government to follow on from the success of the UK government**, which has provided guidance¹ and funding² designed to help local authorities in England develop policies on the safe and effective use of cross-pavement solutions.

We would welcome the opportunity to speak with you directly regarding this submission, to discuss how best to leverage the respective capabilities and resources of all levels of government to encourage the rapid decarbonisation of transport and to ensure the best outcomes for Yarra and Victorian communities.

Yours sincerely,



Mary Osman

General Manager City Sustainability and Strategy, Yarra City Council

¹ <https://www.gov.uk/government/publications/cross-pavement-solutions-for-charging-electric-vehicles/cross-pavement-solutions-for-charging-electric-vehicles>

² <https://find-government-grants.service.gov.uk/grants/electric-vehicle-chargepoint-grant-for-households-with-on-street-parking-1>