**WHAT IS AN EV CHARGING STATION?**

An EV Charging Station is an electrical supply, housed within a purposed built bollard or pillar, with a connecting cable designed specially to recharge electric vehicles (EVs). It’s a bit like a petrol pump or bowser for cars and trucks, but with electricity instead of petrol or diesel.

**TECH SPECS**

The charge station at Fawkner is a Level 2 Charge Point – the same as those that have been widely used across Victoria’s electric vehicle trial.

Re-charge times will vary on a battery bank’s ‘depth of discharge’, the equivalent of “how full the tank is”. For example, if recharging a Nissan Leaf that is half-charged, it would take 3-4 hours to be full again. Given the length of the recharge time, these EV charging stations are really in place to ‘top-up’ an EV, or extend the range if you’re out and about in your electric vehicle. A much faster recharge time is possible at Coburg Civic Centre’s Level 3 fast charge that can fully charge an electric vehicle in to 20-30mins.

**THINGS TO BE AWARE OF:**

Most importantly the electricity supply for a charging station needs to be large enough to handle the additional demand of charging an EV. In some instances, this can limit what sites are possible to install this sort of infrastructure. A site inspection with an electrician will usually identify if the existing electrical infrastructure is large enough, or whether an upgrade might be necessary.

**BENEFITS**

Electric Vehicles when powered by 100% Green Power are completely emissions free and widely regarded the future of sustainable transport. One of the commonly discussed barriers to
EVs is known as ‘range-anxiety’. This is a fear of running out of power and getting a flat battery then being stranded. For this reason most electric vehicles are seen as for commuting and shopping rather than long trips. The battery capacity of EVs has improved, which sees EVs like the Leaf have total range of up to 120kms. However, having more publically accessible charging stations around metro Melbourne is seen as a key step to making EVs a viable choice for more Melbournians.

**IN ACTION AT MORELAND CITY COUNCIL FACILITY**

The electric vehicle (EV) charging station installed at CB Smith reserve is the fourth public electric vehicle charging station installed at Moreland. It becomes part of a network that includes the EV Hub at Coburg Civic Centre (including Victoria’s first public EV fast charger and two Level 2 Charge Points), and a plug in hybrid EV car share trial. The plug in hybrid EV car share trial is an Australian first, with the car being available for both Council officers and the community to use.

**IN ACTION AT CB SMITH RESERVE**

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