

Department of Transportation

Director's Office 355 Capitol St. NE Salem, OR 97301

DATE: April 29, 2013

TO: House Committee on Transportation and Economic Development

FROM: Art James, Office of Innovative Partnerships, ODOT

SUBJECT: SB 536-A—Authorizes state agencies to provide charging facilities for

electric vehicles (EV)

INTRODUCTION

SB 536-A authorizes state agencies to provide charging facilities for electric vehicles (EV).

BACKGROUND

Oregon, and the Oregon Department of Transportation in particular, has been awarded several federal grants to install EV charging infrastructure and become renowned for the West Coast Electric Highway. Although some of these installations have been at local government facilities, state agency facilities have been left out up to this point.

Having EV charging stations in high visibility state-owned locations will increase public awareness and acceptance of the new technologies being introduced. The bill does not require any agency to participate, but will allow them to as long as it does not subsidize the cost of installation or operation of the units. The bill also sets limits on the number of charging stations that may be installed in a biennium. There are a variety of private vendors that are active in this space in Oregon currently.

There are currently about 2,500 plug-in EVs in Oregon, and several automakers are experiencing their best sales ever in 2013.

SUMMARY

Oregon has established itself as a leader in the movement towards transportation electrification and SB 536-A will enable state agencies to participate in efforts to accelerate adoption of EVs in the state.