



City of Rochester

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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City of Rochester Announces Initial Electric Vehicle Purchase.

Rochester, Michigan – July 31, 2020

Rochester includes electric vehicle in fleet. The Rochester City Council at the July 13th meeting voted to approve the lease of a Chevy Bolt electric vehicle for the use by City Staff, primarily for in-town use. The City's Building Official, Randy McClure, will be the principal user for travel to and from inspections.

"Rochester is excited to purchase our first electric car. We believe this is a good investment for the City and promotes our City's green initiative. Rochester is pleased to be working to help our environment," said Rochester Mayor Stuart Bikson.

Notably, the City leased this vehicle via a fleet management solution through Enterprise Fleet Mgmt. LLC, which offered the best overall price and value. This exemplifies staff's commitment to exercising all options and looking for creative solutions. Typically, the City uses the Michigan Inter-governmental Trade Network (MITN) purchasing cooperative to obtain the lowest prices.

With the purchase of an electric vehicle, the City of Rochester hopes to lead by example. These types of transitions help to cut greenhouse gas emissions, save taxpayer money as there are no fuel cost and little maintenance, improve public health, and reduce our nation's dependency on oil. The City of Rochester is looking to the future, and this is a step towards a more sustainable community.

The electric vehicle solution works well for the City's needs as most travel is within the 3.82 square miles and a fully charged battery offers an estimated 259-mile range. To charge the vehicle staff will utilize the existing charging stations positioned just east of City Hall in the public parking along north Pine Street. These charging stations were put in place in 2011 to allow residents and visitors an accessible way to charge their electric vehicles while in downtown or enjoying the parks and trails.

As part of the commitment towards sustainability the City will continue to explore options to expand the use of electric vehicles in the City's fleet. Staff will also assess the usage and need for more charging stations throughout the City with stations in the City's parking decks being investigated as the City's next logical locations.

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