



MUNICIPAL TAXATION AND REVEUE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

RECOMMENDATION #9

Electric Vehicle Charging Stations - Ordinance 450-2021

Pursuant to its Mission to Identify models of revenue sources, budgeting practices and resource allocation, MTRAC recommends the following changes to the proposed ordinance on the installation of Electric Vehicle Charging Stations:

- The Installation of Publicly accessible EVSE should be subject of an initial Municipal Assessment of \$1,000, a mercantile license requirement and an annual fee of \$300 per EVSE.
- Revenue from the above assessments and fees should be wholly deposited in the Parking Trust Account of the City of Cape May established by Section 525-49.
- Council should further amend this proposed ordinance to address those issues and conditions unique to Cape May as it may deem necessary and proper for the good government, order and protection of persons and property, and for the preservation of the public health, safety and welfare of the Cape May and its inhabitants.

BACKGROUND

- A. The Planning Board has reported that, while consistent with certain environmental goals of the Master Plan, the proposed Ordinance is inconsistent with other portions of the Master Plan that seek to improve parking city wide and the Master Plan's desire to preserve the streetscape and character of historic neighborhoods. The board has also urged Council to modify such portions of the Ordinance as it is legally able in order to address these comments.

The Master Plan of the City has found that City of Cape May is a dense, compact municipality with shops, restaurants, recreational areas, and cultural and historic attractions in close proximity, and that the City should improve traffic and parking conditions across the City, while maintaining the charming and historic character of the community that makes it such a popular resort community; and

- B. The expanding impact of development on the limited capacity of the city streets to accommodate vehicles is well documented. The imposition of state mandated onsite parking restrictions for EV's will deepen that impact.

This impact is one of the reasons the City, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 40:48-2, created the Parking Trust Account for the periodic purchase, lease, acquisition or maintenance of off-street parking lots to serve the City.

- C. The intent of the model statewide ordinance is to ensure that municipalities are requiring installation of EVSE and Make-Ready parking spaces in a consistent manner and also to provide an ordinance that can be easily used by every municipality with no or minimal amendments by the municipality.

The model ordinance includes four statutorily mandated provisions, but also other sections which are not statutorily mandated. These include Averments, Purpose and Goals, Definitions (apart from the two mandatory definitions from the statute) and Standards regarding locations, installation, parking enforcement, safety, signage, fees, housekeeping, etc. These areas must be clarified for the benefit of Cape May.