

HB1316, Residential Construction – Electric Vehicle Charging
House Environment and Transportation Committee
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Zero Emissions Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC): “Public” member
Position: FAVORABLE

CHANGE IS HARD!!!

As the Public member of the ZEEVIC , I hear from the Public often. The General Assembly wanted 60,000 electric vehicles (EVs) in the state by 2020 in its charge to the ZEEVIC We currently have about 23,000. At the current rate, we will not reach the 60,000 EVs nor will we reach the 300,000 EVs by 2025. Both of these EV goals are assumed to be reached in the draft Green House Gas Reduction Plan (GHGRP) proposed by Governor Hogan.

It is a known fact that 80% of EV owners want to charge at home. HB1316 will future proof all new residential construction by providing EV ready (capped conduit with electric cable) and/or actual EV chargers (EVSE) in parking areas.

Howard County has already required in new residential construction EV ready and/or EVSE in 2018. Howard Hughes, the builder and developer of Columbia’s Downtown, has just installed 40 Level 2 chargers in a parking structure adjacent to a 385 unit apartment building. They actually installed more than is required for the apartment units. HB1316 will essentially replicate the Howard County legislation for residential units.

More than 50% of new Maryland residential construction is in Multi-unit dwellings (MUD) (condo, apartments, townhouses, etc.) It is difficult and expensive to retrofit MUDs after they have been built. Getting approval from an HOA board is difficult and time consuming.

Regarding costs to builders; there are multiple rebates available. All utilities in Maryland have a rebate program underway that applies to both new and existing construction. The state of Maryland also has a rebate program, The Federal government has a rebate program. Finally, whatever a builder installs can be depreciated. The cost per unit after all these rebates becomes negligible.

State policy is to have 300,000 electric vehicles in Maryland by 2025 and a 40% decrease in Greenhouse gases. The transportation sector is now the largest source of Greenhouse Gases in Maryland.

Please report out HB1316 Favorably.