

Testimony to the House Environment and Transportation Committee
HB 889 Building Code - Construction and Significant Renovation of Housing Units -
Electric Vehicle Parking Spaces
Position: Favorable

21 February 2024

The Honorable Marc Korman, Chair
Room 251, House Office Building, Annapolis, MD 21401

Honorable Chair Korman and Members of the House Environment and Transportation Committee:

My name is Scott Wilson, and I currently serve on the Maryland Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Council (ZEEVIC). I am also vice president of the Electric Vehicle Association of Greater Washington DC (EVADC). I support the passage of HB 889 for the following reasons.

As Marylanders are discovering, one of the many advantages of owning an electric vehicle is being able to charge it at home. Next to free public charging, it is almost always the lowest-cost electricity available. Given what I pay for electricity at home, I drive at about 3.5 cents/mile. At current prices, a gas car would cost me about 12+ cents/mile, and my daily driving cost in my EV is about one-third of what it would otherwise be.

It is thus vitally important that during significant renovation of single-family and multi-family housing, as defined by the bill, we do not lose the opportunity to install at least the electric capacity to enable the type of home charging enjoyed by single-family homeowners, when that installation will be the least expensive. To minimize cost, EV charging capacity and/or chargers should be installed when electric capacity is being upgraded or when parking upgrades involve repaving or trenching in or around parking spaces since it is far cheaper to install hardware *before* a parking lot is paved rather than *after*, or when trenching occurs anyway.

Pre-wiring with a minimum 208V line and installing an EVSE during renovation are the best way to ensure that, as EV adoption increases, current and future single-family and multi-family residents can fully benefit from the EV opportunity in the least expensive way possible.

Thank you for your time,

Scott Wilson

