

Electric Vehicle (EV) Charging Stations Timeline in Bristol

Based on the documents I've reviewed, Bristol has been working on implementing Level 2 EV charging stations for several years. Here's a chronological summary of the relevant information:

Early Planning (2017-2019)

- In February 2017, the Bristol Energy Committee (BEC) discussed potential locations for Level 2 chargers, noting they would take about 2 hours to charge a car. They considered the parking lot east of Shaws as a possible location.
- By August 2018, the BEC was planning for 3 parking spaces with Level 2 chargers (one double, one single) that would need to be networked. Ian Albinson was tasked with writing up a proposal with Sally Burrell.
- In October 2019, the BEC discussed that Level 2 chargers would give people time to shop and eat in town while charging. They explored various locations, including Bristol Beverage, a yellow building next to Art on Main, schools, and Shaw's.

Grant Applications and Progress (2021-2023)

- In March 2021, the BEC heard a presentation about GMP offering \$750 each for Level 2 chargers. They determined that West Street along the park was likely the best location.
- By April 2021, after "failed attempts the past three years," the BEC was working again on applying for grants for at least two Level 2 chargers on West Street by the Bristol Green.
- In April 2022, the BEC had received a turn-key bid from Norwich Electric for Level 2 chargers and planned to present to the Selectboard.

Recent Developments (2023-2025)

- In July 2023, the Selectboard authorized the Energy Committee to apply for a grant for up to three charging stations.
- By November 2023, Ian Albinson explained that progress was being made on installation of "upper end Level 2 charging stations, which are also fairly fast."
- In December 2023, the Selectboard considered a quote from NorwichEV for installation of two Level 2 EV chargers. The cost to the Town would be approximately \$860 with a projected \$500 annual cost once operational. The chargers would provide 40-50 miles of travel per hour of charging. The Selectboard voted to apply for the EV Chargers grant using the available bid information.
- In March 2024, the Energy Committee and Selectboard were still working to determine the best locations for Level 2 chargers.

- By June 2024, the Municipal Energy Resilience Program assessment recommended Level 2 chargers for the Lawrence Memorial Library, noting they "provide around 20 miles of charge per hour."

Planning Commission Considerations (2025)

- In early 2025, the Planning Commission began discussing an Interim Bylaw related to EV chargers. By February 2025, they were considering exempting all Level 1 and Level 2 chargers from certain regulations, noting that "Level 2 infrastructure is generally obsolete for travelers, but still important for homeowners/employers."