



Staff Report

August 13th, 2024

TO: Honorable Mayor and Members of the Town Council
FROM: Richard Ly-Lee, Town Engineer
RE: Adopt a resolution to initiate and adopt the Loomis Electrification project into the 24/25 and 25/26 CIP.

Recommendation

Staff recommends that the Town Council adopt a resolution authorizing the Town Engineer to proceed with the initiation and CIP adoption of the Loomis Electrification project (24-07). Additionally, allowing the Town Engineer to proceed with the Federal Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program (CFI Program).

Project Background and Scope

The Town of Loomis owns four Level 2 electric vehicle (EV) chargers located at the Historic Train Depot in Downtown Loomis. The chargers are currently free to the public, making it a convenient amenity for local residents and town visitors to charge their EVs while also incentivizing additional foot traffic and economic activity in Downtown Loomis. The EV chargers can also be used by downtown employees and contractors, making Downtown Loomis a more attractive and convenient place to work. The Town of Loomis is contracted with Bear Electric to maintain the existing EV chargers.

The Loomis Electrification Project need was identified as part of the Placer Countywide Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) Infrastructure Plan and advances California's goal of 48% below 1990 levels by 2030. The demand for EVs has steadily increased over the last decade, and new EV models are entering the market each year. Furthermore, California has an aggressive policy to require all new passenger cars, trucks, and SUVs sold in California to be ZEVs by 2035. At the time of this staff report, there are about 520 public and private DC fast and Level 2 EV chargers in Placer County and a little more than a dozen EV chargers in the Town of Loomis to support the transition to ZEVs. To ensure the Town of Loomis can accommodate the growing number of EVs on the road, additional EV charging capacity is needed in public places.

The project scope includes adding ten new EV chargers, constructing covered parking structure, and generating electricity on-site by installing solar panels and battery storage at the Loomis Historic Depot and Loomis Library. Additional information about scope, cost, and schedule are provided below in Attachment B.

Discussion

The project provides the following benefits:

- Emergency power to public buildings.
- Promotes the use/purchase of EVs, which reduces GHG emissions in the transportation sector.

- EVs provide local quality of life benefits such as reduced air and noise pollution.
- Access to free EV charging promotes additional foot traffic and spending in Downtown Loomis.
- Access to free EV charging makes EVs more accessible to lower-income travelers.
- On-site solar generation and battery storage provide a sustainable and clean energy source to charge EVs and reduce long-term utility costs for the Town.
- Covered parking is more attractive to potential Downtown visitors, especially during extreme heat or heavy rain events.
- Reduce the dependence on energy credits purchased from solar companies in southern California.

CEQA Requirements

The project at its current state is not subject to review under CEQA pursuant to Section 15061(b)(3), which exempts administrative items since they will not result in any direct or indirect physical change in the environment.

Financial and/or Policy Implications

The estimated cost implications of this project is \$1,000,000. Staff is seeking to apply for the Federal Charging and Fueling Infrastructure Discretionary Grant Program (CFI Program). The CFI Program is administered by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and aims “to strategically deploy publicly accessible EV charging and alternative fueling infrastructure in certain locations or along designated Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFCs) that will be accessible to all drivers of EVs, hydrogen vehicles, propane vehicles, and natural gas vehicles.” The grant program will remain active until 26/27 or until funds have been exhausted. The CFI program will require a 20% match on the total project costs, which is estimated to be \$200,000 for the Town of Loomis.

Currently, the Town does not have the funding to program the matching contribution in 24/25. The only financial impact for 24/25 is to the amount of \$10,000 from the General Fund Capital Reserves (110) for support services for the grant application. If the grant is awarded, the Town must appropriate 20% matching funds prior to the start of construction. The Town will have approximately 24 months after grant approval to obtain the 20% match, but only 36 months to complete construction.

Project Schedule

The estimated cost of the project is currently not viable without Federal grant funding. Without receipt of Federal grant funding the project will not proceed further. If approved the 24/25 grant application will be submitted to FHWA. If rejected, FHWA will provide valuable feedback to improve the application’s competitiveness for subsequent applications.

After grant approval the Town will have 36 months to complete the project. See estimated schedule below:

- 1) Community Engagement (6 months)
- 2) Development of Plans, Specifications, and Estimates (8 months)
- 3) Construction Award (2 month)
- 4) Construction (2 month)

Attachment

- A. Resolution
- B. Loomis Electrification Presentation

TOWN OF LOOMIS

RESOLUTION NO. 24 - _____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN OF LOOMIS
AUTHORIZING THE TOWN ENGINEER TO PROCEED WITH ADOPTION OF THE
LOOMIS ELECTRIFICATION PROJECT (24-07) INTO THE 24/25 AND 25/26
CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.**

WHEREAS, the Engineering Department recommends the authorization of the adoption of the Loomis Electrification Project (24-07) into the 24/25 and 25/26 CIP.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Town Council of the Town of Loomis hereby authorizes the Town Manager to proceed with adopting the Loomis Electrification project (24-07) into the 24/25 and 25/26 CIP.

FURTHER RESOLVED that the budget of \$10,000 (within the Town Manager's approving authority) will be allocated for 24/25 from the General Fund Capital Reserves (110) for grant support services.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this 13th day of August 2024 by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

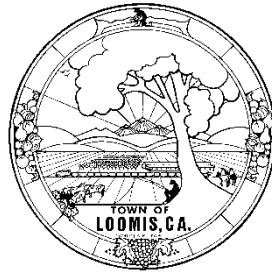
ABSENT:

ABSTAINED:

ATTEST:

Mayor

Deputy Town Clerk



Loomis Electrification Project (24-07)

Project Need:

- Project is part of Placer Countywide Zero Emission Vehicle Infrastructure Plan and CA Zero Emission goal for 2030
- Currently, there are about 520 EV public and private DC fast and Level 2 chargers in Placer County to support a transition to ZEVs, drivers will need access to ZEV infrastructure by 2030.
- Electrification of public spaces will





Solar Carports
w/ EV chargers

Solar Panels

Location 1 (Depot)

Approximately 100 solar panels on Depot
Approximately 200 solar panels on Solar Carports

Savings:

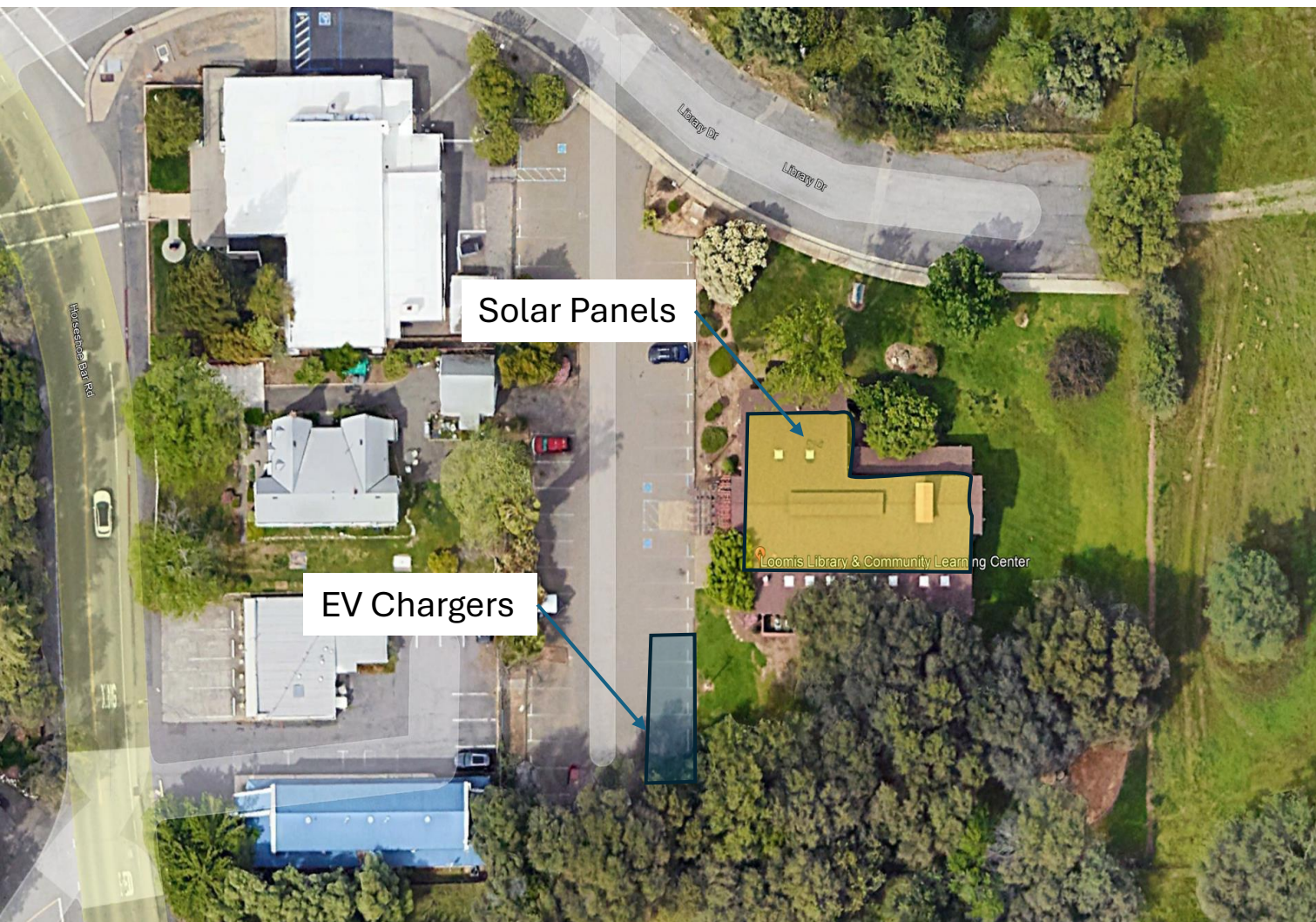
127,368 kWh energy produced

\$54,000 saved per year

Construction Cost: \$600,000

*would require additional electric vehicle charging stalls

*assumed 25% reduction in efficiency



Location 2 (Library)

Approximately area of 2000 square feet
125-solar panels

Savings:

66,526 kWh energy produced

\$27,900 saved per year

Construction Cost: \$300,000

*would require electric vehicle charging stalls

*assumed 25% reduction in efficiency

Project Funding:

FED FUNDS

Design Funding

Local fund estimate of \$30,000 (FY 24/25) for grant writing and design consultants.

Construction Funding

Construction Total Cost: \$900,000

FHWA Grant fund estimate of \$744,000

Local fund estimate of \$186,000 (FY 25/26) for 20% match.

The Charging and Fueling Infrastructure (CFI) Program will accelerate an electrified and alternative fuel transportation system that is convenient, affordable, reliable, equitable, accessible, and safe.

Total Cost to the Town

Estimated at \$186,000

Anticipated ROI*: 4 years

SOLAR SHADE STRUCTURE DESIGNS:

