

Recharge Minnesota Participant Case Study



*Recharge **Minnesota** is a program that supports and publicly recognizes top companies, schools, civic leaders, and others who take specific steps to encourage greater electric vehicle (EV) adoption, consistent with statewide clean air goals. Participating organizations pledge to take action on programs that include installing EV charging stations at the workplace, promoting electric vehicles with employees and the public, and reviewing their own fleet of vehicles for opportunities to convert to electric or plug-in hybrid vehicles.*

The City of North Mankato EV Program Highlights:



Offers Level 2 and Level 3 DC Fast charging stations with plans to install at least two additional chargers.



Money from charging stations will go back into the community through a "quality of life" fund.



Over 11,000 vehicles pass through North Mankato daily.

Read The City of North Mankato's profile for a complete overview on their EV initiatives.

RECHARGE | MN PROFILE

CITY OF NORTH MANKATO

For Mayor Mark Dehen of the City of North Mankato, electric vehicle (EV) chargers are good for local businesses.

North Mankato installed its first EV charging stations, a Level 2 charger and a Level 3 DC fast charger, on the city's aptly named Commerce Drive in 2020, with more charging installations planned for 2021.

"We're working to establish electric vehicle charging stations in our most highly visible, easily accessible commercial quarters within the city," Mayor Dehen says. Commerce Drive was already undergoing renovations, and so the timing aligned with the City's goals.



Mayor Mark Dehen with a Level 2 Charger



DC Fast Charger on Commerce Drive

Commerce Drive is the City's second busiest street, with over 11,000 cars passing the location of the charging stations each day. The stations are situated just a few blocks away from the entrance to Highway 14. The nearby restaurants and retail businesses give EV drivers something to do while they are charging their cars, and that's the whole point, Mayor Dehen says.

The City of North Mankato plans to install two Level 2 charging station, one at the Caswell Park softball complex and one at the Caswell North soccer complex, thanks to a donation from the Olseth Family Foundation, an organization working to improve the community through support of the arts, education, the environment and the underserved, in coordination with BENCO Electric. The site is also located close to Highway 14 and offers ADA friendly sports and playground facilities.

Belgrade Avenue is located in Lower North Mankato, the City's other main commercial area, and is right off of Highway 169. The area has experienced commercial growth and redevelopment in recent years and as a result, the electrical grid required an upgrade. Once again, the timing was right for installing EV chargers, which are now in the planning stages. The nominal fees that the City applies to vehicle charging helps cover the cost of the infrastructure installation. Once paid off, the money will go right back into the community through a "quality of life" fund.



Belgrade Avenue Redevelopment Sketch

Through its EV charging and community engagement at public events, North Mankato is working to promote EVs as an accessible alternative to internal combustion vehicles, one that has a positive impact on people's daily lives. The objective, Mark says, is to "distinguish North Mankato from its peers as a community with a bright future and great quality of life."

Learn more about the City of North Mankato at northmankato.com