

LEADING THE WAY ON ELECTRIC VEHICLES

Canberra is different to the rest of the country. We're progressive, we look after each other and we take the climate crisis seriously.

Taking the climate crisis seriously means building a city that gives Canberrans access to a range of emissions-free transport - from light rail, to buses, to zero-emission cars.

In Government, the ACT Greens have led the nation in providing incentives for new electric vehicles so that we can dramatically reduce the number of petrol cars in the city.

We know the upfront costs of purchasing an EV remains a barrier for many households, and we want to make sure low-income households can benefit from owning an EV.

The ACT Greens will continue to lead the transition towards electric vehicles so we can fight the climate crisis and provide real climate leadership this election.

THE ACT GREENS WILL:

- ▲ Deliver banks of EV chargers in all Town Centres and in the Parliamentary Triangle
- ▲ Deliver two solar covered car parks with battery storage and electric vehicle charging
- ▲ Introduce a \$4000 rebate to help low-income renters and apartment residents purchase an EV
- ▲ Increase the availability of disability accessible EV charging stations and advocate for national accessibility standards
- ▲ Facilitate the establishment of a thriving EV repair, reuse and recycling sector
- ▲ Offer zero interest loans up to \$15,000 for small businesses to purchase zero emissions vehicles for business fleets and pilot a program offering zero interest loans for businesses with high vehicle use (such as driving schools and taxis) to switch to EVs
- ▲ Further reform vehicle duty to discourage highly polluting new vehicles
- ▲ Continue to support development of vehicle to grid technology
- ▲ Maintain progress towards the prohibition of registration of new petrol and diesel cars from 2035
- ▲ Offer zero interest loans for multi-unit buildings to be EV ready and/or to install shared EV chargers
- ▲ Expand the Electric Vehicle Training Centre at CIT to train more EV automotive technicians

LEADING THE WAY ON ELECTRIC VEHICLES

FAST CHARGERS IN EVERY TOWN CENTRE AND THE PARLIAMENTARY TRIANGLE

With a Greens Minister, we have increased the number of public EV chargers in Canberra from 29 in 2020 to 161 in 2024, with 206 charging bays.

But we know that more charging stations are needed, to give drivers confidence across the city.

This initiative will deliver banks of DC chargers with at least six EV charging bays in every Town Centre and the Parliamentary Triangle.

Banks of DC chargers offer faster charging and because there are multiple bays, so EV drivers can be confident that a charger will be available when they get to their destination.

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- \$1.5 million in grants, to be delivered as a grant round similar to previous rounds but with a focus on delivering banks of DC chargers

DELIVER TWO SOLAR COVERED CAR PARKS WITH BATTERY STORAGE AND ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING

Solar covered car parks offer multiple benefits of shading, generating solar power and offering good locations for EV charging, while the charging power can soak up daytime solar generation.

Solar car parks are becoming more common worldwide. The French Government has mandated that any car park with more than 80 spaces must have a solar canopy.

To test the value of solar car parks in the ACT, the ACT Greens will deliver two solar covered car parks combined with battery storage and EV charging. These could be located at Park and Ride car parks and could include low speed EV charging which is suited to cars being parked for multiple hours.

The evaluation of these solar parks will inform future measures to encourage the delivery of more solar car parks if successful.

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- \$3 million, with the intention that this would be delivered through partnering with industry and/or external funding.

EV REBATES FOR LOW-INCOME RENTERS AND APARTMENT RESIDENTS

Switching to an EV can save households thousands of dollars each year in running costs. We know the upfront costs of purchasing an EV remains a barrier for many households, and we want to make sure low-income households can benefit from owning an EV as soon as possible.

We will introduce a \$4000 rebate for low-income households that are renting or own a property with an Unimproved Value of \$300,000 or less, to support the purchase of an EV. Combined with the existing \$15,000 interest free loans available under the Sustainable Household Scheme for eligible households, this initiative will help those households that will benefit the most from the savings gained from switching to an EV.

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- \$10 million to support 2500 households. Program administration to be done within existing resources.

IMPROVE ACCESSIBILITY AT EV CHARGING STATIONS AND ADVOCATE FOR NATIONAL ACCESSIBILITY STANDARDS

Currently there are no agreed national standards for accessible EV charging stations, and no requirements for making charging stations accessible. In

delivering public EV charging stations we have prioritised ensuring a portion of the chargers are accessible.

Barriers to making chargers accessible include lack of space around parking spaces, lack of access to nearby footpaths, some chargers being difficult for people with limited mobility to use, and a lack of restrictions that would make particular EV chargers available only to people with a disability.

We will prioritise addressing these barriers, will introduce a requirement for accessible charging bays in any future EV charger grant rounds, and will advocate for national standards

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- This will be delivered within existing resources

ESTABLISH A THRIVING EV REPAIR, REUSE AND RECYCLING SECTOR

As the number of EVs on our roads increases, more EVs will start to need repairs, replacement of parts and new batteries.

The ACT Greens will establish the ACT as a centre for EV repair, reuse and recycling to maximise the useful life of EVs and batteries, and to minimise the environmental and social impacts of end-of-life products.

The centre could include opportunities for battery repurposing at end-of-life, for use in stationary energy storage, and for recycling of materials where there is no

further repurposing possible. This will create jobs and support research, industry development and innovation while making it easier for Canberrans to access EV support and recycling options.

Our circular economy initiative has more detail on how we will support EV battery recycling.

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- This will be delivered within existing resources through partnerships with researchers and industry, the Circular Economy Grants (announced in our Circular Economy initiative) and the Energy Innovation Fund.

ZERO INTEREST EV LOANS FOR SMALL BUSINESSES

Many small businesses would like to switch to an EV but may not have the capital to cover the upfront costs.

The ACT Greens will offer zero interest loans for up to \$15,000 to help small businesses purchase an EV for a fleet (new or used). We know that many small business owners want to take action to cut their emissions, and these loans will help businesses to electrify their fleet.

We will also run a pilot program offering 50 zero interest loans of up to \$15,000 for businesses with high vehicle use - such as driving schools or taxi companies.

The uptake of EVs by businesses with high vehicle use delivers the most

emissions savings and cost savings for the business.

Vehicle use data from the pilot will help to inform future programs.

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- Total cost \$4.7 million, including \$4.5 million to offer 1000 small business loans, assuming a return of 70% of the initial funds over a 10 year loan (factoring in administration costs) and \$0.23 million to deliver 50 loans in the pilot program (assuming 70% return rate factoring in administration costs).

FURTHER REFORM ON VEHICLE DUTY TO DISCOURAGE HIGHLY POLLUTING NEW VEHICLES

While the number of new EVs being purchased is increasing rapidly, we are also seeing high numbers of new vehicles being registered that are highly polluting.

We propose to revise ACT motor vehicle duty to give a clearer financial advantage to zero emissions vehicles and to increase duties on larger polluting vehicles (categories C and D). This is necessary so that these highly polluting vehicles do not counteract the emissions reductions made by the growing numbers of EVs on our roads.

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- This will be delivered within existing resources

CONTINUE TO SUPPORT VEHICLE-TO-GRID TECHNOLOGY

Vehicle batteries offer an opportunity to support the grid during times of peak demand or energy shortage, helping to reduce the need for costly grid upgrades and enabling households to participate in the energy market if they choose to.

We will build on the successful ACT trial of vehicle-to-grid technology with a further expanded trial and will continue to encourage availability of vehicle-to-grid enabled charging systems.

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- This will be delivered within existing resources, with external funding to be sought from partner organisations.

PHASE OUT NEW PETROL AND DIESEL CARS BY 2035

As more EVs become available and our transport system evolves to support a zero emissions future, we will need a clear cut off date for phasing out the registration of new petrol and diesel cars.

We will maintain the prohibition on registering new petrol and diesel cars (internal combustion engine light vehicles) from 2035. Existing petrol and diesel cars will still be able to be registered after this time, but new vehicles will not. This creates a necessary phase out timeline to help ensure we can meet our emissions

targets and our goal of net zero emissions by 2045.

CONTINUE TO OFFER ZERO INTEREST LOANS FOR APARTMENT BUILDING TO BE EV READY

Many apartment building owners face challenges in retrofitting EV charging capacity to enable installation of EV chargers to residents. Challenges include the installation of cabling under or around existing structures and potentially the need for upgrades to existing electrical infrastructure to cope with increased demand.

To support apartment building owners in making their buildings EV ready, we will offer zero interest loans to owners corporations to help address the upfront cost barrier of installing backbone EV infrastructure that will enable installation of chargers at a later date.

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- This was funded in the 2024-2025 budget. Additional funding could be sought from external agencies.

EXPAND THE ELECTRIC VEHICLE TRAINING CENTRE AT CIT

We need more EV technicians to service the growing number of EVs on our roads.

The CIT Electric Vehicle Training Centre is leading Australia in delivering high quality EV training and we want that work to continue and to expand so that more people can train here.

We will expand the EV Training Centre at CIT to train more automotive technicians to meet rapidly growing demand. This will continue the ACT as a knowledge economy and a hub for zero emissions technology and skills development.

WHAT'S THE INVESTMENT?

- \$5 million with additional funding to be sought from external partners.