

From: [Stephen Nelson](#)
To: [CityClerk](#)
Subject: Public Comment for City Council Meeting - 9/25/25 (Item 9a - Public Electric Vehicle Charging Stations)
Date: Friday, September 19, 2025 8:00:26 AM
Attachments: [Green & Orange Modern Creative Photo Frame Email Signature.png](#)
Importance: High



City Clerk-

Please include the following communication as public comment for the item mentioned above.

Supporting a Strategic EV Charging Solution for Palm Desert

Dear Mayor Harnik and Honorable Council Members,

I'm encouraged to see the City of Palm Desert addressing the growing need for a comprehensive electric vehicle (EV) charging solution for our residents. This is an important move toward modernizing our infrastructure and positioning Palm Desert as a leader in sustainable innovation.

During my tenure on the Resource Preservation and Enhancement Commission (RPEC), I championed this topic at the city level. At the time, we were presented with companies that, frankly, weren't the right fit for Palm Desert. I recommended that the City consider including **Electrify America** (a Volkswagen Group company and a national market leader) as part of the RFP process, but they didn't respond.

After further research, I continue to stand behind that recommendation. However, I also believe the City should seriously consider **EVgo, Inc.**—a highly reputable Southern California-based company headquartered in El Segundo. EVgo not only provides public charging infrastructure at scale, but also offers a robust **fleet charging program** that could directly support the City's own future electric vehicle fleet.

Importantly, **the City should not bear any of the costs associated with providing public charging.** These partnerships should be structured so that the private providers fund, build, and operate the infrastructure—ensuring residents benefit without burdening taxpayers.

Including EVgo in the evaluation process supports a Southern California company while ensuring our residents have access to a best-in-class EV charging network. I hope City staff will take the initiative to ensure EVgo is brought to the table for consideration.

Thank you for your leadership and commitment to building a smarter, cleaner future for Palm Desert.

Respectfully,

Stephen Nelson



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