



NEWS RELEASE



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Hawaiian Electric provides second EV fast charger at Ward Avenue site

HONOLULU, Feb. 9, 2017 – Hawaiian Electric Company has added a second DC Fast Charger for electric vehicles at 820 Ward Avenue. It brings the utility-owned and operated fast chargers to seven on O‘ahu with an eighth under construction in Iwilei and to 11 across the Hawaiian Electric Companies’ service territories.

“The Ward Avenue fast charger is the most heavily used since it opened last April,” said Jim Alberts, Hawaiian Electric senior vice president for customer service. “Adding a second charger doubles the chances for drivers who live in neighboring high-rises or those heading from town to suburban or rural areas on O‘ahu.”

Fast chargers help eliminate EV drivers’ “range anxiety.” Using a fast charger, a near-depleted battery can be recharged to 80 percent capacity in 30 minutes, less for smaller recharges. Drivers using the Ward fast chargers can pay by credit card or a Greenlots smartphone app.

A fast charging session costs \$6.50 during most of the day; slightly more during times of peak electric use. Session prices may change based on the changing cost of electricity. Information on charging, including current prices, is available at www.hawaiianelectric.com/goev.

The fast chargers at Ward, like those at Dole Plantation in Wahiawa and Ko‘olau Center in Kaneohe, have both a CHAdeMO connection (used mostly by Japanese and Korean EVs like the Nissan Leaf, Mitsubishi i-MiEV, and Kia Soul EV) and a CCS connection (used by American and European EVs like the BMW i3).

The Hawai‘i Public Utilities Commission authorized a demonstration project for the utilities to install, own and operate up to 25 fast chargers. Additional sites are now being scouted on O‘ahu and other islands. A request to extend the pilot is awaiting a commission decision.

Most fast chargers will be located on privately owned host sites. Hawaiian Electric will operate the equipment at no cost to the host for installation, maintenance or electricity. Hosts must be willing to provide space and minimal assistance for operations.

Hosting a fast charger helps with compliance of the state law that requires public parking lots with at least 100 spaces to have at least one exclusive space for electric vehicles equipped with a charging station. And the host gains recognition as a supporter of electric transportation and clean energy.

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