

PRESS RELEASE

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Muscatine Power and Water
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MPW Offers \$1,500 Rebate for New Battery Electric Vehicle Purchases

At Tuesday's meeting of the Board of Water, Electric and Communications Trustees, the Board was updated on Muscatine Power and Water's (MPW) ongoing strategy to support the adoption of electric vehicles (EV's) in the Muscatine community.

Guided by MPW's Electric Vehicle Stakeholders group – comprised of local industry and business representatives – the Utility will implement several rebate programs and invest in infrastructure in response to growing interest in electric vehicles in the Muscatine area.

General Manger, Gage Huston, says MPW's EV strategy will ready the community as electric vehicles become more commonplace. "The demand for EV's will continue to grow as interest in clean technology grows. We want to support community interest with investments in infrastructure and rebate program offerings — making the purchase of an electric vehicle more attractive."

Several rebate opportunities are available, with the most generous being the 'early adopter incentive'. A total of five (5) \$1,500 rebates will be awarded for the purchase of a new battery electric vehicle (BEV). To qualify, the vehicle must be registered in Muscatine County and the owner must be an MPW electric customer. All customer classes are eligible, rebates will be allocated on a first come, first served basis.

Other rebates/incentives available include support for Plug-in Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs) and charging station installation for homes and businesses. <https://www.mpw.org/special-offers>

The investment in infrastructure — supported by grants — will include two charging stations to be installed in downtown Muscatine. One charging station is expected to be installed at the Musser Public Library, the other location has yet to be confirmed.

"The Utility will continue to explore ways to support the growth of electric vehicle usage in Muscatine and be responsive to customer needs," shared Huston.

Earlier in the year, the Utility added its first battery electric vehicle, a Chevy Bolt, dubbed the EV-1 or "Evie", to its fleet and installed a Level II EV charging station at its business office at 3205 Cedar Street.

Residents and businesses are encouraged to contact Paul Burback, energy services advisor, at (563) 262-3221 for details on EV's or MPW's rebate programs, or visit: <https://www.mpw.org/utilities/energy-smarts/electric-vehicle-power>



2020 BEV Chevy Bolt

The Board approved a contract change order for the CCR Landfill Partial Cover Project for an additional \$14,284.19, with the final contract cost of \$1,072,844.19. The total project expense remains under budget.

The current landfill development was designed to be filled over four phases, beginning in 1992 and expected to be full in 2007. The first phase was anticipated to be full in 1995. Through conservation, recycling and repurposing efforts, the landfill's life has been extended significantly. With phase one just being closed in 2020, MPW effectively extended the life of this phase by 25 years.

"Minimizing our impact on the environment is top-of-mind", shared Doug White, director of power production and supply. "We continue to evaluate our processes to find efficiencies and new ways to repurpose waste."

A Fiber to the Home progress update was given. August was the best month on record for the project. Significant progress was made on remaining field construction and a project high 544 customers were converted to MPW's all-fiber network. Toward the end of September, over 8,100 customers have been converted to the all-fiber network. The project is on track to complete all customer conversions in first quarter 2021, consistent with the updated timeline from early this year and even with COVID-19 delays.

With field construction nearing completion, project focus is now shifting to splicing activities and additional splicers are being brought on to the project. Erika Cox, FTTH project sponsor reminds the public, "Splicers will be accessing yards and gates and working at the cable box on the outside of the house. If splicing activity is going on in your neighborhood, it really helps us for customers to keep pets indoors and leave gates unlocked." MPW has been communicating via Facebook and its website (<https://www.mpw.org/communications/>) weekly construction and installation updates and recently added those Service Areas in which splicers will be working.

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Muscatine Power and Water (MPW) is a customer-driven, not-for-profit municipal utility, established by the community for the purpose of serving the community responsively, competitively, and responsibly.

MPW provides reliable electricity, high quality water, and state-of-the-art communications services, including internet, video and phone services, to homes and businesses throughout the Muscatine community at rates below state and national averages with outstanding customer service.

MPW is locally controlled and operated for the benefit and betterment of the community.