

To Whom It May Concern:

The City of Minneapolis Public Works Department is pleased to be part of the coalition applying for a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant to “Create a Regional Electric Vehicle Carshare Service.”

In February 2022, the cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis launched the EV Spot Network and Evie Carshare. This innovative, first-of-its-kind project features an electric vehicle (EV) carshare network of 170 vehicles, supported by a public charging network with 280 Level 2 charge points and 10 DC Fast Chargers (DCFC). The City of Saint Paul and the City of Minneapolis own the EV Spot Network charging stations and the Evie Carshare vehicles. The carshare vehicles are operated by HOURCAR, a local nonprofit shared-mobility company.

Evie Carshare has scaled rapidly:

- Since launch, Evie Carshare has provided over 210,000 trips, totaling 2.1 million zero-emission miles
- Users made more than 123,000 of those trips in 2023. Use is growing consistently.
- 42% of total utilization in 2023 YTD came from low-income users, strongly supporting Justice 40 Initiative goals.
- 76% of users say that Evie Carshare has allowed them to sell or postpone buying a private vehicle, saving households substantial money.

The speedy growth and successful operation of Evie Carshare has demonstrated:

- The service is meeting a real need
- The model of public ownership and non-profit operations works
- Making EV carshare vehicles available leads to rapid uptake and corresponding emissions reductions.

The system is also experiencing constraints. Demand sometimes exceeds the available number of cars. Users end many trips right at the border of the service area, showing that people want to use Evie Carshare to reach destinations outside current service area. Minneapolis and Saint Paul receive requests from jurisdictions and residents outside current service area to expand to them.

This Climate Pollution Reduction Grant would expand this proven, popular system to create a truly regional carshare system, through the following four measures.

1. Add Evie Carshare vehicles to the current service area to meet growing demand.
2. Work with Community Based Organizations to identify an expanded Evie Carshare service area and support that new area with new Evie Carshare vehicles.
3. Add two-way electric carshare and public charging hubs on City property within the expanded service area

4. Add two-way electric carshare and public charging hubs at or near stations on high-frequency transit.

Creating this regionally serving EV carshare system would have, in the language of the CPRG NOFO, a “transformative impact” on our residents, and implement “Pioneering, replicable, and scalable policies or programs to increase the deployment of existing GHG emission reduction technologies or mitigation approaches.”

With this letter, Minneapolis Public Works confirms that

- The Minneapolis Public Works is a member of the coalition applying for a Climate Pollution Reduction Grant to “Create a Regional Electric Vehicle Carshare Service.”
- If this grant is selected by EPA for funding, Minneapolis Public Works intends to sign the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that the City of Saint Paul, as the lead applicant, would submit by July 1, 2024.

Sincerely,



Brette Hjelle
Interim Public Works Director