



## News Release

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Contact: Raelyn Batacan  
Stryker Weiner & Yokota  
[raelyn@strykerweiner.com](mailto:raelyn@strykerweiner.com)  
(808) 523-8802

### **HAWAI'I ENERGY OFFERS NEW ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION BONUS INCENTIVE FOR AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROJECTS**

**Honolulu, Hawai'i** – Hawai'i Energy announced today a new electric vehicle (EV) charging station bonus incentive for affordable housing projects. This additional rebate is now available for affordable housing developments statewide and complements Hawai'i Energy's current Electric Vehicle Charging Station (EVCS) Incentive Program that launched in January.

"While the impact of COVID-19 is unprecedented and has affected the lives of everyone in our community, it is now more critical than ever to make housing more affordable and energy-efficiency programs more accessible for Hawaii's residents," said Brian Kealoha, executive director for Hawai'i Energy. "We understand the challenges affordable housing developers face when it comes to incorporating EV charging stations at their facilities. Clean modes of transportation, like EVs, should be accessible for all residents, and we're hoping our new bonus rebate will create an opportunity for them to participate."

"As affordable housing developers, we are always looking for opportunities to enhance our residents' lives without adding unnecessary costs," said Questor Lau, development officer for The Michaels Organization that oversees seven affordable communities on O'ahu and Hawai'i Island. "We appreciate that Hawai'i Energy is making EV charging possible for our communities with this generous incentive so that more people can consider driving an electric vehicle."

This bonus incentive will be available to affordable housing units offered for sale or rent to households earning 100 percent or below of the area median income (AMI) per county. It only covers multi-port alternating current (AC) Level 2 EV charging stations with network connectivity that are installed and operational between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. The current rebate for an eligible Level 2 charging station is a maximum of \$4,500 per station for a first-time installation, while the bonus incentive will cover 100 percent of additional installation project costs up to \$5,000 for existing buildings or \$1,500 for new construction.

Funds for this new bonus incentive are part of Hawai'i Energy's long-term plans to make energy-saving technology accessible and affordable for everyone, with additional funding from Ulupono Initiative.

"The Commission is supportive of innovative approaches to promote EV charging stations in low-income housing developments," said James Griffin, chair of the Hawai'i Public Utilities Commission. "We approved increased funding for Hawai'i Energy to implement this program, which will help expand access to electric vehicles in Hawai'i."

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To further bring down barriers to installation, Ulupono Initiative is generously providing additional funding to help subsidize the charging stations' required maintenance and network connectivity expenses for up to three years.

"Last year, Ulupono Initiative successfully partnered with Hawai'i Energy to offer a limited-time incentive for installing or upgrading EV charging stations at workplaces and multi-unit dwellings," said Greg Gaug, senior vice president of investments and analytics at Ulupono Initiative. "As Hawai'i looks toward recovery, we are partnering on a new affordable housing bonus incentive to help increase the number of EV charging stations and make charging – along with the cost-savings associated with driving electric – more accessible to members of our community, statewide."

Qualified parties may submit their applications within 12 months of the date that a qualifying EV charging station was installed, activated and available for use between January 1, 2020 and June 30, 2021. Completed applications will be accepted on a first-come, first-served basis and processed in the order received and as funds are available.

For more details on the EVCS Incentive Program, please visit [HawaiiEnergy.com/evcharging](https://hawaiienergy.com/evcharging).

### **ABOUT HAWAI'I ENERGY**

Hawai'i Energy helps island families and businesses make smart energy choices. We encourage and reward energy decisions that will allow our state to reach 100% clean energy faster and cheaper. To date, we have saved the people of Hawai'i more than a billion dollars off their energy bills. Let Hawai'i Energy be your trusted energy advisor to help save you money and protect what makes Hawai'i so special. For more information, please visit [hawaiienergy.com/about](https://hawaiienergy.com/about).

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