Barriers to Electric Vehicle Deployment Greenbelt's Perspective

Luisa F. Robles City of Greenbelt March 2013

Economic Barriers

- Shortage of funds. Greenbelt's revenue has decreased due to lower property taxes.
- EVs are about twice as costly as their gas counterparts.
- From the MD bid: a Ford Focus sedan is listed as \$35,990, whereas gas counterparts are listed starting at \$12,000.
- Cost of establishing charging stations (starting at a couple thousand dollars).

Technological Barriers

- EV performance not on par with Greenbelt needs.
- Not powerful enough to fulfill the requirements of the Police & Public Works departments.
- Public Works needs a multiple purpose vehicle powerful enough to be used as a plow.
- Police pursuit ready, crashworthy, spacious inside for all the equipment.
- Michigan State Police needs to test EVs and make recommendations for other police departments.

Policy Barriers

- The Mayor and Council support EVs and infrastructure; but there is no ordinance to directly support/encourage them.
- There are no permitting or zoning regulations to prevent individuals from adopting EVs.

Social Barriers

- Upfront costs for EVs much higher. People usually don't think about future savings in fuel – Return on investment perception issues.
- Range anxiety.
- Need to train the crews to drive differently.

EVs in Greenbelt

- Greenbelt is going to purchase a compact pickup truck – Polaris Gem ELXD – for litter pickup. It only goes 25 miles/hour.
- Grant money welcome!!! ©

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