Overview: City programs allowing residential EV charging cords across the public right-of-way November 2024

	Cambridge, MA	Portland, OR	Seattle, WA	Washington, DC
Mode of adoption	Department of Public Works pilot program	Bureau of Transportation administrative rule (TRN 8.08 C.13) adopted pursuant to city code rulemaking authority (3.12.040)	Department of Transportation guidance	Department of Transportation guidance
Program type	Annual permit (\$200 application fee)	No permit required/allowed use	No permit required/allowed use	No permit required/allowed use
Cord locations	Sidewalk/cord cover Overhead	Sidewalk/cord cover	Sidewalk/cord cover	Sidewalk/cord cover
Charging type	Level 1 allowed Level 2 prohibited	Level 1 allowed Level 2 prohibited	Level 1 allowed Level 2 prohibited	Level 1 allowed Level 2 prohibited
Location restrictions	Only allowed for residential properties that lack off-street parking	Only allowed if no off-street parking available at property Only allowed in single-family residential zones and local traffic streets	Only allowed for ground-floor use in residential zones Guidance intended for users with no off-street parking but no formal restriction	Guidance is "primarily for properties with an adjacent sidewalk and available on-street parking" but no formal restriction
Parking restrictions	Applicant must hold a residential parking permit Standard parking rules apply Parking not guaranteed or reserved Signage prohibited	Standard parking rules apply Parking not guaranteed or reserved Signage prohibited	Standard parking rules apply Parking not guaranteed or reserved Signage prohibited	Standard parking rules apply Parking not guaranteed or reserved Signage prohibited
Design requirements	Overhead system must have aerial support with min. 9ft	Narrative requirements for ramp design, size, placement	Narrative and diagrammed requirements for ramp design	Narrative and diagrammed requirements for ramp design



	clearance and arm that can be retracted onto private property Ramp must be ADA compliant		per ADA rules, including for ½" and 1" cords	per ADA rules, including for ½" and 1" cords
Electrical requirements	Applicant must provide electrician's certification letter NEC compliant	NEC and local building code compliant Outlet located on private property linked to owner utility bill	NEC compliant Outlet associated with owner's utility account	NEC compliant Outlet associated with owner's utility account Rating of any equipment not fastened in place shall not exceed 80% of the branch circuit ampere rating
Use restrictions	In place only while charging, 12 hour max	In place only while charging No commercial use/sale of power	In place only when charging	In place only when charging
Liability	Permitee assumes all liability associated with the permitted use	User liable for ensuring compliance with requirements		
Insurance	Permittee must show evidence of homeowner or renter insurance			Owner "should" consult with insurer to confirm adequate coverage (\$1m suggested limit) and inquire about adding EV charger to policy
Enforcement	Superintendent of Streets may remove for health, safety, or PROW maintenance	Violations subject to right-of-way use enforcement program	Violations subject to city code provisions regulating PROW	Violations subject to city code provisions regulating PROW