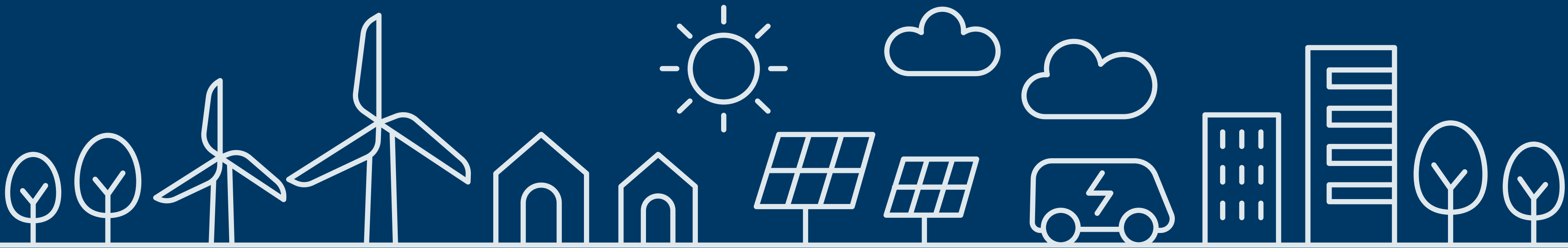




GREAT PLAINS  
INSTITUTE

# Charging Smart 101 and the NOPEC Cohort

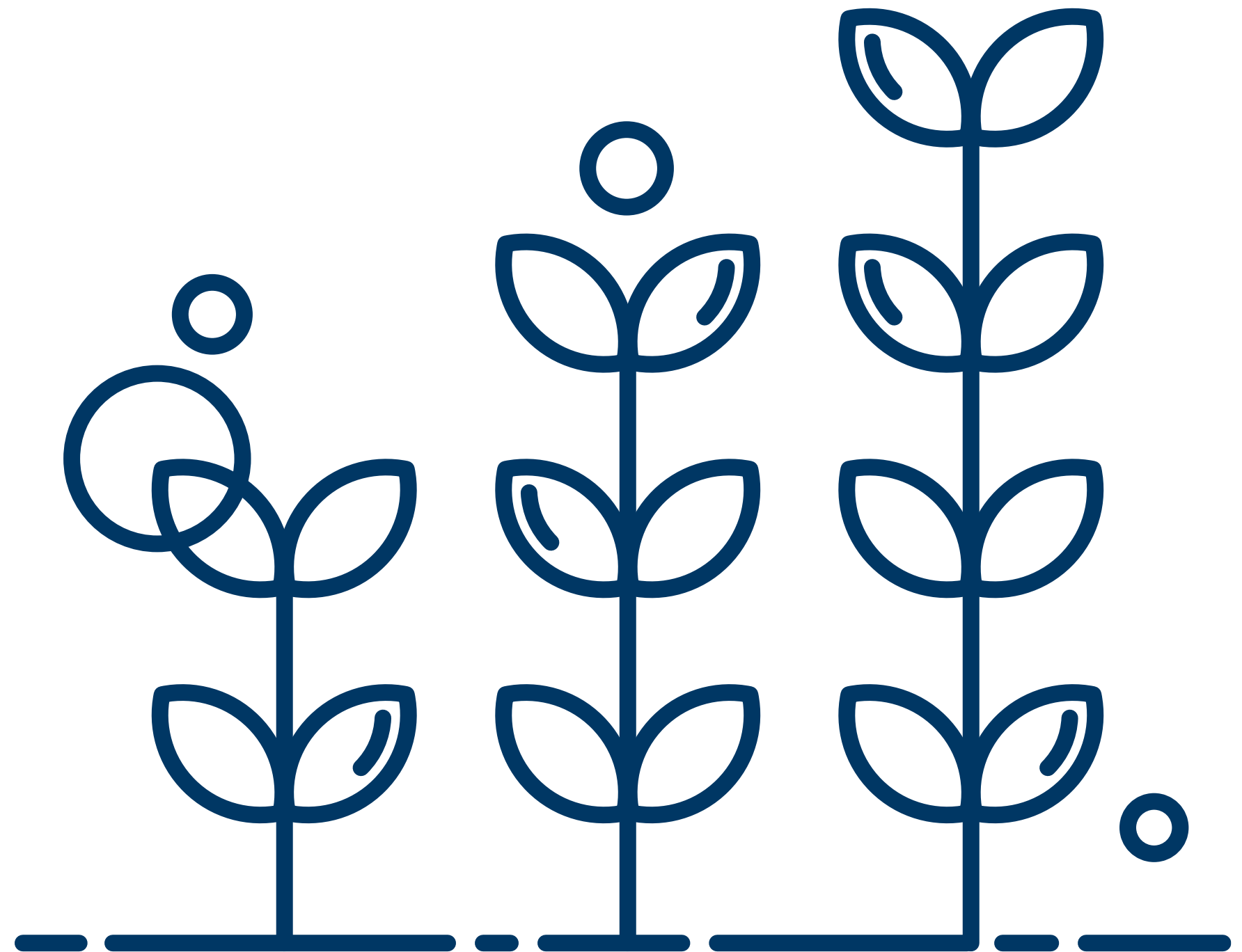
June 9, 2026



# Agenda

---

1. Introductions
2. Charging Smart 101
3. NOPEC Charging Smart cohort
4. Q&A
5. Adjourn





# Welcome!

## In the chat:

Briefly, how has your community addressed transportation electrification?

*Be sure to include the name of the community you are representing!*



**GREAT PLAINS  
INSTITUTE**



**GREAT PLAINS  
INSTITUTE**



# NOPEC team



**Deepa Vedavyas**

Director of Resiliency &  
Sustainability

[dvedavyas@nopec.org](mailto:dvedavyas@nopec.org)



**Kristi Reklinski**

Sustainability Coordinator

[kreklinski@nopec.org](mailto:kreklinski@nopec.org)



**GREAT PLAINS  
INSTITUTE**

# GPI team



**Mackenzie Love, AICP**  
Senior Project Manager,  
Transportation Planner

[mlove@gpisd.net](mailto:mlove@gpisd.net)



**Rebecca Heisel**  
Program Manager

[rheisel@gpisd.net](mailto:rheisel@gpisd.net)



**Jem Thompson, AICP**  
Program Coordinator and  
Transportation Planner

[jthompson@gpisd.net](mailto:jthompson@gpisd.net)



**Zoey Yandell**  
Program Associate

[zyandell@gpisd.net](mailto:zyandell@gpisd.net)



**GREAT PLAINS  
INSTITUTE**

# CHARGING SMART

NATIONALLY DISTINGUISHED. LOCALLY POWERED.

## Charging Smart 101



# What Is Charging Smart?

---

Charging Smart provides **free technical assistance and national recognition** to local governments to facilitate the adoption of electric vehicles (EVs) and EV charging for their residents and businesses.



# Benefits of Charging Smart

---

- Supplement and leverage staff capacity and funding
- Amplify impacts of state and federal funding
- Remove unnecessary barriers
- Decreased soft costs
- EV market growth



# Expert Technical Assistance

- Clear pathway to achieve designation
- **Vetted best practices and implementation strategies**
- Guidebooks, templates, and model language
- **Tailored support to communities at all levels**
- Meet your community's adopted goals and implement plans
- **Effectively address critical concerns including:**
  - Land use and zoning regulations
  - Permitting



# Who Can Join Charging Smart?

---

Charging Smart is available to **any city or county government** in the U.S. (including U.S. territories) with land use authority. A designation pathway for **regional organizations** is in development.



# Charging Smart Action Categories

---

Planning

Regulation

Utility  
Engagement

Education and  
Incentives

Shared Mobility

Government  
Operations

# Designation Structure



# Designation Requirements

---



**Total General Points: 80**

## **Specific Required Criteria:**

- **Review zoning requirements** and identify barriers to EV charging
- Adopt a **standard EV charging infrastructure permit application** process
- Develop a charging infrastructure **permitting checklist**
- **Meet with utilities** to discuss EV collaboration opportunities

## **Required Points From Specific Categories:**

**Planning:** 10 points

**Education & Incentives:** 15 points

**Points From Any Action(s): 20**

# Bronze Designation

---

## Designation Requirement: 10 Planning Points

Complete 1 – 2 actions to achieve 10 points

Example actions include:

<b>P1.1</b>	10 Points	Create a <b>community-wide EV vision</b> 👉 Template provided
<b>P1.3</b>	10 Points	Develop <b>SMART goals for EV actions</b> 👉 Template provided
<b>P3.4</b>	10 Points	Include SMART goals for EVs in a <b>functional plan</b>

# Bronze Designation

---

## Designation Requirement: 15 Education and Incentives Points

1 – 3 actions to achieve 15 points

Example actions include:

<b>E1.3</b>	10 Points	Include material on EVs in <b>newsletters</b>
<b>E1.4</b>	5 Points	<b>Table at events</b> with educational materials
<b>E2.1</b>	5 Points	Create a <b>webpage</b> that addresses EVs (plus additional points for content on website)

# NOPEC Charging Smart Cohort



**GREAT PLAINS  
INSTITUTE**

# NOPEC Charging Smart Cohort

GPI and NOPEC are partnering to host a Charging Smart cohort for their member communities

Cohort will run from July - January 2027

Participants will attend monthly cohort calls, have access to 1:1 assistance, and templates/resources/guides



# Important cohort dates



## Kick-off Meeting

July 9 | 1 - 2 pm

## Cohort Meetings

- August 6 | 1 - 2:30 pm
- September 3 | 1 - 2:30 pm
- October 8 | 1 - 2:30 pm
- November 5 | 1 - 2:30 pm | Potential office hours
- December 3 | 1 - 2:30 pm
- January | TBD



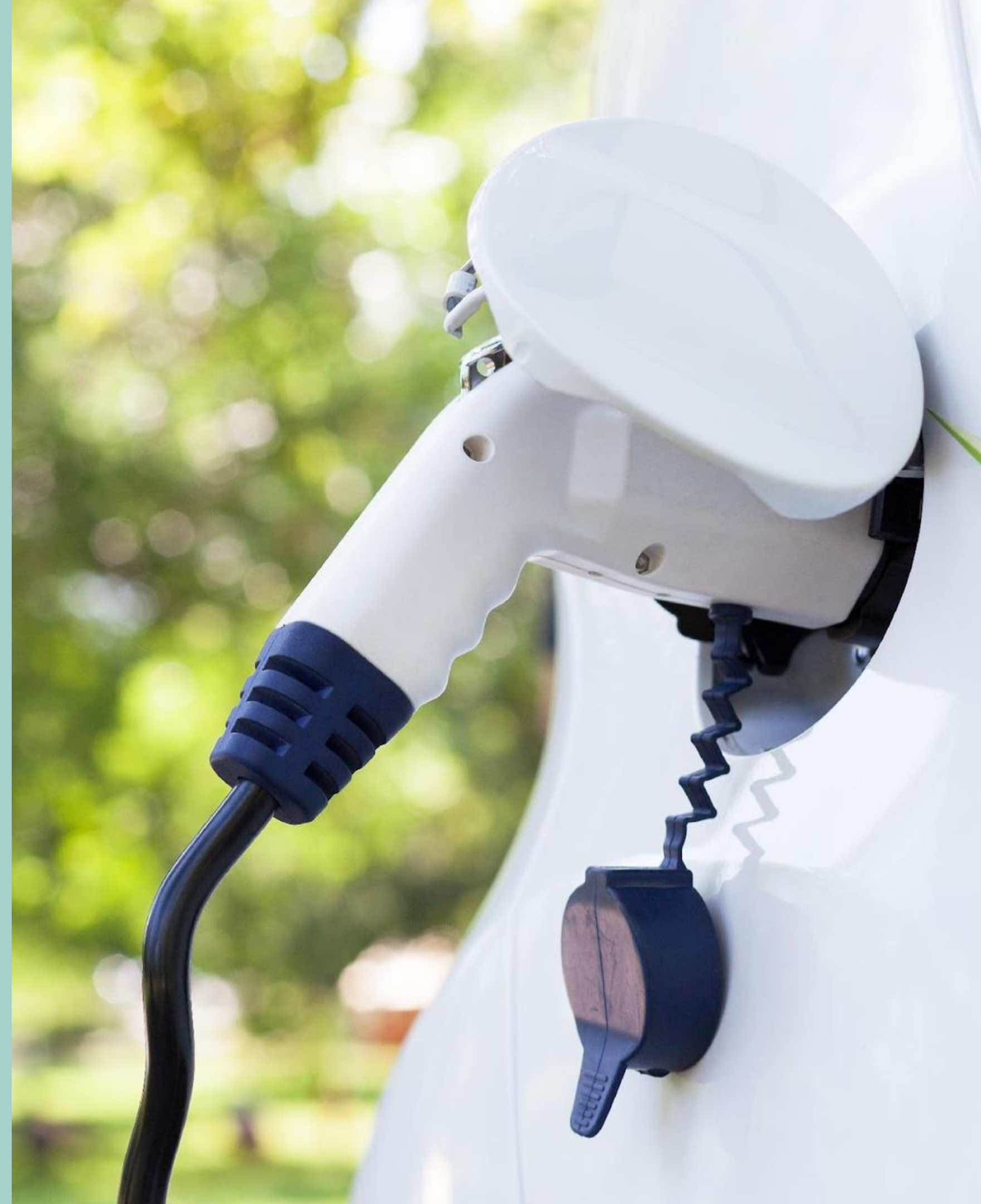
# Onboarding Materials

## Self-Assessment:

- Complete a short form reviewing your jurisdiction's EV programs, goals, challenges, and completed actions.
- [Link to form](#)

## Learn More:

- [Program Guide](#)



# Onboarding Timeline

## Fill out self-assessment

Each community submits their self-assessment by the due date



## Goal setting meeting

GPI and communities individually meet to discuss scorecard and goals



## Scorecard creation

GPI will use self-assessment to develop a scorecard for each community



## Work toward goals

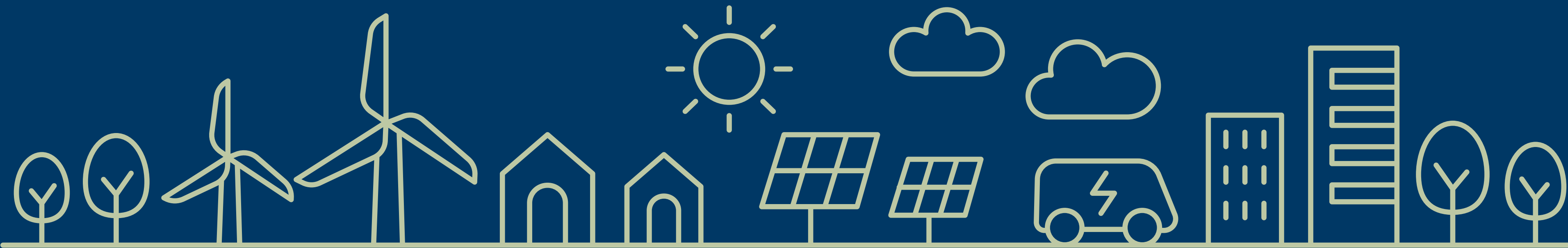
Communities work toward accomplishing goals with resources and support from TA providers



# Q&A



**THANK YOU**



# Designation Requirements

---



**Total General Points: 150**

## **Specific Required Criteria:**

***All specific Bronze requirements plus:***

- **Permit chargers as an accessory use by right**
- **Allow EVSE charging stalls to count towards minimum parking requirements**
- **Complete an initial municipal fleet analysis**

## **Required Points From Specific Categories:**

**Utility Engagement: 20 points**

**Points From Any Action(s): 40**

# Designation Requirements

---



**Total General Points: 300**

## **Specific Required Criteria:**

### ***All specific Bronze & Silver requirements plus:***

- Address EVs and charging infrastructure in **functional or comprehensive plan**
- **Establish standard approval timelines** and provide all initial comments at one time
- **Adopt an EV readiness ordinance** or **define primary EV charging** as its own use
- **Install a public charger**
- Complete a **comprehensive fleet electrification assessment and implementation plan.**
- **Purchase an EV for the municipal fleet**

**Points From Any Action(s): 105 - 120**