OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS, Southern California Edison has been partnering with businesses, local governments and other organizations through its Charge Ready pilot program to make electric vehicle charging easier and more convenient.

SCE installs and maintains the supporting electric vehicle charging infrastructure and provides rebates to reduce charging station costs, while participants own, operate and maintain qualified charging stations.

The pilot helps to increase the availability of electric vehicle charging stations where people park their cars for extended periods of time, like workplaces, campuses, recreational areas and apartment and condominium complexes.

The Charge Ready pilot is supporting the installation of approximately 1,250 charge ports.
On April 2, 2018, SCE filed a final report with the California Public Utilities Commission on the results and findings of the pilot. Here are some highlights.

Pilot began: May 2016

- # of sites completed (March 2018): 60
- Projected number of ports: 1,250
- Reduction in gasoline-powered trips: 900k mi.
- % within Disadvantaged Communities: 50%
- % Contractors Diverse Business Enterprises: 100%

SOME LESSONS LEARNED

- Half of Charge Ready sites are within communities that are most heavily impacted by pollution and most vulnerable to its effects (also known as Disadvantaged Communities or DAC.)
- The cost per port decreases as the number of ports increases per site. With more ports on a site, the fixed costs of the project are spread among more ports, lowering the cost per port.
- Parking structures are less expensive than parking lots. Parking structures and sites that may accommodate surface-mounted conduit represent significant savings since there is minimal site restoration following installation.
- Apartments and condos are particularly challenging. Large complexes often wanted charging stations throughout the grounds rather than in single, defined areas.

FUTURE OF THE PROGRAM

- SCE intends to use the findings and lessons learned from this pilot to support its application to expand the program across its service area.
- While that request is being considered, SCE is asking for $22 million in bridge funding to support a minimum of 1,000 additional charge ports.