

Local Infrastructure Hub

Winning Project

The Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation Grants Program

The Strengthening Mobility and Revolutionizing Transportation (SMART) Grants Program was created under the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law to fund innovation aimed at solving real-world transportation problems and focused on building data and technology capacity and experience for state, local, and tribal governments.

The first round of SMART grants awarded more than \$94 million to 59 projects in urban and rural communities across the country to conduct demonstration projects focused on advanced smart cities and technologies that will improve transportation efficiency and safety.

View more 2022 SMART winning applications [here](#).

Fort Collins, CO: Smart Grid Electric Vehicle Charge Management Solution

Grant Awarded at \$1,059,037 • See Fort Collins' [winning application](#)

Fort Collins, Colorado received funding for a demonstration project to implement and test managed charging software for the city's fleet of electric vehicles (EVs). This software will manage and optimize the fleet's impact on the electrical grid using smart algorithms and real-time data analysis to dynamically adjust the charging speed of multiple EVs connected to charging stations.

For example, the software can help coordinate the charging of multiple vehicles to reduce the overall load during peak hours to improve efficiency and reduce costs. The project will also include a study of the software's impact on ratepayers and develop a standards framework for the city's EV fleet.

Making the Case: Peak charges make up a disproportionate amount of total costs for electrical customers. In Fort Collins, peak charges can account for up to 23% of annual electric bills, and these costs are based on just 12 hours per year (the peak hour per month). Moreover, without proper grid management, the city would be required to build costly new infrastructure to meet grid demand from new EVs. Ultimately, this project will assess the effect of managed charging software on grid demand and costs for ratepayers. Reducing costs will also have an equity impact, given that low-income households are more likely to struggle with rate hikes.

Key Project Initiatives	
Private-Sector Partnership	The project establishes a partnership with the Panasonic Smart Mobility Office and Center for Transportation and the Environment (CTE) to perform studies, develop plans, and demonstrate the technical capacity of the software.
Building Evidence	The project will test innovative new technology from Panasonic's eFleet Solutions of America (PEFSA). It will collect data that can be used to assess the impact of the software on the grid. The city will use the results of the pilot to inform phase 2 of the project, the goal of which is to apply the software more broadly to EV infrastructure in the city.
Partnerships Across Government Agencies	Numerous municipal agencies will partner on this project, including the Office of Equity and Inclusion, Transfort (the local transit agency), Operation Services, and Fort Collins Utilities.

