

## Electric vehicle adoption port-au-prince

Recently, the State Government revealed that Electric Vehicle (EV) registrations in our Local Government Area (LGA) have more than doubled over the past year, reflecting our community's enthusiasm for more sustainable transportation.

This growth is also in line with Council's Regional Infrastructure Transport Strategy, which includes priorities to 'influence travel behaviour to promote sustainable choices' and 'collaborate with key stakeholders to deliver innovative, sustainable transport solutions' (p. 42).

Port Macquarie-Hastings Council successfully secured NSW Government funding to install two dual-port EV charging stations. These stations are located at the Lord Street carpark, conveniently situated within walking distance of the library, pool, beaches, shops, and other businesses. This prime location allows visitors to explore and enjoy local amenities while their vehicles recharge.

In a first for Australia, Port Macquarie is trialling a composite street light pole with an integrated EV charger. This innovative pole is installed on Lord Street, near Mrs. York's Garden. The integration of EV chargers into street light poles is a clever use of existing infrastructure, making EV charging more accessible and convenient for residents and visitors.

Essential Energy will soon be trialling power pole mounted community batteries. These batteries will store surplus solar electricity produced locally, making it available during peak times when grid electricity is more expensive. This initiative will benefit all locals who opt-in, whether they have solar panels or not, promoting energy sharing and reducing electricity costs.

Essential Energy and Council recently showcased these innovative trials, along with other efforts to electrify our fleet vehicles and landscaping tools, at the Charles Sturt University Port Macquarie campus. This event highlighted our community's forward-thinking approach to sustainability and the practical steps we are taking to reduce our carbon footprint.

Port Macquarie is leading the charge towards a sustainable future. With the rapid increase in EV registrations, the installation of new charging stations, and innovative trials like the integrated EV charger street light poles and community batteries, our community is setting an example for others to follow.

We acknowledge the Birpai people, the traditional owners of the land in which we work and live, and pay our respects to Elders past and present. We extend our respect to all Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander people who choose to call Port Macquarie-Hastings home.

To get on track for a net-zero global fleet by 2050, zero-emission vehicles need to represent 61% of global new passenger vehicle sales by 2030. By 2035, the global figure needs to be 93%, and the last ICE vehicle of any segment needs to be sold by 2038.

We help public and private sector leaders create and implement EV programs with support for every phase of the journey. Solving challenges from strategy building through execution has helped us identify what catalyzes EV adoption and successful transitions.

The Arcadis Global EV Index looks at countries across the world, particularly regions where Arcadis has been involved in mobility projects. The updated 2022 report includes three additional countries that we have measured progress against three key catalysts for EV adoption to examine what countries are doing well and where they could improve. It also contains a new 8 step program of factors that you need to consider for implementing a successful transition to your EV infrastructure or fleet.

It's safe to say that Australia is in the midst of a surge in electric vehicle (EV) adoption. In fact, with the Electric Vehicle Council (EVC) reporting a doubling of sales from last year, the country is on track to reach 100,000 new EVs on the road in 2024.

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