

THE POWER OUTLET

JUNE 2022 NEWSLETTER of DRIVE ELECTRIC WASHINGTON



*A monthly update about
electric vehicle activities
around the
State of Washington*

Drive Electric Washington is a collaboration of groups throughout the State of Washington working together to accelerate the adoption of plug-in electric vehicles. The all-volunteer non-profit was founded by electric vehicle advocates in 2017 and now is focusing on outreach to volunteer electric transportation advocates across the state to coordinate and share efforts among groups. We would like to invite you to join this effort and keep informed by contributing to and sharing this free monthly newsletter.

DEWA has a [Facebook](#) page, too! Please like and follow us for up-to-the-minute updates.

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EV NEWS

Electrifying the fleet in Wenatchee

From *Transit Lines*, the Link Transit Newsletter

With three solid years of regular daily operation, Link Transit's electric buses are proving their worth. With 12 electric buses in operation, Link operates one of the largest electric bus fleets of any transit system in the nation. To replace aging diesel buses and allow for service expansion, Link will take delivery of three more 35' buses in early 2023 and another eight 30' buses later in 2023.

Momentum Dynamics, the manufacturer of our fast chargers, finished installation of four 300 kW wireless inductive chargers in 2021 (three at Columbia Station and one in Leavenworth). These charge the bus for few minutes on the layover between routes and provide additional range, allowing a bus to stay in service for 12 to 14 hours a day. One minute of charging puts enough energy in the battery to operate 1-2 miles, depending on driving conditions. Buses typically end their day with 40-50% of battery charge remaining and are slow charged overnight using a computer-controlled 80 kW system at Link's maintenance base. The operating cost of an electric bus is about 51% of a diesel-fueled bus. Electric buses operate about 18% of total fleet miles each month, and this number will increase with more of the fleet becoming electric in coming years.

The availability of inexpensive, clean, renewable hydro-power, combined with lower maintenance costs, make expansion of Link Transit's fleet of battery-electric buses a financially sensible solution to combating climate change.

SPOTLIGHT

History of DEWA, March 2017 – February 2021

Compiled by Ron Johnston-Rodriguez

PART ONE

In March 2017, four EV advocacy organizations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) declaring their intent to create an entity to accelerate the rate of adoption of electric vehicles throughout Washington state. The collaborative's original name, Washington Electric Vehicle



Coalition (WEVCO), was renamed in June 2017 to Drive Electric Washington (DEWA). Original signatories included: Seattle Electric Vehicle Association (SEVA); Plug-In North Central Washington (PINCW); North Sound EVA; and Plug-In America (PIA). In 2018-19, Coltura and San Juan County EAA also signed the MOU.

As a member of SEVA and the PINCW board Ron

Johnston-Rodriguez previously had circulated a proposal among the founding organizations. Once executed, the MOU served as the founding document for the inaugural meeting of the coalition (4-15-2017), attended by: Jack Anderson, Garrett Brown, Jay Donnaway, Jeff Finn, Tyrell Haverman, Brian Henderson, Steve Lough, Matthew Metz, Grace Reamer, Tom Saxton, Chad Schwitters, Philip Skoog and Ron. These individuals became the first DEWA steering committee members and contributed to the crafting of goals, work plans, bylaws, projects, meeting agendas, and incorporation of DEWA as a 501(c)(3) non-profit business (IRS tax-exempt notification received on 6-12-2017).

The committee also elected DEWA's first board of directors on June 1, 2017 as follows: President, Ron Johnston-Rodriguez; Treasurer, Steve Lough; Trustee, Chad Schwitters. In 2019 Tom Saxton (IT Manager) and Matthew Metz (General Counsel) were voted onto the board.

Mission/ Approach - DEWA's mission, goals and approach is summarized in this excerpt from a 2018 fact sheet:

“Drive Electric Washington – Expediting transportation electrification in Washington by helping stakeholders coordinate and collaborate on projects to improve the EV ecosystem. In pursuit of its mission (DEWA) may serve as an information clearinghouse, forum, partner, initiator and/or coordinator for

educational, promotional, and policy-crafting activities deemed to advance the adoption of EVs and deployment of charging infrastructure throughout Washington State.”

Meetings - Regular meetings were conducted between March 2017 and 2019 in various locations in the Seattle area, though some were virtual only. On several occasions, meetings were scheduled to coincide with major EV networking events (e.g., Forth's presentations in Seattle) or featured guest speakers. In 2020 the board agreed to move to a quarterly online-only meeting schedule; however, the pandemic and other issues intervened and put meetings on hold until February 2021, when Chad took the lead on reviving DEWA activities. The board reconvened and selected Jennifer Harper as president (replacing Ron upon his retirement) and Grace as vice president.

Workplans/Projects - The board and advisory committee generated work plans outlining specific projects, although without funding or paid staff, project execution was dependent solely on volunteers. Nevertheless, dedicated volunteers did succeed in achieving incremental tasks and “moving the needle” on several projects, such as organizational structures, public policy issues, and EV education and awareness efforts. Learn more about DEWA's accomplishments in History of DEWA Part Two, to be published in the July 2022 issue of The Power Outlet.

[DEWA Bylaws](#)

[DEWA Board and Advisory Council](#)

[The Power Outlet newsletter archive](#)

EVENTS

Greenwood Car Show – Saturday, June 25, 8 a.m.-4 p.m., Greenwood Avenue North in Seattle. The Seattle Electric Vehicle Association will host an electric vehicle section, known as “Gasless on Greenwood,” just north of NE 85th Street. Learn more [here](#).

National Roadmap Conference – June 29-30, Portland, presented by Forth Mobility. Learn more and register [here](#).

Electrify Expo – July 23-24, Husky Stadium, Seattle. Learn more and get tickets [here](#).

Green Transportation Summit and Expo – “Accelerate to Zero.” Aug. 16-18, Greater Tacoma Convention Center. The Green Transportation Summit & Expo (GTSE) is the region's premier fleet modernization and alternative fuels event. GTSE events offer information-packed sessions, prominent national and regional speakers, and the latest technologies from industry leaders. DEWA will be participating in the event again this year. Learn more [here](#) and get a discount on your registration with our special code: DEWA30.



Steilacoom Drive Electric Festival – Saturday, Sept. 10, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., downtown Steilacoom 1717 Lafayette St. Learn more and register [here](#).

National Drive Electric Week – Sept. 23-Oct. 2. Presented by Plug-In America. Start planning your outreach events today! Learn more and sign up [here](#).

Sequim Drive Electric Week Event – Sept. 24, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., Sequim. Test drive electric cars and talk to owners. There will also be demonstrations on other climate-friendly items such as electric garden tools and electric solar-powered generators. Learn more and register [here](#).

CHARGING NEWS

New free charging

These new Volta Level 2 charging stations recently were installed in the REI parking lot at Olympia's Capitol Mall. They have large rotating digital displays with advertising, which allows them to provide free charging!

Photo by Thad Curtz



CLUB NEWS



Tesla Owner Washington (TOWA) members are gathering for a scenic tour over Loup Loup Pass and through the Methow Valley on June 25. Anyone interested in joining TOWA or getting a Tesla is invited to a Charger Chat July 9 at the Arlington Supercharger. TOWA also will be participating in the Electrify Expo July 23-24 at Husky Stadium in Seattle. Many more summer events are scheduled or in the works. For more information go to TeslaOwnersWA.org.

The Seattle Electric Vehicle Association meets at 7 p.m. the second Tuesday of every month at the Church of the Nazarene, 4401 2nd Ave. NE in Seattle's Wallingford neighborhood. The next meeting is Tuesday, July 12. All are invited! See more at SeattleEVA.org. At the June 2022 meeting, members heard a report from President Jay Donnaway, who was attending the world EV Symposium, EVS35 in Oslo, Norway. Here is an excerpt of his report:

"The conference kicked off with test drives of a number of EVs, several of which aren't yet available in the USA. The Polestar 2 was displayed in entry level trim, FWD, so required traction control intervention on wet pavement and didn't feel quite as quick as a Chevy Bolt, but was a very nicely sorted-out sedan, with one significant exception being the reverse camera, which in addition to distorted perspective and a hyper-vigilant proximity alarm, showed adjacent vehicles in cartoonish proportions.

There is a plethora of electric construction equipment, including full-size backhoes, loaders, a four-axle dump truck and a hooklift waste container hauler, in addition to a 200-kWh DCFC station-in-a-box for topping off said diggers. Oslo has banned diesel off-road equipment as of 2025!

"Many prototype and pre-production EVs are on display from big companies not yet represented in the USA, such as Warren Buffet's BYD investment in China, Huawei, and the ORA Funky Cat, which is an anime-looking mashup of a Porsche 911 and five-seat Mini Cooper with 48 or 63 kWh of durable LiFePO4 battery capacity, twin touchscreens, 126 kW of power, assistive driving and a luxurious interior with just a bit of tackiness, such as the jeweled drive mode selector. The

Vietnamese manufacturer with a funny name, VINFast, rolled out their American-oriented seven-passenger



SEVA President Jay Donnaway got to test drive an electric PodBike at EVS35 in Oslo.

SUV with a grille that will intimidate your garage door until you notice the nostrils that flow all the way up through the hood!

“The conference sessions are mind-boggling, with up to 10 simultaneous sessions per time slot, not to mention the test driving, trade show, and impromptu discussions. I could spend a month in this show and not get it all! Last but not least, is the inspirational example of the Norwegian EV Drivers Association, which is half as old as SEVA, but counts more than 150,000 members in a country with a smaller population than the Puget Sound region, and has achieved massive legislative victories through professionalizing their volunteer-run club. One of their most notable member services is an app and RFID card that is accepted by all the major charging networks in Norway, uniting a similarly fragmented public charging market under a single account and point of access without added fees.”

Please share your club news as well as your personal journey into the world of electric driving, along with photos. DEWA would like to spotlight profiles of EV pioneers on our website and social media, as well as sharing in our newsletter. Please send your stories and photos to greamer@driveelectricwa.org.

DONATE

Please support DEWA and its outreach and advocacy activities with a donation. Your financial donation will help us reach more policymakers, funders and drivers statewide to advocate electric mobility, and will support expansion of our statewide, online resources. Drive Electric Washington is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization, and any contribution you make is fully tax-deductible. Here are three ways you can help:

1. NEW – Make a one-time online donation through PayPal [here](#):
2. When you shop on Amazon, use [smile.Amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and choose Drive Electric Washington for your charitable contribution. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5 percent of the purchase price to DEWA.
3. You also can make a direct contribution by check. The check should be made out to DEWA and mailed to our DEWA Treasurer at: 6021 32nd Ave. NE, Seattle, WA 98115-7230.

RESOURCES

DEWA aims to maintain a comprehensive list of the EV advocacy efforts ongoing in Washington, so we count on you to keep our lists and our website updated with the most current information. Following are the organizations and efforts we have compiled so far in Washington that have a presence online and on social media:

Websites:

- Seattle Electric Vehicle Association - SeattleEVA.org
- Plug-In America - PlugInAmerica.org
- Electric Auto Association - ElectricAuto.org

- Forth - ForthMobility.org
- Plugshare - Plugshare.com
- National Drive Electric Week - DriveElectricWeek.org
- Drive Electric Earth Day - DriveElectricEarthDay.org
- Plug In North Central Washington - PlugInNCW.com
- Coltura – Coltura.org
- Thurston Climate Action Team - ThurstonClimateAction.org
- Tesla Owners of Washington - TeslaOwnersWA.org

Social Media:

- [Northwest Tesla Owners](#)
- [Seattle Nissan Leaf Owners](#)
- [Seattle Tesla Model 3 Owners](#)
- [Seattle Electric Vehicle Association](#)
- [Seattle Tesla Model Y Owners](#)
- [Pierce County Electric Vehicle Information Exchange](#)
- [Spokane/Coeur d'Alene Tesla Club](#)
- [Inland NW Tesla Owners Group](#)
- [PNW Tesla](#)
- [Central Washington University EV Club](#)
- [Seattle Chevy Bolt/Bolt EUV Owners](#)
- [San Juan Islands Electric Vehicles](#)
- [Mid-Columbia Electric Vehicle Association](#)

Please share and distribute this newsletter widely within your EV networks and contacts. And please contribute your events, activities and stories, and SIGN UP to receive this free monthly newsletter by sending us an e-mail with your name, city, any affiliation and e-mail address to greamer@driveelectricwa.org . You can unsubscribe at any time with an e-mail to the same address. Thank you for your support of sustainable electric transportation!