

Town of Chatham
Local Law 6-2025
Final Draft

A LOCAL LAW TO INCREASE THE ALLOWABLE EV CHARGING STATIONS IN
THE TOWN ZONING CODE

BE IT ENACTED by the Town Board of the Chatham, Columbia County, New York, as follows:

SECTION 1 – LEGISLATIVE FINDINGS The Town Board of the Town of Chatham wishes to encourage electric vehicle charging stations as a method of protecting the environment and to encourage the use of said vehicles in the Town by residents and visitors who use such vehicles and,

The existing zoning code restricts the number of charging stations to two in Business and Industrial zoning districts and one for all other districts, and

The emissions goals of New York State are advanced by the increase in use of electric vehicles and electric vehicle charging stations, and

Therefore, the increase of allowed charging stations satisfies both Town of Chatham and New York State goals of decreased emissions and fossil fuel reliance.

SECTION 2 – TOWN CODE AMENDED

The Chatham Town Code found in Article IV section 23.2 Chapter 180 is hereby amended as follows:

§ 180-23.2. **Electric vehicle charging stations.** [Added 7-20-2017 by L.L. No. 3-2017]

A. **Intent.** It is the intent of the Town Board to encourage electric vehicle charging stations as a method of protecting the environment and to encourage the use of said vehicles in the Town by residents and visitors who use such vehicles.

B. Definitions. As used in this section, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING STATION — A system for the charging of an electric vehicle. Components typically include a charging kiosk and a transformer.

ELECTRIC VEHICLE CHARGING — The use of an electric vehicle charging station by which electric vehicles are fueled through the transfer of electricity into the vehicle battery.

C. Permit. No person shall install an electric vehicle charging station within the Town without a permit issued from the Building Department. Charging station permits shall expire and become invalid unless the authorized installation is completed within one year of written approval. Upon completion of an installation, the permittee must contact the Code Enforcement Officer and arrange an inspection of the charging station to ensure compliance with all federal, state, and local laws.

D. Conditions of permit. The following requirements shall apply to all electric vehicle charging stations:

- (1) All installations must comply with National Electric Code, NFPA 70, and Article 625 and be approved by a third party underwriting agency.
- (2) All installations must comply with the New York State Building Code, New York State Residential Code, New York State Existing Building Code, New York State Fire Code, New York State Plumbing Code, New York State Mechanical Code, New York State Fuel Gas Code, and the New York State Energy Conservation Construction Code.
- (3) Each free standing electric vehicle charging station shall include vehicle impact protection (bollards) or a similar structure.
- (4) Components for electric vehicle charging stations may encroach up to 48 inches into a required setback or buffer.
- (5) Each charging station shall have adequate parking.
- (6) Notwithstanding any regulation to the contrary, electric vehicle charging shall be a permitted accessory use in all zoning districts.

E. Penalties for offenses. Any person who violates this chapter or fails to comply with any of its requirements shall be subject to revocation of the charging station permit and/or the penalties provided in § 180-56 of the Code of the Town of Chatham.

F. Effective date and savings clause. If any clause, sentence, paragraph, word, section or part of this local law shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be unconstitutional, illegal or invalid, such judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation of the clause, sentence,

paragraph, worked section or part thereof directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment shall have been rendered.