

PRESS RELEASE

Be Charge and the Municipality of Parma are looking to the future with the creation of a charging network for electric vehicles

Today, as seen during a webinar organised by the Municipality of Parma, an ambitious plan has been developed to install an extensive, state-of-the-art electric charging network in partnership with Be Charge. Parma Municipal Council's Member for Environmental Sustainability Policies, Tiziana Benassi, illustrated how it has been possible to acquire significant charging infrastructure without using public funds. Roberto Colicchio, Be Charge's Head of Business Development, underlined the Municipality's key role in current and future electric mobility scenarios post COVID-19;

*Parma 20th July 2020 - The Municipality of Parma, in partnership with Be Charge, will create a charging network for electric vehicles which will include **50 charging stations** featuring **100 charging points**, **9 of which will be 100 kW Fast Charge points**. Today's announcement came from Parma's Mayor, **Federico Pizzarotti**, and Parma Municipal Council's Member for Environmental Sustainability Policies, **Tiziana Benassi**, who, during an online press conference, illustrated how the municipality has been able to acquire significant and extensive charging infrastructure at short notice and without using public funds.*

*Parma Municipal Council's Member for Environmental Sustainability Policies, **Tiziana Benassi**, said, "We are proud to be one of the first Municipalities in Emilia Romagna to acquire such an extensive charging network for electric vehicles. Electric mobility plays an important role in the transport reforms that the Municipality of Parma are implementing. It's an effective solution for reducing atmospheric and sound pollution, improving air quality and quality of life. It's an effective solution for people moving around the city (electric vehicles can access the historic centre, and on 'Ecological Sundays', they can use the bus lanes and don't have to pay street parking charges for blue parking bays) and it's an opportunity to make this area more appealing for tourists, including those from abroad".*

***Paolo Martini**, Be Charge's CEO, commented, "Our development plan is ambitious: we are counting on installing around 30,000 charging points all over the country in the next 3-5 years which will provide energy that is 100% from renewable sources. We are investing a total of over 150 million Euros and we have also obtained 25 million Euros of financing from the European Investment Bank (EIB), but the Municipality's role remains central to this development because it's only by being in partnership with local administrations that we can create the charging infrastructure for electric vehicles that this country needs".*

Location of Be Charge's charging stations in the Municipality of Parma



<https://www.google.com/maps/d/u/0/viewer?hl=it&ll=44.80500152784472%2C10.326819658309248&z=13&mid=1IDkSZO42orBITsGmp3OIVAMom4Hma0Ty>

Address / Area	Charging Stations	Charging Points	Type
CAVAGNARI - La Spezia - Cariparma Main Headquarters	2	4	Quick
VILLETTA Cemetery	2	4	Quick
MENTANA - DUC car park	1	2	Quick
PO - LANGHIRANO	1	2	Quick
TOSCANA - LAZIO	2	4	Quick
Strada Argini No.10	2	4	Quick
CASA EMILIO X DEL PRATO	2	4	Quick
Largo COEN - Via EMILIA OVEST	2	4	Quick
Via Voturno - Hospital car park	2	4	Quick
Strada Dei MERCATI	2	4	Quick
Via Silvio PELLICO - Palasport	2	4	Quick
Strada TRAVERSETOLO - Esselunga Car Park	2	4	Fast + Quick
Piazzale VOLTA	2	4	Quick
SAN PROSPERO	2	4	Quick
TRAVERSETOLO Eurosia - Entrance to the SP513R ring road	1	2	Quick
EMILIA WEST - WESTERN PARK AND RIDE (SCAMBIATORE)	1	2	Fast
TORRI CENTRE - Entrance to the SP343R ring road	1	2	Quick
SAN LEONARDO - Northern Park and Ride (Scambiatore)	1	2	Quick
Northern Park and Ride (Scambiatore)	1	2	Quick
JACOVITTI - IKEA	2	4	Quick
EMILIA EAST VIA QUARTA	2	4	Quick
ESSELUNGA EMILIA WEST	2	4	Fast + Quick
SCIENZE	2	4	Fast + Quick
Euro Torri 1	2	4	Quick
EURO TORRI VIA Bormioli	1	2	Fast
BURLA - PARMA RETAIL	2	4	Quick
Barilla Centre	1	2	Fast
Ghiaia	1	2	Quick
AREA EX SALAMINI	1	2	Fast
Coop Via Gramsci	1	2	Quick
EMILIA WEST decathlon	1	2	Fast
LA SPEZIA LIDL	1	2	Fast
TOTAL	50	100	

Acquiring a public charging network – the advantages for municipalities and citizens

Acquiring a charging network for electric vehicles is an ideal way for a municipality to become a magnet for the “electric community”, which is constantly growing in this country. The creation of an extensive charging network does not require any public funds in that the municipality’s private operator partner makes all the investment and pays the operating costs.

A charging network becomes a “hub” around which new traditional and/or innovative economic activities can be developed (e.g. car sharing services, sustainable tourism, commercial activities). The municipality can also monitor the usage and status of the charging points and use the (anonymised) data to better understand its traffic flows, thus improving the area’s “environmental sustainability score” and its air quality.

For citizens, an extensive charging network is a strong incentive to buying an electric vehicle which can be charged – avoiding low-battery anxiety – simply and quickly thanks to a highly digitalised service that can be integrated with your satnav. Citizens can travel around the country with greater ease through the use of a charging network that is compatible with the ones already installed in their municipality, also benefitting from the discounts/promotions that the commercial activities located near the charging points will want to offer in the form of a digital coupon that can be used whilst their vehicles are charging.

After the energy distributor carries out a survey, the process to plan (Start of Activity Notice (SCIA)) and install the charging stations begins. The stations are connected to the electricity network, then the charging points are tested and activated. From signing the Memorandum of Understanding, the entire process takes 60 –120 days.

How to charge your vehicle

To charge your vehicle at Be Charge’s charging stations, just install the “Be Charge” app for free from the Google Play Store and the Apple App Store and register to use it. You can also use the app to view a map of all Be Charge charging stations throughout Italy, check availability in real time and see what types of socket each charging point has, as well as the price in €/kWh supplied. Charging costs will be directly debited to the payment card associated with the user’s account. If your device has GPS (Google Maps or Apple Maps), you can also get directions to individual charging stations. Once charging has begun, you can monitor progress directly via the app. Our call centre is always available 24/7 on 02-87119401.

To protect its customers, Be Charge recommends that all guidelines and instructions set out by the Italian National Institute of Health (ISS) for similar activities are followed, both before and after charging, for example, using single-use gloves.

Be Charge has widespread coverage throughout Italy

Be Charge is negotiating with public administration bodies and with large and small private entities throughout Italy that have public car parks, like large-scale retail outlets, catering chains, hotels, sports centres, etc.. It applies its principles of reliability, interoperability, widespread coverage and resilience to install the right charging point in the right place: 22 kW Quick Charge points in urban areas and Hyper Charge points that charge at up to 300 kW DC at stations on the major road network.

Be Charge is in the process of installing charging stations (including fast charge stations) in some of Italy’s largest municipalities like Turin (more than 300 charging points), Milan (309), Rome (320) and Rimini (100). It is about to install 120 charging stations (240 charging points) in the car parks at Naples’ ANM public transport interchanges, under a public-private partnership. It has also installed Bologna’s first 30 charging points and other projects have been approved or are undergoing approval to install more charging points. 94 charging points have been installed and are operational in Treviso.

As proof of the extent of the Be Charge network, charging points have been installed in urban and rural municipalities up and down the country, from Northern and Central areas (Tortona, Pesaro, Chieti, Pescara, Sassuolo) to the South of the country (Termini Imerese, Marsala, Monopoli, Cerignola), as well as municipal consortia like CONSVIPO – the Consortium for the Development of Polesine, Sicily’s beautiful villages, and the municipalities of the Valle d’Aosta.

As part of its development plan, Be Charge has found support from a number of area utility suppliers such as Ascotrade (Veneto) and CVA (Valle d'Aosta), with which it has formed strong coverage partnerships in their territories to develop the network, and with managers of electric fleets such as E-Vai in Lombardy, and Sicily by Car in Sicily. It is continuing to develop its network with the aim of covering the entire country. It has already reached agreements to supply electric vehicle charging infrastructure with the municipalities of Biella and province (106), Cesenatico (20) and Piacenza.

Be Charge is a member of the **Be Power S.p.A.** Group, dedicated to rolling out electric vehicle charging networks. Be Charge is developing one of Italy's biggest and most extensive networks of public charging infrastructure for electric vehicles in order to play a decisive role in developing a sustainable mobility system. Thanks to the technologically advanced platform it developed, Be Charge is able to offer efficient charging services to all owners of electric vehicles, and to enable them to recharge throughout Italy. As part of the sector supply chain, Be Charge plays a dual role as Charge Point Operator (CPO) and Electric Mobility Service Provider (EMSP). All charging stations are smart and user friendly, monitored 24 hours a day by a help desk and can be accessed via the BeCharge mobile app. Be Charge's charging stations are Quick (up to 22 kW) via alternating current, Fast (up to 150 kW) or HyperCharge (greater than 150 kW) via direct current. Be Charge's business plan is to install around 30,000 charging points in the next few years, which will provide **100% green energy** from renewable sources.

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