

Public Notice and Opportunity to Comment on the Effects of Installation of Electric Vehicle (EV) Chargers within Highland Park
SOPEC CFI Charger Install Project – Responsive Interregional Deployment of Electrification Solutions (RIDES)

Please provide comments by April 10, 2026.

The Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council (SOPEC), in cooperation with the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) and the City of Dayton, proposes the installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at Highland Park located off Wyoming St and Steve Whalen Blvd, in Montgomery County. The charger installation will include four Level 2 Ports (19kW) which are proposed to be situated in the parking area at the southwest corner of Highland Park.

The final location of the chargers will be determined in later phases of the project; however, they will be installed within the area depicted on the figure. Detours or the closure of the park will not be necessary for the construction activities to install the chargers. Though part of the parking area will be inaccessible during construction, access to Highland Park and its non-affected parking areas will be maintained at all times. The anticipated installation timeframe will be 3-4 weeks.

Highland Park is a recreational facility located at 1621 Wyoming St, Dayton, OH 45410. As a public recreational facility, Highland Park is considered a recreational resource under Section 4(f) of the U. S. Department of Transportation Act of 1966 ((Pub. L. 89-670, 80 Stat. 931; codified at 23 U.S.C. 138; implemented by 23 CFR Part 774).) and is provided protection from adverse impacts from federal-aid transportation projects. A *de minimis* impact determination is proposed to fulfill those requirements.

SOPEC has coordinated with the City of Dayton Department of Public Works and the City of Dayton as owner and operator of Highland Park, regarding project impacts to ensure the project will not adversely affect the recreational activities, features, or attributes that qualify the park for protection. The Public Works Engineer has concurred that the project will not adversely affect the protected recreational activities, features, or attributes associated with Highland Park.

SOPEC will implement the following measures to minimize harm to Highland Park:

- Access to Highland Park will be maintained at all times during construction.
- All staging equipment will be limited to the existing parking area; installation shall not take place outside of the proposed construction area.
- Construction activities will be scheduled to not coincide with any planned or proposed public activities, events or other planned construction at the park.
- Temporary measures such as warning cones or signage will be installed to direct pedestrians safely around the work area.
- Any disturbed parking areas or landscaping will be restored to preconstruction conditions; minor vegetation where removal is necessary will be revegetated.

Based on the assessment of the proposed impacts, defined as a use of the park, FHWA anticipates making a determination of *de minimis* impacts on the proposed temporary use of

Highland Park. *De minimis* impacts are generally minor in nature and, after considering avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures, will not result in an adverse effect on the park. FHWA will make the final *de minimis* impact determination based on the outcome of the public comment process and written concurrence from the City of Dayton. Comments regarding the impacts on the park and the proposed *de minimis* impact finding must be submitted to SOPEC by April 10, 2026. Comments may be submitted to SOPEC at rides@sopec-oh.gov or at the below address. Additional project information can be found at <https://www.sopec-oh.gov/rides/#/find/nearest>

Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council
P.O Box 825
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| CFI Charger, Install Project | Sustainable Ohio Public Energy Council |
| Responsive Interregional Deployment of Electrification Solutions | |
| Montgomery County | Highland Park |



Date: 2/5/2026
By: N. Leo