

## Launching Community Charging

**February 28, 2021—Chicago, IL, United States**—Community Charging (CC) and EVmatch have recently built an initiative with the generous support of the Keeling Curve Prize for Global Warming Mitigation. As stated on their page, each year, the Keeling Curve Prize for Global Warming Mitigation locates and funds the best climate solutions the world has to offer. The ultimate goal is to bend the daily record of global atmospheric carbon dioxide concentration better known as the *Keeling curve*. This groundbreaking initiative serves as a peer-to-peer network of electric vehicle chargers for urban residential neighborhoods.

**Vanessa Perkins, Founder of Community Charging (CC)**, started this Illinois-registered not-for-profit as a result of her research fellowship with Environmental Entrepreneurs (E2). Perkins spent the last couple of years doing an endless amount of research to design a low-cost peer-to-peer EV charging network to help the rapid growth of EV adoption in urban residential areas. Having identified 10 residential areas, whose locations are predominantly located in what is now known as *charging deserts*, Perkins founded Community Charging. An Illinois-registered not-for-profit organization that was put in place to inspire the accelerating community charging revolution happening around the world.

Community Charging is aware of the barriers that Electric Vehicles (EVs) face in the Chicago area. The term is known as *range anxiety*, the worrying feeling that an EV driver develops due to running out of power before the destination is pretty popular in Chicago. Since Chicago has major charging desert areas more specifically around the South Side and West Side which has been identified as having no public charging stations at all—Community Charging is here to help close those gaps.

Community Charging with the support of EVmatch is providing this peer-to-peer network of privately owned chargers that can be publicly rented/reserved by local EV drivers around the Chicagoland area. One would download the EVmatch app from the **App Store** or **Google Play** to reserve a time to charge their vehicle. Once the previous electric vehicle is fully or partially charged based on the time that was reserved—after hours, it becomes available to the public. Chicagoans will have the opportunity to use the EV charging stations at \$1/hr rate. Community Charging offers a more flexible, and affordable way by providing a more broad public access to EV drivers, and also opens up the conversation about equity in the EV world.

For more information, please visit Community Charging at <https://www.communitycharging.org/>