

10/14/2025

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# Introducing *Community Charge*

POWERING OUR NEIGHBORHOODS TOGETHER



# Notification of Recording

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By continuing with this webinar, you are consenting to participate in a recorded event. The records and chat transcript will be considered public record. If you do not feel comfortable being recorded, please turn off your camera and/or mute your microphone, or leave the webinar.

# Zoom Basics

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- You will be muted throughout the webinar
- We will answer questions at the end of the presentation
- Use the Q&A function at the bottom of your screen to ask questions
- This webinar will be recorded and sent in a follow-up email with resources
- If you would like to use closed captions, click CC at the bottom of your screen

# Today's Speakers

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Anna Brackenhofer  
Energy Program Analyst  
PowerOptions



Fehr Gillet  
Junior Alternative Fuels Analyst  
PowerOptions



Walter Gray  
Program Director, Alternative Fuels  
PowerOptions



Joe De Larauze  
Program Officer, Green Homes  
LISC Massachusetts



Anna Vanderspek  
Electric Vehicle Program Director  
Green Energy Consumers Alliance

# Organizational Roles within *Community Charge*

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- **PowerOptions:** Ran a competitive RFP process to select vendors and pre-negotiate pricing on your behalf. Will meet with you, discuss your site and interests, and connect you with the best-suited of our approved vendors.
- **LISC Massachusetts:** Connecting the affordable housing community in Massachusetts to the *Community Charge* offering.
- **Green Energy Consumers Alliance:** Will work with interested site hosts who install through *Community Charge* to design and run community educational campaigns around the new stations and EVs in general.

# Agenda

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- Electric vehicle charging basics
- Introducing *Community Charge*
- Getting started!
- Q&A

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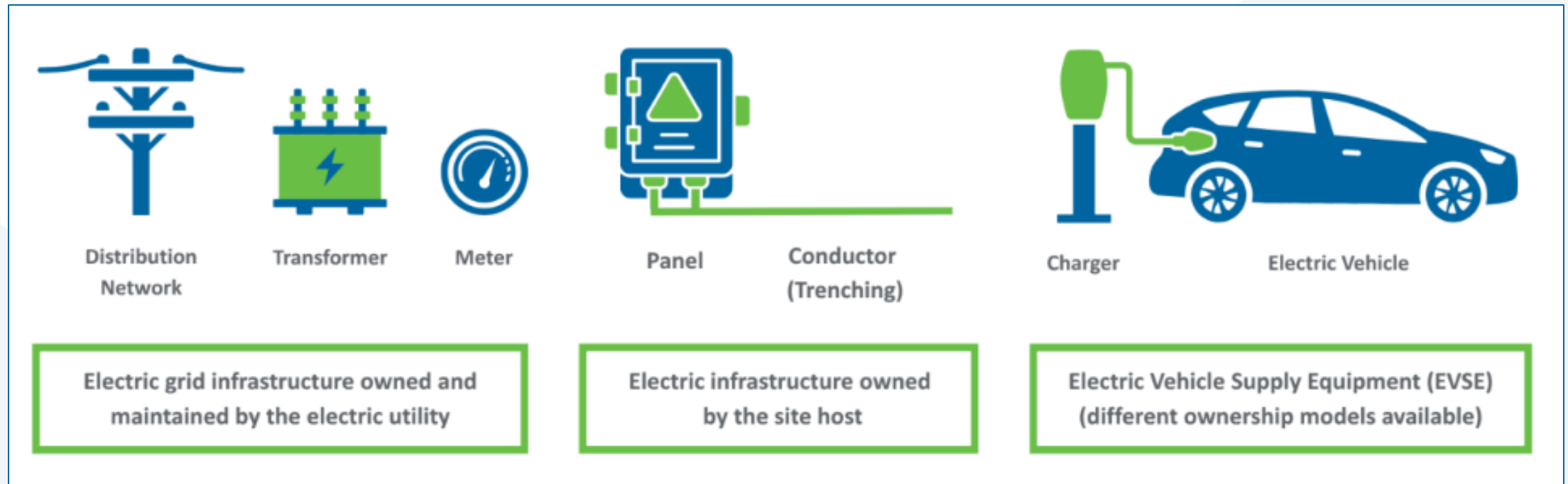
# Poll Break!

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# Electric Vehicle Charging Basics

# Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure

The job of an electric vehicle charger (formally called "Electric Vehicle Supply Equipment" or "EVSE") is to safely and efficiently transfer power from your site to the electric vehicle (EV) plugged in.

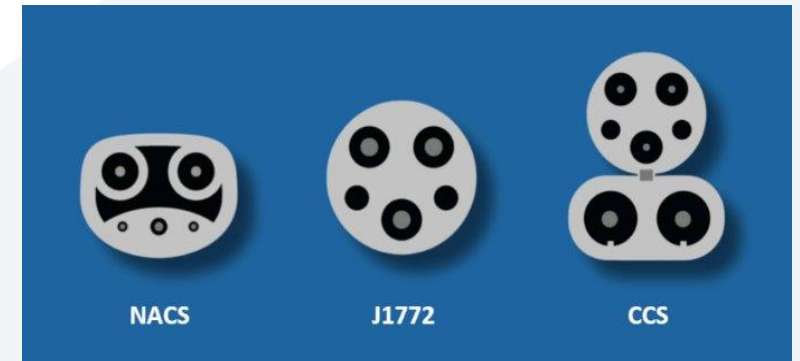


# Charging Levels & Ports

*Community Charge* supports two levels of charging, Level 2 and DC Fast Charging, and three port types:

- J1772 – Used by non-Tesla vehicles for Level 2 charging
- CCS Combo – Used by most non-Tesla vehicles for DC Fast Charging
- NACS – Used by Tesla and an increasing number of non-Tesla vehicles for Level 1, 2, and DC charging

|                | Level 2                               | DC Fast Charging                                                      |
|----------------|---------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Input          | 240-volt AC                           | 3-phase 480-volt AC                                                   |
| Power          | 6 – 19.2 kW                           | 50 – 350+ kW                                                          |
| Charging speed | 20 – 50 miles per hour spent charging | Varies; Can generally charge from 10 – 80% full in 30 minutes or less |



\*Adaptors available

# Operations & Maintenance

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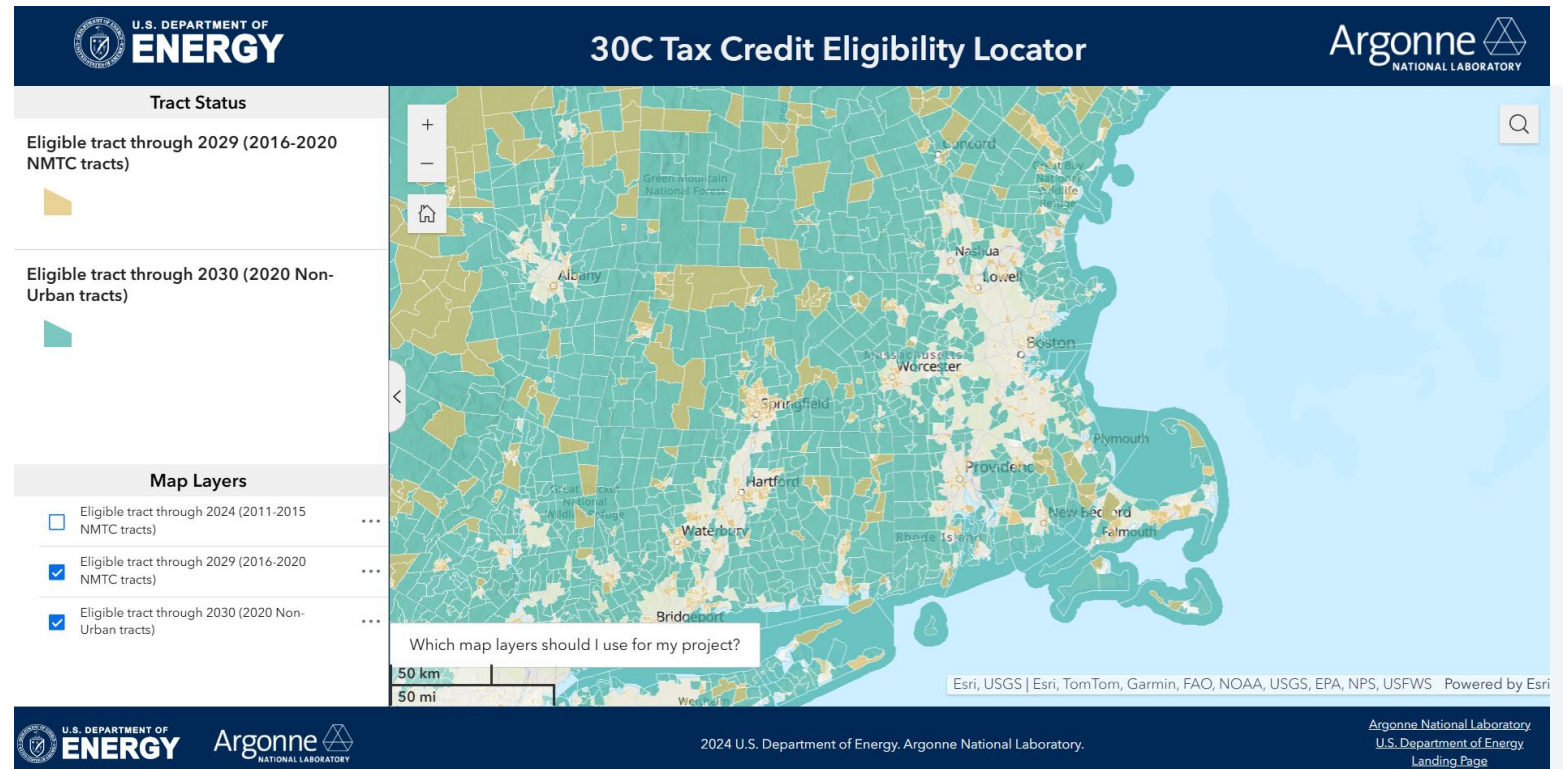
Site hosts who decide to **own, operate, and maintain** their charging stations should expect to:

- Track usage, set usage rates, and pay utility bills for the stations;
- Regularly inspect and clean the station;
- Monitor usage and customer feedback to identify any performance issues;
- Update software when needed;
- Make any needed repairs.

For entities that choose the **charging-as-a-service** route, the chosen vendor would assume all of these responsibilities.

# Incentives: Federal Alternative Fuel Vehicle Refueling Property Credit (30C)

- In place until June 30, 2026
- Covers up to 30% of the cost, up to \$100,000
- Only available to entities in low-income or non-urban census tracts
- Available to tax-exempt entities via elective pay



[This tool](#) from Argonne National Laboratory allows you to type in an address and determine eligibility for 30C.

# Incentives: MassEVIP

- Incentive programs from the MA Department of Environmental Protection
- Available for Level 2 units at multi-unit dwellings, workplaces & fleets, and public access sites.
- Incentives are *not* available for DC Fast Charging installations.
- Incentives generally 60% of the costs, up to \$50,000 per street address. (Government-owned public access sites are eligible for up to 100%).

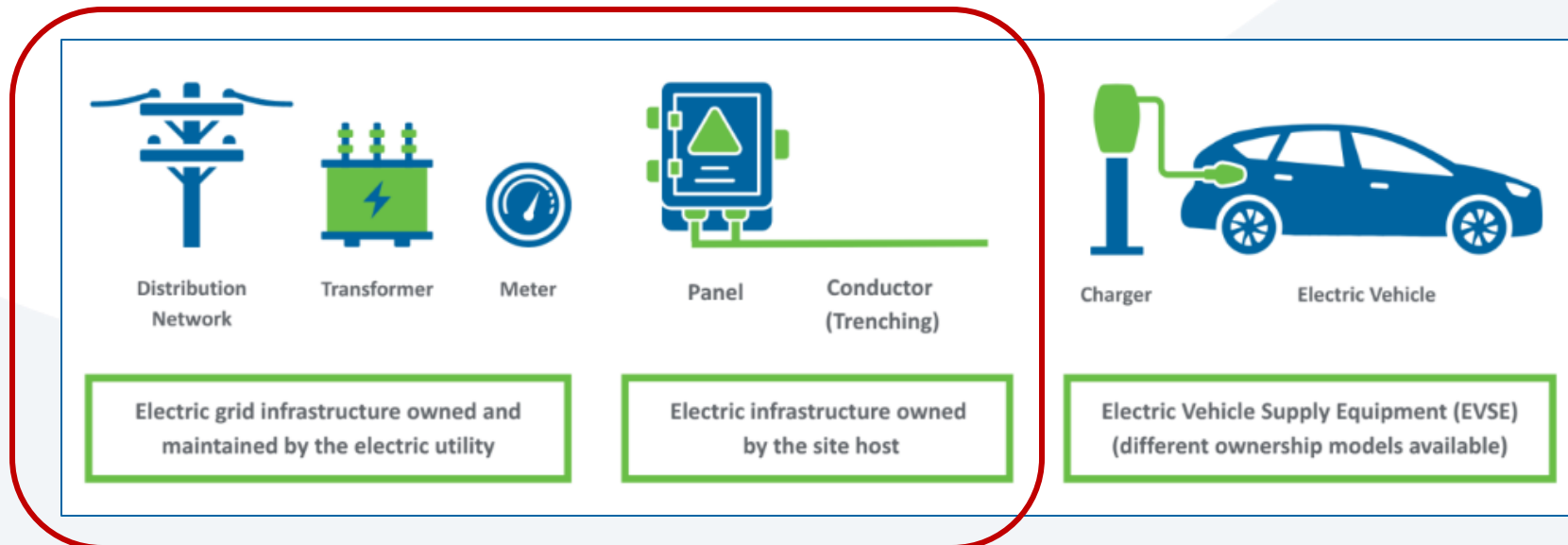
| Program                                                      | Eligible to Apply                                                                                                                        |
|--------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <u>Fleets</u>                                                | Municipal governments, public colleges/universities, and state agencies (fleet vehicles only)                                            |
| <u>Public Access Charging</u>                                | Non-residential public, private, or non-profit sites available for public use                                                            |
| <u>Multi-Unit Dwelling &amp; Educational Campus Charging</u> | Private, public, or non-profit dwellings with five or more residential units and educational campuses with at least 15 students on site. |

Image from [MassDEP website](#).

# Incentives: Utility Incentives

- National Grid and Eversource have programs for multifamily homes, workplaces, fleets, and public sites that generally cover up to 100% of the costs of needed infrastructure upgrades ("Make Ready") and may offer rebates for the charger hardware, depending on site location. Funds have been depleted in some segments, but programs may reopen soon.
- Unitil and many municipal light plants have programs too.

*Upgrades  
covered by  
Make Ready*



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# Poll Break!

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# Introducing *Community Charge*

# Community Charge Overview

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## Community Charge - Powering our neighborhoods together

- Intended to bring EV charging access to low/moderate income drivers in environmental justice communities
  - Environmental Justice (EJ) Communities = areas facing disproportionate environmental and social burdens
  - [Massachusetts 2020 Environmental Justice Populations](#)
- Competitively-procured equipment and installation pricing leveraging the size and strength of the 500+ member PowerOptions Consortium
- Subsidization from MassCEC via the ACT4All 2 grant, including funding for
  - Host administrative time
  - Community outreach and engagement support
  - Project implementation support

# Community Outreach & Education

Our team is ready to support you with physical and digital outreach materials (translated as needed) and looking to cohost community events to increase awareness of your new stations and EVs in general.

**These stations are for you!**

Charge up your vehicle for \$XX/kWh and add 10 to 50 miles of range per hour spent charging.

Don't have an electric vehicle yet?

Electric vehicles (EVs) have lower fuel and maintenance costs, reduce dangerous air pollution, and are fun to drive. And Massachusetts offers rebates to help bring down the cost for both new and used cars!

Scan the QR code to learn about EVs and how to get one!



**Coming Soon Near You:  
EV Charging Stations**



# Two Procurement Pathways through *Community Charge*

## Charging-as-a-Service

- Stations are located on your property but installed, owned, operated, and maintained by a Community Charge program provider
- Provider pays for hardware, software, installation, and electricity
- You, the site host, are compensated via a profit-share agreement
- Profits driven by station usage



## Host-Owned

- You can procure the hardware, software, and/or installation a-la-carte, or you can use a turnkey vendor
- You, the site host, finance, own, operate, and manage the charging stations
- As the station owner, you set rates, manage the software, and keep all the profits
- You are responsible for insuring the stations (if you choose to do so) and addressing any issues



# Use Cases & Eligibility

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## Use Cases

- **Publicly Accessible** – Must be available to the general public 24/7/365, prioritizing access for Environmental Justice (EJ) communities. A minimum of 12 hours/day is required if circumstances prevent all day access.
- **Workplace** – Must have at least 15+ employees and provide community charging access outside of business hours. Not required to be open to the public 24/7/365.
- **Multi-unit Dwelling** – Must have 5 or more residential units. Not required to be open to the public 24/7/365.
- **Educational Campus** – Must have at least 15 students and allow community access outside of school hours where feasible. Not required to be open to the public 24/7/365.

## Eligibility

- ✓ Must be a nonprofit or public entity
- ✓ Must own/control site on which EV chargers would be installed
- ✓ Must serve low/moderate-income drivers from one or more EJ Communities
- ✓ Stations must be operational between **September 2026 – July 2027**

# PowerOptions EV Charging Program

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Spots are limited under the Community Charge (MassCEC) grant due to limited funding for community outreach and charger subsidization.

Interested entities who are not eligible or are not selected for the Community Charge program can still be served by the PowerOptions EV Charging Program.

We'll continue to help identify available incentives to reduce project costs.

**Working through the PowerOptions EV Charging Program ensures:**

- Competitive pre-negotiated pricing
- Quality equipment
- Reputable and experienced project developers
- Advising from PowerOptions throughout the process

# Community Charge FAQs

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## Who is eligible to participate?

- Nonprofit and public entities that serve low or moderate income communities.

# Community Charge FAQs

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## What are the costs to participate?

- There is no cost for eligible participants to receive a consultation from PowerOptions and get connected with a participating vendor.
- From there, depending on the chosen procurement option and site needs, costs may vary.
- However, *Community Charge* has pre-vetted competitive pricing for all program options.

# Community Charge FAQs

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**Are low-income housing developers (nonprofit) that utilize Low-Income Housing Tax Credits eligible?**

➤ Yes.

# Community Charge FAQs

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## How many charging stations can I install?

- Under *Community Charge*, we recommend 2 dual-port L2 charging stations but we can serve any further needs under the PowerOptions EV charging program.

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# Poll Break!

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# Getting Started!

# Timeline & Get Started

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*Community Charge* will run through July 2027. However, the sooner you apply, the better!

- The federal tax credit will expire after June 30, 2026;
- It's not certain that utility funds or state rebate program funds will be available past July 2027.

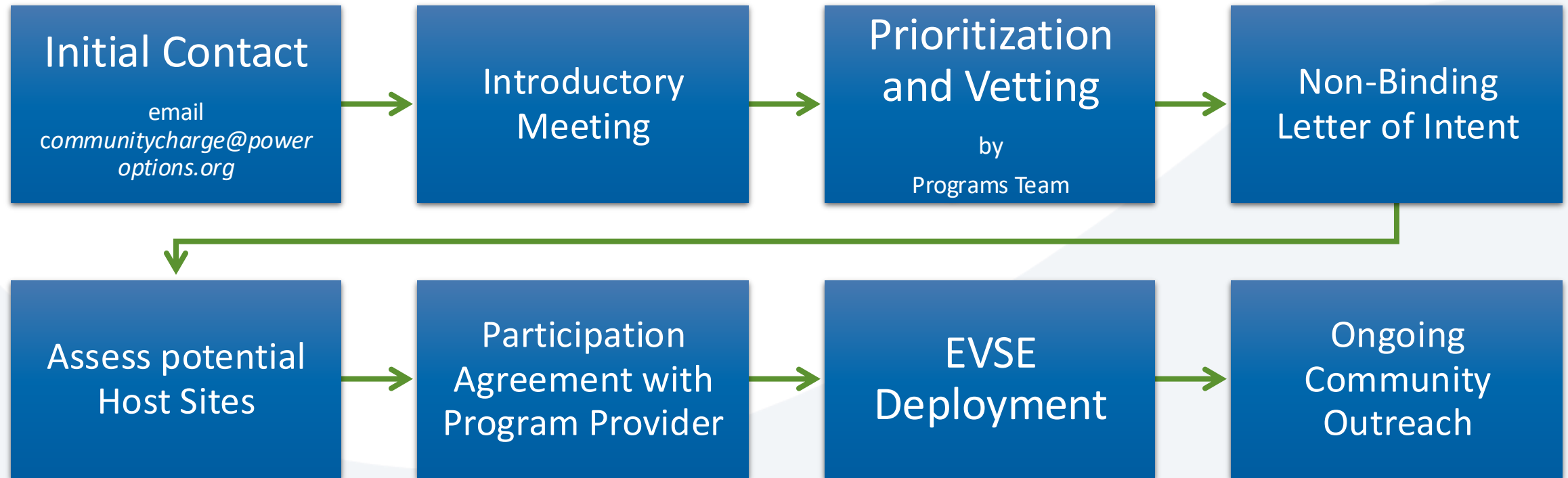
Learn more by scanning the QR code on the right or visiting [info.greenenergyconsumers.org/CommunityCharge](https://info.greenenergyconsumers.org/CommunityCharge).



To get started, email [CommunityCharge@PowerOptions.org](mailto:CommunityCharge@PowerOptions.org). The first step will be setting up a call with the PowerOptions team to discuss your site and goals.

# What to Expect

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# Q&A