



**ev
spot**
network



**ev
spot**
charging



evie
Operated by HOURCAR

2024 Annual Report



SAINT PAUL
MINNESOTA



Minneapolis
City of Lakes



We're working to make sure you can get where you need to go

On May 13, 2022, we launched a groundbreaking transportation initiative to provide access to clean, affordable, and reliable electric carshare options. We stood with Minneapolis Mayor Jacob Frey in taking a leap forward toward a cleaner, more connected Twin Cities with our EV Spot Network. As a core tenet of our Climate Action and Resilience Plan, sustainable transportation is no longer a new option; it's a reliable option.

We've seen steady growth over the last three years as more and more residents use Evie Carshare to get where they need to go — saving money, reducing emissions, and opening up opportunities that didn't exist before.

Now, we're expanding these benefits into even more communities. We're excited to bring the EV Spot Network deeper into our East Side, along the recently opened METRO Gold Line, and into neighboring Washington County.

Thank you to the public and private partners who have made this exciting and transformational work possible. And welcome to the new partners joining us as we keep building a more sustainable and equitable future for us all.

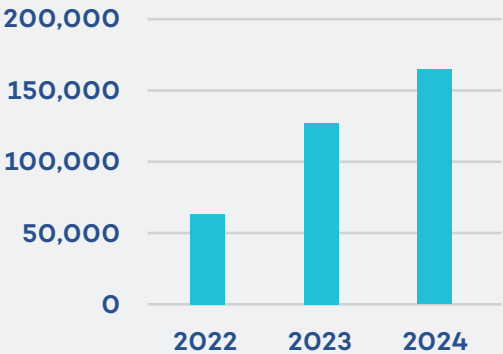


Mayor Melvin Carter III
City of Saint Paul



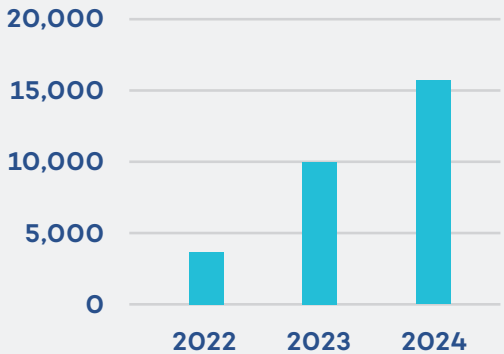
We're seeing steady growth in use and benefits

Evie Carshare trips



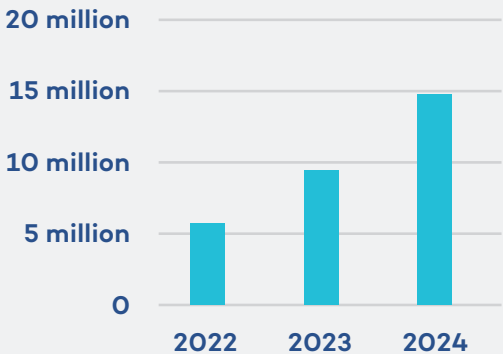
Total: >355,000 trips

Charging sessions



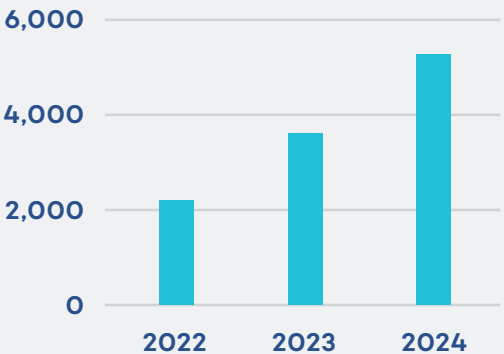
Total: >28,000 sessions

User savings (\$)



Total: >\$30 million

Emission reductions



Total: >11,000 metric tons



Executive Summary

Five years ago, a woman in Saint Paul told us that while transit got her to work and back, it couldn't get her to the doctor over lunch. So, she didn't go to the doctor.

Stories like this, coupled with Saint Paul's launch of its Climate Action and Resilience Plan, made it clear that we needed a new transportation option: widely available carshare. We also needed more public EV chargers for carsharing and private EVs, including those whose owners couldn't charge at home.

The cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis responded to these needs by creating the EV Spot Network: electric carshare with curbside chargers.

What is the EV Spot Network?

The EV Spot Network is composed of:

- ▶ **EV Spot Charging:** 70 curb-side charging locations, with a total of 140 charging heads for electric carshare and 140 for private EVs.
- ▶ **Evie Carshare:** 168 electric vehicles available when residents need one.



The cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis own and manage the EV Spot Network to meet the transportation needs of our residents and people visiting us. Curbside chargers and electric carshare work together to provide transportation options people need that is **clean, affordable, and reliable**.

The impressive results in this report were produced with our partners.

- ▶ HOURCAR operates the Evie Carshare service under contract to the cities.
- ▶ Xcel Energy provides critical infrastructure and 100% clean electricity.
- ▶ **See a full list of our partners and supporters on page 12.**



How does the system meet people's needs?



Connects people to critical destinations

In a 2024 user survey, 50% said they use Evie Carshare to get to the doctor.



Reduces pollution and improves air quality

EV Spot Chargers and Evie Carshare let people travel without producing local or global pollution.



Saves our residents money

Carshare users go more places and save money. In the user survey, 77% said carsharing allowed them to sell or postpone buying a car. Evie Carshare saved residents more than \$30 million in the last three years.



Benefits all kinds of residents

We designed the EV Spot Network to ensure that everyone could enjoy the benefits of clean electric transportation. In 2024, 44% of Evie Carshare use was by low-income members and 45% by BIPOC members.

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surveyed users say carsharing enables them to forgo car ownership

What's next for the EV Spot Network?

People are using the EV Spot Network to get where they need to go while saving money and reducing pollution. Because it works, more people are using it each year.

We are now expanding the EV Spot Network to bring these benefits to more people and more places. As described starting on page 10, we are expanding further in Saint Paul and Minneapolis, and into Washington County.

EV Spot Charging

The EV Spot Charging network provides 70 electric vehicle charging hubs in the public right-of-way. (See map and picture)

All 70 hubs have two Level Two (L2) charging heads reserved for Evie Carshare, and two L2 heads for private electric vehicle owners, for a total of 140 charging heads for Evie Carshare and 140 for private charging. Twelve hubs include DCFC Fast Chargers.

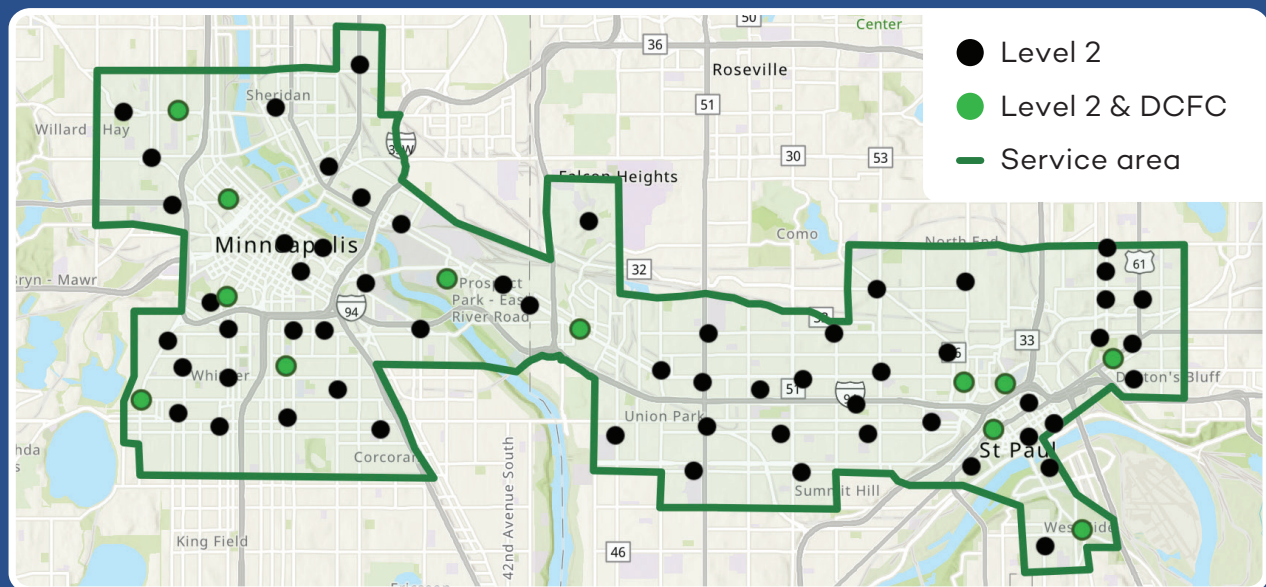
The EV Spot Charging network meets two critical needs:

- ▶ **Providing convenient, accessible charging for private EV owners.**
- ▶ **Supporting the fleet of Evie Carshare vehicles.**

The charger locations were carefully chosen to support current transit and bike routes, and to not interfere with future expansions of transit or bike infrastructure. The goal from the beginning was to work with and fill a hole in a network of options. EV Spot locations are within walking distance of more than 90% of regional transit routes.

Saint Paul, Minneapolis, and Xcel Energy started installing EV Spot Charging locations during the height of the COVID crisis. Not only did we successfully launch a vital transportation option, we did so while overcoming an extraordinary set of challenges.

Charger locations



Level 2: AC charging (240V), adds significant range per hour. **DCFC:** Rapid DC charging (high voltage), adds many miles in minutes.

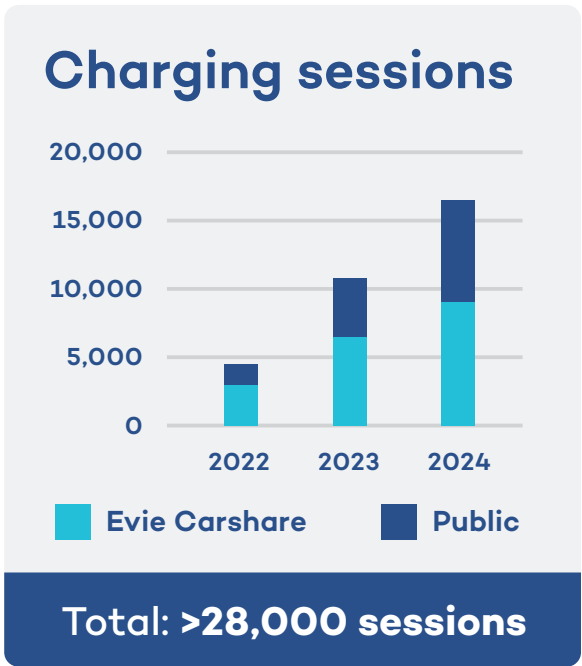


This location at Selby Ave. and Dunlap St. in Saint Paul serves residents in apartments who can't otherwise charge at home, and a mix of work and retail destinations.

Each EV Spot Charging location has two charging heads for Evie Carshare and two charging heads for private EV owners. **More than half of charging locations serve predominantly low-income and BIPOC neighborhoods, including many apartment-rich neighborhoods.**

People use EV Spot chargers more every year

The steadily increasing use of EV Spot chargers shows that Saint Paul and Minneapolis' approach to charging works. Curbside public charging meets a wide variety of needs. These include making it possible for people who can't charge at home (for example, live in an apartment without a charger) to own an EV, and address concern that a public charger may not be available when needed. Nationally, potential EV buyers continue to express apprehension about a lack of public charging opportunities;¹ Saint Paul and Minneapolis are addressing this, and speeding the transition to cleaner, quieter cars.





100% clean energy from Xcel Energy

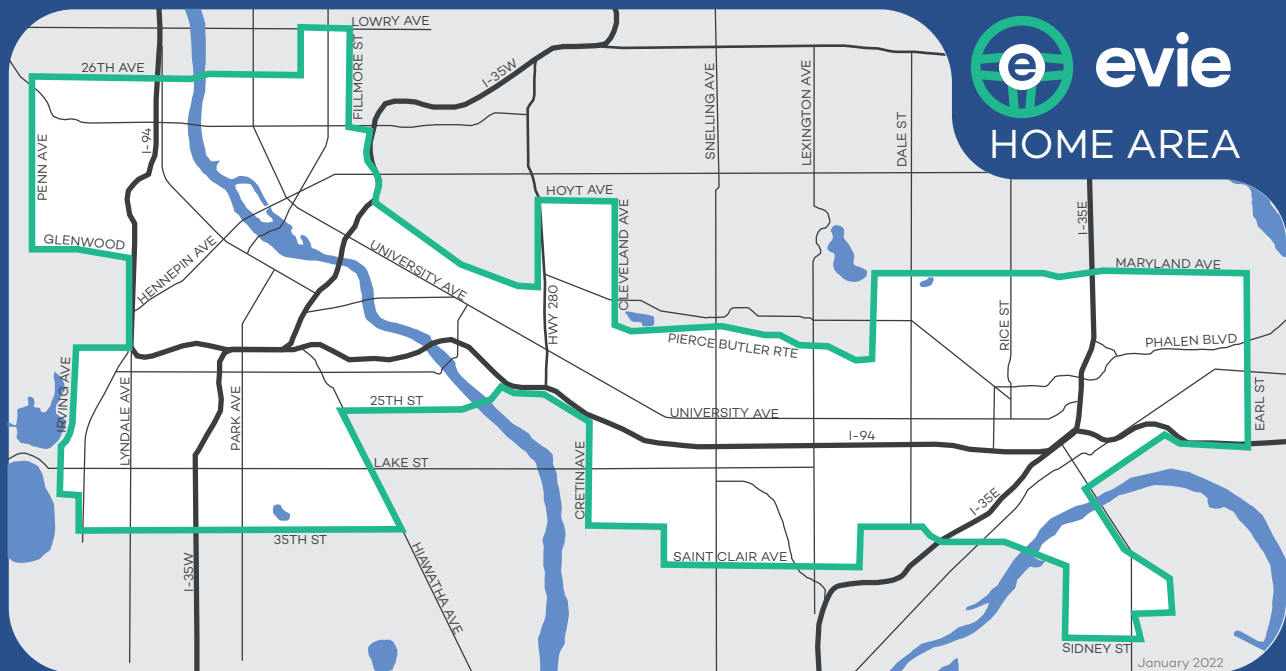
The EV Spot Charging Network is powered by 100% zero-emission, renewable energy provided by partner Xcel Energy.

¹ Public Charging Remains Top Barrier to EV Adoption,” <https://www.jdpower.com/business/resources/e-vision-intelligence-report-february-2025>



Evie Carshare

Saint Paul and Minneapolis launched Evie Carshare in 2022 and grew the fleet to 168 vehicles in 2024. Evie Carshare users can choose from Chevy Bolt, Nissan Leaf and Leaf Plus vehicles, with ranges up to 259 miles.



People can pick up one of 168 Evie Carshare vehicles across a 35-square mile Home Area, take it anywhere, and end a trip in the Home Area at any two-hour or longer on-street parking spot. A user does not need to return a car to an EV Spot charger but does receive a credit for future trips if they do.



Total trips:
>355,000



Total savings:
>\$30 million

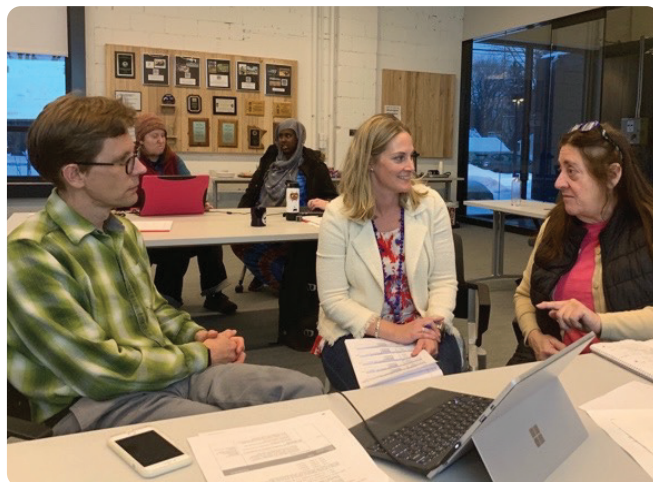


Total pollution reductions:
>11,000 metric tons



Learning from the community

Before launching the EV Spot Network, Saint Paul, Minneapolis, and HOURCAR worked with residents and community-based organizations to understand residents' transportation needs. We supported residents in developing transportation budgets, and in exploring the various transportation options open at the time. They helped us understand how existing options did and did not meet their needs.



Residents told us

- ▶ Car ownership is **too expensive**
- ▶ Some feel forced to own cars because there are **no other options**
- ▶ Breakdowns make cars **unreliable**
- ▶ Transit gets me to work, but it **can't get me to the doctor**
- ▶ **Uber and Lyft** are too expensive

After Evie Carshare

People are now using Evie Carshare to meet these needs. In the 2024 user survey, Evie Carshare users shared:

- ▶ **40%** used carshare to get to work
- ▶ **50%** used carshare for doctor visits
- ▶ **74%** used carshare to shop for groceries and other essentials

Saint Paul, Minneapolis, HOURCAR, and other partners worked with 10 community-based organizations to understand: What transportation needs do people have? How could the EV Spot Network meet those needs? (Report at hourcar.org/community/) The design of the EV Spot Network reflects the input of all of these critical partners. This is truly a community project, with benefits for all.

People are using carshare to get where they need to go while saving money. In the user survey, 77% said that carshare allowed them to sell or postpone buying a car. As a result, in 2024 alone, Evie Carshare users saved \$14.9 million in transportation costs. (Cost savings based on reduced car ownership costs per user.)

These benefits – connection, savings, and cleaner air – are being enjoyed by all kinds of people. 45% of use was by BIPOC users; 44% was by low-income users.

Because Evie Carshare is so popular, our cars see a lot of use: more than three trips per vehicle per day. We believe this level of vehicle utilization is a carshare record nationally.

The high utilization of the fleet is a signal that we need to add cars to meet demand. While users are overall very positive about Evie Carshare, 70% of survey respondents said that the lack of an available carshare vehicle had prevented them from making a trip. We work continuously with our stakeholders to identify funding to expand the fleet. (See “Evie Carshare fleet expansion” on page 11.)



Results: The EV Spot Network makes us better off

The EV Spot Network is the largest system of its kind: municipally owned electric carshare that is fully supported by its own charging ecosystem. Growing and operating electric carshare and public charging at scale has produced important lessons.

City-owned public charging + electric carshare works

Municipal ownership of the EV Spot Network ensures that both component services work well together and are designed and priced to meet the needs of residents.

The dense network of EV Spot Charging stations ensures that both carshare and private EV owners have convenient, fairly priced places to charge. Electric carshare also provides a guaranteed level of use for the charging network while public demand grows.

Municipal ownership also ensures that residents can rely on the service. As the EV Spot Network reaches its third anniversary, we are fulfilling the goal of a system the residents and visitors can depend on.

Public charging + electric carshare produces a high and enduring return on investment

Building on a \$6.7 million grant from the United States Department of Energy, an initial \$4 million from the Federal Highway Administration, and a commitment from Xcel Energy to provide and install the 'make-ready equipment' (essentially the underground infrastructure necessary to connect EV Spot Chargers to the electrical grid), the EV Spot Network has invested a total of \$14 million in Evie Carshare vehicles and EV Spot chargers.²

Since the EV Spot Network launched in 2022, users have saved more than \$30 million in transportation costs alone through 2024. This return on investment does not include the value of the connections that Evie Carshare has made possible, such as to medical care and to work.

² A portion of the US DOE grant supported the development of round-trip electric carshare. This service line is distinct from Evie Carshare, but is accessible to Evie Carshare members on the same app. Many users use both service lines. This document reports only on the use and impacts (including savings) of the Evie Carshare service line. The use and impacts of the round-trip service line add substantially to the benefits listed here, and are reported in HOURCAR's annual impact reports, at hourcar.org/news/.



Expansion: More cars, more places

The EV Spot Network is working, so we're expanding to serve more people and places.

East Side expansion

This expansion will install five new EV Spot Network charging stations on the East Side of Saint Paul. The City is working with the community to determine where these chargers will be best used and meet community needs. We will also add Evie Carshare vehicles to the fleet to help serve the expanded territory.

To plan this expansion, the City is working with the American Lung Association, East Metro Strong, the University of Minnesota, and four community councils: Dayton's Bluff Community Council, Greater East Side Community Council, Payne-Phalen Community Council, and Southeast Community Organization.

Expansion to Gold Line stations

METRO Gold Line Bus Rapid Transit opened on March 22, 2025, connecting people across the region to job centers, housing options, and key destinations in the Interstate 94 corridor between Saint Paul and Woodbury.

The EV Spot Network will install hubs at five Gold Line stations in Saint Paul. Each hub will include two Level 2 charging heads for Evie Carshare and two for public charging. Metro Transit is building the hub at the Sun Ray station. These locations will open in 2025. Ten round-trip electric carshare vehicles will let Gold Line users reach destinations further away from stations.

Expansion in Minneapolis

Minneapolis is planning 2-4 new charging locations in 2025 from Minneapolis' Climate Legacy Initiative funding. These sites will expand the existing carshare and charging area by an estimated 2.5 square miles, mostly in North Minneapolis.

Minneapolis is also adding 2 additional charging locations in 2025 and 2026, funded from a Regional Solicitation award through the TAB. These locations will be within the current carshare and charging area, and will be co-located with robust new mobility hubs.

Expansion into Washington County

The TAB awarded funds, matched by Washington County, to create three EV Spot Network locations, with chargers and electric carshare vehicles, at Gold Line stations in Washington County. The county is currently planning locations at the Greenway, Helmo, and Woodlane METRO Gold Line stations. The vehicles at these locations will let Gold Line users and others reach destinations throughout the county, and provide for public vehicle charging. Implementation is anticipated in 2026.

The current EV Spot Network partners are grateful to the many people and stakeholders who recognize the value of the EV Spot Network and are working to bring clean, affordable, reliable transportation to more people.



Evie Carshare fleet expansion

As previously noted, survey respondents said that the lack of an available carshare vehicle had prevented them from making a trip. To help meet the need for more carshare vehicles, the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) of the Metropolitan Council awarded funds, matched by Minneapolis and Saint Paul, to add 50 electric vehicles to the Evie Carshare fleet. These vehicles, including new Chevy Equinox vehicles, will join the fleet in 2025.

The **EV Spot Network** was designed to work with transit, allowing people to reach places transit doesn't. Future expansions will also work with transit.



Thank you to our partners

A wide variety of public and private support made the EV Spot Network possible.

- ▶ The Cities of Saint Paul and Minneapolis own the EVs and the chargers.
- ▶ Regional non-profit HOURCAR operates the Evie Carshare system under contract to the cities.
- ▶ Regional utility Xcel Energy contributes the make-ready equipment for the chargers.

Federal, state, and regional public and private partners provided financial, planning, and implementation support for the launch. Critical funding partners include:

- ▶ The U.S. Department of Energy. This material is based upon work supported by the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Energy Efficiency and Renewable Energy (EERE) under the Office of Vehicle Technologies Award Number DE-EE0009226. The views expressed herein do not necessarily represent the views of the U.S. Department of Energy or the United States Government.
- ▶ The Minnesota Clean Cities Coalition (MC3), a U.S. Department of Energy designated coalition in the Clean Cities and Communities partnership. MC3 has been a driving force for this collaboration, including securing the \$6.7 million initial US DOE funding, and supporting project implementation and growth.
- ▶ U.S. Department of Transportation Congestion Mitigation and Air Quality (CMAQ) funds via the Transportation Advisory Board of the Metropolitan Council
- ▶ Philanthropy

Funders include:



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Data sources

- ▶ Evie Carshare trips, transportation savings, and CO2 reductions, from HOURCAR Impact Reports 2022-2024. [HOURCAR.org/news](https://hourcar.org/news).
- ▶ HOURCAR's calculation of total transportation cost savings is based on published research on the savings received by carshare users as a result of shedding or postponing the purchase of personally owned vehicles.
- ▶ EV Spot Charging session data from the City of Saint Paul.

Contact

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📞 651-266-6246



Learn more:

- ▶ stpaul.gov/departments/public-works/transportation-and-transit/ev-spot-network
- ▶ eviecarshare.com/

