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New Rochelle Goes Greener With Four Electric Vehicles Added To City Fleet



Zak Failla 04/30/2015 6:00 a.m.



New Rochelle and Nissan officials unveiling the new GreeNR vehicles. Photo Credit: Zak Failla



NEW ROCHELLE, N.Y. – New Rochelle got a little more green this week, as city officials rolled out the first of four electric vehicles that will be used daily by members of the Department of Development.

Last month, the City Council entered into a lease agreement with Nissan that will bring four Leaf models into the municipal fleet. Nissan is also set to install a pair of electric charging stations for public use at the New Roc City and Intermodal Transportation Center garages.

In addition to the charging stations, there will also be five “complimentary assigned parking spaces” for zero-emission vehicles, New Rochelle Mayor Bramson noted.

“New EV charging stations will make it easier for residents and visitors to power up the cars of the future, while new electric vehicles in the city fleet will cut our fuel costs and greenhouse gas emissions,” he said. “It’s a win-win that advances New Rochelle’s ongoing sustainability efforts.”

The vehicles, which sport a green and white paint job with the GreeNR (<http://www.newrochelleny.com/index.aspx?NID=349>) logo on the side panels run completely on electricity and emit zero emissions. They will soon be seen on city roads daily, spreading the word of sustainability.

In a statement, Sean Hopkins, the senior manager for Nissan EV Infrastructure Strategy and Business Development, noted that his company is investing in communities like New Rochelle throughout the country.

“We thank the city of New Rochelle for providing charging for owners of plug-in vehicles in the local community,” he said. “Nissan is investing in communities like New Rochelle because we know that public charging enhances the overall ownership experience for Leaf owners and helps new customers realize the benefits of owning an EV.”

Over the last few months, members within the Department of Development have been contacting major vehicle manufacturers to “discuss the possibility of becoming the zero-emission, sustainable and electric New Rochelle vehicle.

“Nissan of New Rochelle is proud to be a part of the community, so we were happy to support the efforts of the city and Mayor Bramson to increase the sustainability of its vehicle fleet through the donation of these all-electric Nissan Leafs,” Nissan of New Rochelle President Anthony Panarella said.

Bramson stated that this is just the beginning of environmentally friendly efforts in New Rochelle.

“This single step won’t change the world, of course, but it is one more way that the city can set a good example, while also providing the infrastructure that makes it easier for residents to embrace sustainable practices.”

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