

December 3, 2019

Dear Mrs. Snorek,

The Environmental Advisory Committee at Bemidji State University approved this statement on December 3, 2019:

“The Environmental Advisory Committee strongly advises designating additional parking near the electric vehicle (EV) charging station in the Bangsberg Hall parking lot as “EV Only”. We specifically propose designation of the two parking spots north of the charging station. Combined with the currently designated spot west of the station, this would render the three spots immediately adjacent to the station accessible for electric vehicle drivers. Doing so will support electric vehicle ownership and use, which we believe aligns with our University’s commitment to become a more sustainable campus and its signature theme of environmental stewardship.”

The Environmental Advisory Committee believes payment of the EV-charging fee (\$25 per semester + sales tax = \$26.97), in addition to the standard parking permit fee, should enable a reasonable expectation of parking near enough to the charging station such that charging is possible. The Committee is aware of several instances in which parking within range of the charging station has been unavailable due to non-electric vehicles occupying the adjacent spots. The problem this creates seems unnecessary due to the ample capacity for parking in the Bangsberg Hall lot. Devoting two additional spots as “EV Only,” for a total of three, should not place undue burden upon parking availability.

As of September 20, 2019, three parking permit holders have paid the additional EV-charging fee. Ensuring a minimum of three designated spots in proximity to the station will enable access for this population and create flexibility to accommodate additional permit holders into the future. In addition to signage, we believe enforcement by Public Safety will be a key component to successfully identifying “EV Only” spots. The Committee hopes to collaborate with Public Safety to determine appropriate enforcement measures.

For these reasons, we recommend the expansion of electric vehicle access to the charging station by designating the two spots immediately north of the station as “EV Only.”

Sincerely,

Jordan Lutz, Carl Isaacson, and Brian Brown
Co-Conveners, Environmental Advisory Committee

Attachments: *Two pictures – “EV Charging Station (facing West)” and “EV Charging Station (facing East)”*

Voting outcome:

Yes – George McConnell

Yes – Brian Udenberg

Yes – Thomas Dirth

Yes – Anna Knowles

Yes – Dan Alosso

Yes – Alyssa Hauser

Yes – Anna Carlson

Yes – Brian Hiller

Yes – Mia Haugan

Yes – Erika Adams



Figure 1: West-facing view of proposed locations for additional EV parking designation. Two spots immediately north of the EV charging station.



Figure 2: East-facing view of proposed locations for additional EV parking designation. Two spots immediately north of the EV charging station.