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Groundbreaking Ceremony Announced for

Calexico Crossroads EV Charging Hub

New EV Charging Station to Serve Local and Cross-Border Traffic, Empower Veterans, and Support Sustainable Transportation in Imperial Valley

Calexico, CA, September 12, 2024 — <u>Veteran Energy Services Company (VESCO)</u> is proud to announce the groundbreaking for the construction of the Calexico Crossroads EV Charging Hub, a state-of-the-art facility that will serve local residents, EV drivers from surrounding areas including those traveling to key destinations such as San Diego, Arizona, and Palm Desert, and with an unprecedented focus on supporting cross-border traffic.

The event marks the official start of construction at 1113 Imperial Avenue W, Calexico, CA, and will take place from 8:30 AM to 10:00 AM.

Developed by <u>VESCO</u> and supported by veteran subcontractors and workforce, the hub is set to become a key piece of infrastructure to promote and support the adoption of zero-emission vehicles (ZEVs) in the underserved Imperial Valley region.

The EV Charging Hub is expected to be completed and fully operational by late November 2024, providing critical infrastructure for sustainable transportation. This includes both passenger vehicle charging and the area's first dedicated effort to support cross-border traffic, particularly those involved in commercial and long-distance travel.

This project has been supported by grants from CalEVIP and the Golden State Priority Project, advancing California's commitment to expanding zero-emission vehicle infrastructure.

A New Era for Transportation in Calexico

The Calexico Crossroads EV Charging Hub is strategically designed to meet the growing demand for passenger electric vehicle (EV) charging in the region. With four 180kW DC Fast Chargers, the hub will provide rapid charging capabilities for EV drivers, enabling quick and convenient recharges for those traveling to and from key destinations like San Diego, Arizona,





and Palm Desert. Additionally, the inclusion of four Level 2 chargers will cater to employees and local residents, offering a reliable option for longer-duration charging while they work or shop in the area.

By addressing the challenges of "Range Anxiety," the fear of running out of battery power before reaching a charging station, the Calexico Crossroads EV Charging Hub is transforming this concern into "Range Happiness." With the availability of both fast and Level 2 charging options, drivers can travel with confidence, knowing they have easy access to the power they need, when they need it. This hub marks a significant step forward in supporting passenger EVs in a region that sees heavy vehicle traffic, particularly at the intersection of Imperial Avenue (Highway 111) and Birch Street (Highway 98).

While the initial focus is on passenger vehicles, the hub is also laying the groundwork to begin serving medium-heavy duty vehicles (MHDVs). Future expansion plans include the installation of a 400kW DC Fast Charger specifically designed for MHDVs. This development will be crucial for supporting cross-border commerce and long-distance travel, ensuring that the infrastructure grows in tandem with the increasing adoption of electric trucks and commercial vehicles.

Project Highlights:

- 8 EV Charging Stations: The initial phase will feature four 180kW DC Fast Chargers for rapid charging of passenger vehicles and four Level 2 EV chargers for employee and local resident charging. Future expansion plans include a 400kW DC Fast Charger designed for Medium Heavy-Duty Vehicles (MHDVs).
- **Veteran-Led Development:** <u>VESCO</u>, supported by veteran subcontractors and workforce, leads this project, showcasing a strong commitment to empowering veterans and bringing renewable energy solutions to underserved communities.

Grants and Incentives:

Funded by the CalEVIP Inland Counties Incentive Project and the Golden State Priority Project grants, the Calexico Crossroads EV Charging Hub is integral to California's ambitious goals for zero-emission vehicle adoption and infrastructure, particularly in historically underserved areas like Imperial Valley, which plays a crucial role in cross-border trade and regional connectivity.





CARB's Imperial Valley Tour

The groundbreaking ceremony for the Calexico Crossroads EV Charging Hub coincides with the <u>California Air Resources Board's (CARB) Imperial Valley Tour</u>, an event dedicated to exploring transportation electrification and environmental initiatives in the region. This tour is part of CARB's broader effort to engage with communities and gather input on local air quality and transportation issues. The Imperial Valley Tour will include site visits, discussions on local challenges and opportunities, and sessions focused on advancing transportation electrification in the region. Attendees will have the opportunity to learn about state programs supporting clean transportation and to participate in conversations about the future of environmental justice in Imperial Valley.

Community and Environmental Benefits

- **Economic Growth:** Located in a high-traffic area, the hub is expected to attract EV drivers and businesses, fueling local economic activity, and facilitating travel to key destinations. Its strategic location will support commercial transportation and cross-border travel, enhancing economic ties between the U.S. and Mexico.
- Environmental Impact: The project is designed to significantly reduce greenhouse gas
 emissions, aligning with broader efforts to improve air quality in disadvantaged
 communities, especially those affected by high traffic volumes and cross-border
 commerce.
- Cross-Border Connectivity: Serving as a crucial link for local, regional, and cross-border traffic, the hub will support the needs of both passenger vehicles and medium-heavy duty electric vehicles engaged in long-distance travel, promoting sustainable and efficient transportation.

Attendees and Presenters:

The event will feature remarks and presentations by key officials and stakeholders, including:

- Imperial County Supervisor John Hawk
- Mayor Camilo Garcia City of Calexico
- Representatives from the California Air Resources Board (CARB)





- Imperial Irrigation District (IID) Javier Gonzalez, Board Director for City of Calexico
- Representatives from the Imperial Valley Economic Development Corporation (IVEDC)

Join Us

<u>VESCO</u> invites the community, stakeholders, and EV enthusiasts to join us at this important groundbreaking ceremony on September 12, 2024. This event marks the beginning of construction, with the full completion and operational launch of the EV Charging Hub expected by late November 2024.

RSVP & Media Contact:

To attend, please RSVP by September 9, 2024.

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