COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND

By: Council Member Kai Hagen

AN ACT to: (1) define a plug-in vehicle, and parking space designated for a plug-in vehicle; (2) prohibit parking of a vehicle that is not a plug-in vehicle in a public parking space reserved for plug-in vehicles; and (3) generally amend the laws governing parking on County Roads in the County.

By amending:
Frederick County Code, 1-15  Section 31

Other: ________________________________

**Boldface**
- Heading or defined term.

*Underlining*
- Added to existing law.

[SINGLE BOLDFACE BRACKETS]
- Deleted from existing law.

***
- Existing law unaffected by bill.
The County Council of Frederick County, Maryland, finds it necessary and appropriate to define a plug-in vehicle and prohibit parking a vehicle that is not a plug-in vehicle in a parking space designated for plug-in vehicles on County roads, or on County owned property.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY COUNCIL OF FREDERICK COUNTY, MARYLAND, that the Frederick County Code be, and they are hereby, amended as shown on the attached Exhibit 1.

MC Keegan-Ayer, President
County Council of Frederick County, Maryland
§ 1-15-31. PARKING SPACES DESIGNATED FOR A PLUG-IN VEHICLE.

(A) Definitions. As used herein:

**PLUG-IN VEHICLE.** A vehicle that is:
(1) made by a vehicle manufacturer for primary use on a public street, road, and highway;
(2) has a rated unloaded gross vehicle weight of no more than 8,500 pounds
(3) has a maximum speed capability of at least 55 miles per hour; and
(4) is propelled to a significant extent by an electric motor that draws electricity from a battery that:
   (a) For a 4-wheeled vehicle, has a capacity of at least 4 kilowatt-hours;
   (b) For a 2-wheeled vehicle or a 3-wheeled vehicle, has a capacity of at least 2.5 kilowatt-hours; and
   (c) Can be recharged from an external source of electricity.

Plug-in vehicle includes a vehicle that has been modified from the original manufacturer’s specifications to be compliant with section (A).

**PLUG-IN VEHICLE PARKING SPACE.** A parking space designated for the use of plug-in vehicles with official sign that conforms to the system set forth in the “Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices” for streets and highways adopted by the State Highway Administration, as amended from time to time which provides access to a plug-in vehicle recharging station.

(B) A person may not stop, stand, or park a vehicle that is not a plug-in vehicle in a plug-in vehicle parking space.

(C) A person may not stop, stand, or park a plug-in vehicle in a plug-in vehicle parking space where the charging equipment is not compatible with the vehicle’s charging equipment.

(D) A person may not stop, stand, or park a plug-in vehicle in a plug-in vehicle parking space if the vehicle is not connected to the charging equipment.

(E) This section applies only to plug-in vehicle parking spaces on County roads or County owned property. A violation of this section shall be a Class C offense as defined in Section 1-1-9 of the Frederick County Code. Each day that a violation of this sections continues shall constitute a separate offense.
To: County Council

From: Council Member Kai Hagen

Date: September 21, 2021

Subject: Electric Vehicles

Issue:

Should the Frederick County Council add § 1-15-31 to the Frederick County Code regarding Electric Vehicles?

Background:

Electric vehicles are changing the world. The number may be relatively low right now, but will grow dramatically over the next decade. Many automobile manufacturers are phasing out internal combustion engines altogether. Among other things, this change will mean major reductions in air emissions (including carbon dioxide, which is essential as part of the efforts to address our climate crisis). Improved air quality, improved public health, and significant economic benefits are all reasons for supporting the inevitable increases in electric vehicles. More and more states, counties and cities across the country (and the world) are planning and responding by establishing the basic infrastructure that will support this change. Increasingly, we will need public policy that supports that infrastructure. While becoming more common, parking spaces with electric vehicle charging stations have limited availability, and having proper parking spaces to accommodate electric cars is essential to their function. Parking spaces with electric vehicle charging stations represent a financial investment, by local governments and private businesses. Our code should support that investment and the use of these spaces.

States such as Colorado, Florida, Arizona, and California have already established related laws. Counties in Maryland such as Montgomery County, Howard County, Baltimore County, and Emmitsburg have similar laws.

What will this bill do?

This bill will define an electric vehicle and prohibit a vehicle from parking in a plug-in vehicle parking space they cannot use.