



NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

NEVI PROGRAM

2025 FHWA PLAN UPDATE

Table of Contents

Introduction 3

NEVI Program Funding Allocation Plan 4

Community Engagement Outcomes Report 5

Physical Security and Cybersecurity..... 7

Tables

Table 1: NC NEVI Program Funding Plans 4

Table 2: Summary of NCDOT NEVI Community Engagement Activities (2024-2025) 6

Table 3: Cybersecurity and Data Management Requirements 7

Introduction

The National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) Program established by the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will provide federal funds to support North Carolina's efforts to build out a network of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations along interstates and U.S. highways and in North Carolina communities. The goal is to deploy a statewide EV charging network and build EV charging infrastructure along alternative fuel corridors to accelerate North Carolina's electric mobility future.

The North Carolina Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment Plan (EVIDP) was developed in accordance with the NEVI Formula Program's [interim final guidance](#) issued by the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) on August 11, 2025. This new guidance made several changes to the previously released NEVI guidance from June 11, 2024, including:

- Minimizing the content required in State plans to statutory and regulatory requirements
- Simplifying the plan approval process
- Providing States with the flexibility to determine the appropriate distance between stations along alternative fuel corridors to allow for reasonable travel.
- Minimizing requirements for States to consider electric grid integration, renewable energy, and alignment with electric distribution interconnection processes, except where required by regulation.
- Encouraging selection of charging locations where the charging station owners are also the site host to accelerate project delivery.
- Eliminating requirements for States to address consumer protections, emergency evacuation plans, environmental siting, resilience and terrain considerations.
- Providing States with more flexibility in determining when their system is built out allowing NEVI funds to be used on public roads statewide.

The North Carolina EVIDP considers the most recent guidance that was released by FHWA on August 11, 2025. The purpose of the following plan is to comply with the updated guidance and meet the statutory and regulatory requirements of the NEVI Program. As requested by FHWA, FY26 EVIDP addresses the following key items:

- A description of how the State intends to use NEVI Program funds for each fiscal year. The Plan should cover all unobligated funding for fiscal years 2022-2026.
- A Community Engagement Outcomes Report, per 23 CFR 680.112(d).
- A description of physical and cybersecurity strategies, per 23 CFR 680.106(h).



NEVI Program Funding Allocation Plan

North Carolina is expected to receive up to \$109 million over 5 years to support the development of the state's public EV charging network. The NEVI Program reimburses private companies up to 80 percent of the cost to construct and operate EV charging stations for a 5-year period.

NCDOT completed and received approval for Electric Vehicle Infrastructure Deployment Plans submitted in the summers of 2022, 2023, and 2024. To date, North Carolina has been allocated approximately \$83.9 million (FY22-FY25) to build a network of EV chargers across the state.

NCDOT issued one Request for Proposal (RFP) to solicit qualified entities to design, build, operate, and maintain Direct Current Fast Charging (DCFC) EV Supply Equipment Stations. The RFP was issued on April 8, 2024, and closed June 10, 2024, resulting in the selection of projects at 9 sites.

As shown in **Table 1**, NCDOT has obligated approximately \$7.2 million in NEVI funding to date. With the remaining NEVI funds, NCDOT will continue to plan for the development of additional DCFC and Level 2 chargers both on and off Alternative Fuel Corridors (AFC). NCDOT anticipates releasing a Request for Proposals (RFP) in late 2025 or early 2026 for EV charging stations along North Carolina's Alternative Fuel Corridors. It is anticipated that this RFP will result in appropriate station siting such that NCDOT in consultation with FHWA North Carolina Division Office will certify our state's AFCs as fully built out. If funds remain after AFC certification of fully built out is received, additional RFPs will be released to fund charging station projects throughout the state.

Table 1: NC NEVI Program Funding Plans

	FY 22	FY23	FY 24	FY 25	FY26	Total
Estimated NEVI Funding Available	\$14,250,244	\$23,221,608	\$23,221,768	\$23,221,788	\$25,084,592	\$109,000,000
Estimated NEVI Funding Obligated	\$7,221,767					\$7,221,767
Estimated NEVI Funding Remaining to be Obligated	\$7,028,477	\$23,221,608	\$23,221,768	\$23,221,788	\$25,084,592	\$101,778,223



Community Engagement Outcomes Report

In accordance with **23 CFR § 680.112(d)**, NCDOT has pursued a comprehensive and multi-tiered community engagement strategy to support its EV Deployment.

Key Engagement Activities Include:

- **NCDOT NEVI Webpage:** NCDOT maintains a NEVI program webpage with links to technical resources, program information, active RFP mapping and application processes. The website has been viewed more than 5,000 times since August 2024.
- **Industry and Utility Collaboration:** NCDOT maintains an active NEVI Industry Networking Database with over 100 private sector contacts and engages regularly with major electric utilities (Duke Energy, Dominion Energy, NC Electric Cooperatives, Electricities) to coordinate on EVSE deployment and RFP processes.
- **Outreach to Potential Rural Site Hosts:** Between December 2024 and January 2025, NCDOT conducted targeted outreach to rural businesses through mailers, calls, and webinars, reaching over 90 businesses and engaging more than 80 participants.
- **Workforce Development:** In February 2025, NCDOT collaborated with the North Carolina Business Committee for Education and North Carolina Community Colleges to advance EVSE repair technician training and certification programs across the state.
- **Regional and Statewide Stakeholder Engagement:** NCDOT presented NEVI updates and future plans at several key conferences:
 - Southeast Electric Transportation Regional Initiative (April 3, 2025)
 - NC Association of MPOs (April 15–17, 2025)
 - NC State Energy Conference (April 29–30, 2025)

These efforts demonstrate NCDOT's proactive approach to engaging diverse stakeholders, including EVSE businesses, potential EVSE site hosts, electric utilities, educators, planners, rural communities, and energy professionals, on the current status, future direction, and economic opportunities regarding EV charging infrastructure in North Carolina. NCDOT will use the feedback received from the engagement events to improve our RFP process as well as support the economic growth of this industry in North Carolina.

Table 2 summarizes NCDOT's community engagement actions implemented between September 2024 and August 2025, including the audiences engaged and the topics discussed.



Table 1: Summary of NCDOT NEVI Community Engagement Activities (2024-2025)

Date	Activity	Webpage: Number of Views
Ongoing	NCDOT publishes updates to NCDOT NEVI Industry Networking Database. This database contains contact information for over 100 private companies interested in the NEVI Program to facilitate team building for applications.	36
Ongoing	NCDOT NEVI Team continues to engage with electric utilities on EVSE and NEVI Program RFPs including regular communication and updates with Duke Energy, Dominion Energy, North Carolina Electric Cooperatives and Electricities	N/A
September 2024	Update of NCDOT NEVI website to publicize the nine projects awarded NEVI funding	432
November 2024	NCDOT published Round 2 Cluster map on the NEVI website for developers to begin planning for Round 2 RFP	225
December 2024 - January 2025	NCDOT conducted engagement with prospective site hosts in rural areas, including postcard mailers, follow up telephone calls, and two site host webinars. NCDOT contacted over 90 rural businesses. Over 80 people attended the webinars.	233
February 6, 2025	NCDOT presented to EVSE educators and industry leaders at the North Carolina EVSE Workforce Development Committee meeting held by North Carolina Business Committee for Education (NCBCE) to discuss further development of the EVSE Repair Technician Certification coursework	N/A
April 3, 2025	NCDOT presented to over 50 EV and EVSE industry leaders at the Southeast Electric Transportation Regional Initiative Conference	N/A
April 15-17, 2025	NCDOT NEVI Team presented at the North Carolina Association of Metropolitan Planning Organizations (NCAMPO) Conference to engage with transportation planners across the state.	N/A
April 29 and 30, 2025	NCDOT NEVI Team presented at the North Carolina State Energy Conference to engage with energy stakeholders and leaders	N/A



Physical Security and Cybersecurity

Per **23 CFR § 680.106(h)**, NCDOT has implemented a robust physical and cybersecurity framework to maximize the safe and secure operation of EV charging infrastructure. These measures are designed to protect station customers, equipment and consumer data, reduce risks to the grid, and maintain compliance with federal and state cybersecurity standards.

To support implementation, NCDOT has incorporated specific developer responsibilities into the RFP technical requirements. Several factors are also considered during the RFP evaluation process. These considerations include site layout, travel paths, security cameras, on-site staff availability, and approach to cybersecurity. Lastly, awardees will be encouraged to go beyond these basic requirements and improve security at the stations as industry standards are modified and improved.

Physical Security and Safety

The physical security of the charging infrastructure and the safety of the people using that infrastructure is very important to NCDOT. Specific requirements have been incorporated into the first RFP to ensure security and safety are provided at each charging site. Table 3 outlines these physical security and safety requirements that were included in the first RFP. Future RFPs will include similar requirements that are appropriate for the circumstances of those deployments.

Table 3: Physical Security and Safety Requirements

3	Physical Security and Safety Requirements	
1	Safety Lighting	The project site shall provide lighting to illuminate all EV chargers and corresponding EV charging spaces. Lighting levels and requirements shall be consistent with existing jurisdictional and zoning requirements.
2	Physical Security	All EV chargers, electrical infrastructure, and other equipment at the project site shall be physically secured to prevent unauthorized access and must be protected from being hit by vehicles from inside and outside of the site, including bollards. Appropriate fire extinguishers and fire protection must also be included at the project site.
3	Charger Locks and Tamper Prevention	The EV chargers shall incorporate security features to deter tampering. Features shall include the use of locks on enclosures and tamper-resistant screws.
4	Emergency Shut Off	All EVSE must have an emergency stop (E-Stop) button that will stop power from the charging port when activated. All E-Stop buttons should be labeled so they are clearly visible and marked.

Cybersecurity

Cybersecurity is a critically important and quickly changing area of concern for charging stations. NCDOT's approach to cybersecurity for the NEVI program is to rely on industry standards and certifications to demonstrate compliance, and leave the specific implementation



details up to the individual site operators. Information demonstrating compliance with industry standards must be provided on a regular basis in the form of third-party audit reports or certifications.

NCDOT provides developers with standardized compliance worksheets that guide developers in documenting third-party cybersecurity audits, PCI and EMVCo compliance, and incident response procedures. **Table 4** outlines the cybersecurity and data management requirements that were included in the first RFP. The table serves as a concise reference for the technical expectations and documentation required under the NEVI Program, and the worksheets provide the mechanism for developers to fulfill those expectations. Future RFPs will include similar requirements that are appropriate for the circumstances of those deployments.

Table 4: Cybersecurity and Data Management Requirements

4	Cybersecurity and Data Management Requirements	
1	Annual Cybersecurity Report and Annual Third-Party Security Assessment	<p>The Awardee shall develop a written cybersecurity plan. The plan and implementation of the plan by the station operator must be audited annually by a third-party. The Awardee shall provide proof of annual cybersecurity audits from the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Charge Point Operator (CPO) • Electric Vehicle Service Provider (EVSP) • Cloud Service Provider (If utilized) • Other Service Providers (If utilized) <p>Examples of certifications that may meet this requirement include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program (FedRAMP) Certification • State Risk and Authorization Management Program (StateRAMP) Certification • SOC 2 Type II • ISO 27001
2	Annual Cybersecurity Report	<p>The Awardee shall provide the following information on an annual basis in a format to be provided by NCDOT:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof and details including type and date of third-party cybersecurity audits • Proof and details including type and certification date of Payment Processor PCI compliance • Proof and details including type and certification date of Payment Terminal PCI compliance and EMVCo Certification • Details including responsible individual and procedures for cybersecurity notifications to NCDOT
3	Cybersecurity Incident Response Team	<p>The Awardee shall establish a Cybersecurity Incident Response Team (CIRT) made of Awardee staff members who will be responsible for responding to any cybersecurity events that may occur during any phase of the project.</p>



4	Cybersecurity Event Notification	<p>The Awardee shall inform NCDOT of any cybersecurity event that requires notification to any person under federal or State law, including:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Notification of data breaches or incidents affecting an electric utility. • Notification of unauthorized physical access to technology infrastructure, regardless of whether this results in a cybersecurity event or not. Examples of such access include breaking open a charger cabinet or accessing a server room. The Awardee shall provide the full details of the incident and/or breach to NCDOT. • Notification of a cybersecurity lawsuit or potential legal action that involves the NEVI station(s) operated by the Awardee under the Agreement with NCDOT or involves the Agreement between the Awardee and NCDOT. <p>Notification shall be provided within 24 hours of the Awardees discovery of the event.</p>
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