

Plug In  
America.

The Voice of the EV Consumer

Los Angeles, California

**EV CHARGER**

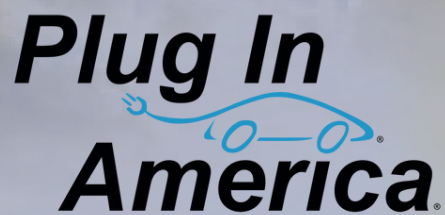
*Plug In America presents*

# DRIVE ELECTRIC AWARDS 2022

Plug In  
America.



Presented by Nissan



## Who Is Plug In America

Plug In America is a 501(c)3 non-profit, supporter-driven advocacy group and voice of plug-in vehicle drivers across the country. Our mission is to drive change to accelerate the shift to plug-in vehicles powered by clean, affordable, domestic electricity to reduce our nation's dependence on petroleum, improve air quality and reduce greenhouse gas emissions. We help consumers, policy-makers, auto manufacturers, and others understand the powerful benefits of driving electric. We provide practical, objective information to help consumers select the best plug-in vehicle for their lifestyles and needs.

Plug In America offers some of the world's most profound experiences in understanding and improving the EV customer experience from the consumer's point of view. Because of our history and our network of supporters with real EV experience, Plug In America is uniquely qualified to conduct public outreach and education on these vehicles. Our supporter network includes tens of thousands of EV drivers and consumers.

Some of our programs include:

- National Drive Electric Week
- Drive Electric Earth Day
- PlugStar Program
- Electric Vehicle Support Program





## A message from Plug In America's Executive Director

We are so excited to be back together in person for these awards for the first time in three years. 2022 has been an epic year for electric vehicles (EVs)! Not to mention, we've just had the largest federal commitment to EVs in history with the signing of the Inflation Reduction Act. This was in no small part due to more than a decade of efforts by PIA and EV activists, like the ones we are honoring today.

National Drive Electric Week and Drive Electric Earth Day are back to their pre-Covid event numbers. With so many new EV variants coming to market, including pick-up trucks and SUVs, demand for new EVs is off the charts.

We couldn't do this without the help of our supporters and partners. Thank you for continuing to support us. With your help, we continue to reach more consumers and change opinions about driving electric. We're proud to honor this year's winners and cannot wait to see their impact on the future of electric vehicles.

Thank you for your continued support and keep driving electric!

Best wishes,  
Joel Levin



**Plug In  
America.**

## We are proud to present the 2022 Drive Electric Award Winners

Each year, Plug In America presents the Drive Electric Awards to those leading the electric vehicle movement. Nominations are submitted by Plug In America supporters and the winners are selected by a committee comprised of Plug In America board members.

EV Leadership Award

---

Pete Buttigieg

EV City

---

Portland, Oregon

Lifetime Achievement Award

---

Kathy Lynch

Lifetime Achievement Award

---

Paul Scott

Individual Award

---

Mary Brazell

Organization Award

---

Clean Cities

Utility Award

---

PSE&G

City Captain Award

---

Robert Fernat

City Captain Award

---

Paul Pancella

Student Award

---

Tyler Wittmann





**Plug In  
America.**

## EV Leadership Award

---

U.S. Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg

Since taking the helm at the USDOT, Secretary Buttigieg has overseen a remarkable effort to make electric transportation accessible to all Americans. He has done so by leading the federal government's planning and development of robust charging infrastructure that is now supported by all 50 state departments of transportation as they implement the electric vehicle provisions of the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law. Thanks to the Secretary's leadership, the nation is on the cusp of a national electric vehicle charging network that will help meet the quickly growing demand for electric vehicles.

## EV City

---

Portland, Oregon

Under Mayor Ted Wheeler, Portland, Oregon has been one of the leading cities in the country to promote electric vehicles and other forms of sustainable transportation. This has been a coordinated effort of interlocking policies over many years to build out the city's fleet and charging infrastructure. "Portland continues to lead the way on EV policy and programs and will be well positioned to build on the current momentum and support the rapid uptake of zero emission vehicles in our city. We appreciate the role that Plug-In America has played in this space and look forward to continuing to support EVs," Mayor Wheeler said.



**Plug In  
America.**

## Lifetime Achievement Award

---

Kathy Lynch

Kathryn A. Lynch had over twenty years of advocacy experience operating her lobbying practice, Lynch and Associates, in Sacramento, California. She advanced public policy in California for the solar industry for many years and guided the landmark legislation creating the “net metering” law in California, but her true passion was for electric vehicles. She was an EV driver and fierce EV advocate for many years and represented Plug In America in Sacramento since 2007. She was at the forefront of numerous bills and funding to develop the necessary development of infrastructure and deployment of electric vehicles.

## Lifetime Achievement Award

---

Paul Scott

Paul is a lifelong fierce environmental advocate and a cofounder of Plug In America. Paul helped create DontCrush.com, Plug In America's predecessor, a grassroots group that single-handedly prevented some 1,000 production EVs from being destroyed by the auto companies that manufactured them. He is among the key figures featured in *Who Killed the Electric Car?* the 2006 documentary distributed by Sony Pictures Classics, and consulted for the follow up, *Revenge of the Electric Car*. It is no understatement to say that the EV movement would not be where it is today without Paul.



## Individual Award

---

### Mary Brazell

Mary Brazell is a long-time advocate for electric cars. She currently serves as Transportation Electrification Program Manager for the Oregon Department of Transportation, Climate Office. In this role, Mary guides ODOT's transportation electrification activities, advancing Oregon's Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) charging infrastructure deployment and ZEV adoption across all transportation modes. For many years, she was an independent consultant and played a central role in launching numerous EV initiatives, from Edison EV, to Veloz to CALSTART.

## Organization Award

---

### Clean Cities

Clean Cities was created by the U.S. Department of Energy nearly 30 years ago to encourage alternative fuel vehicles and to reduce vehicle emissions. Today, DOE facilitates national coordination of more than 75 Clean Cities coalitions. The coalitions have been pivotal in broadly building public awareness of EVs over many years and have been invaluable in leading NDEW events around the country. Mark Smith, who will be accepting the award, is the Technology Integration Program Manager, and is focused on accelerating the development and widespread use of advanced vehicle technologies and other fuel-saving technologies and practices.



## Utility Award

---

### PSE&G

PSE&G is the first utility in New Jersey to support the buildout of EV charging infrastructure through a program dedicated to installing 45,000 EV chargers throughout its service territory. They also offer customers reimbursement for make-ready costs for residential, commercial and DCFC EV charging and an off-peak charging credit for residential customers. PSE&G has also committed to the conversion of all of its passenger vehicles, 60% of medium duty vehicles and 90% of heavy-duty vehicles by 2030 to battery electric vehicles and plug-in hybrids.

## City Captain Award

---

### Robert Fernet

Robert Fernet is a lifelong resident of West Virginia, the current president of the West Virginia Electric Auto Association (WVEAA), and a powerful spokesperson for EVs in West Virginia and around the region. His passion for electric vehicles led him to purchase his first EV in 2015 and he has organized numerous drive electric events in the state. He has traveled extensively in the region on electric power and frequently presents on the subjects of EV adoption, EV charging, and solar power.





## City Captain Award

---

Paul Pancella

Dr. Pancella, a professor of nuclear physics at the University of Western Michigan, has a long history with electric vehicles, starting with the Honda Civic that he converted to electric himself. He leads the Kalamazoo Electric Vehicle Association and has led ten National Drive Electric Week and Drive Electric Earth Day events. He has been a tireless leader and a vocal cheerleader of the EV movement and is known locally as the "go to" person in Kalamazoo for advice on everything from charging to purchasing an EV.

## Student Award

---

Tyler Wittmann

Tyler is a junior economics student at the University of New Hampshire with a passion for building electric vehicles, including a 1981 Honda motorcycle that he converted to electric and now uses for his daily commute. He and friends organized an EV group that is now a chapter of the Electric Vehicle Association. Tyler and the student activists from UNH also traveled to Freeport Maine to engage with the public and assist Electrify Maine in implementing their very successful NDEW event this year.

Thank you to our Sponsor



ARIYA. Not just electric. Electrifying.

[Find your ARIYA](#)

Nissan is a proud sponsor of  
National Drive Electric Week and  
the Drive Electric Awards.



# Inflation Reduction Act

## EV incentives Explained

The Inflation Reduction Act (signed into law on August 16, 2022) is a significant investment in clean energy and transportation technologies and includes an array of supportive electric vehicle (EV) incentives. The changes to previous incentives and the introduction of new incentives have spurred confusion among interested consumers.

### **What are the differences between the current EV tax credit and the new credit?**

The current federal tax credit provides up to \$7,500 for the purchase of an electric vehicle. Battery electric vehicles (BEVs) are generally eligible for the full \$7,500. Plug-in hybrid vehicles (PHEVs) may be eligible for less, depending on their battery size. Each manufacturer can sell up to 200,000 eligible vehicles under the current credit. Additionally, the current credit can only be claimed on a consumer's taxes for that year. (Meaning you may not see the benefit of the credit until many months after purchase.)

Since President Biden has signed the IRA into law, the old credit no longer applies in the same way (we dig into more details on that below.)

In contrast, the new \$7,500 EV tax credit is split into two equal halves of \$3,750. To be eligible for the new credit, vehicles and consumers must meet certain requirements:

- A vehicle is eligible for one-half of the total credit (\$3,750) if the vehicle has battery components that are manufactured or assembled in North America.
- To be eligible for the other \$3,750, a vehicle must have critical minerals that were extracted or processed in the U.S. or countries with which the U.S. has a free trade agreement or use critical minerals that were recycled in North America.
- The final assembly must take place in North America for a vehicle to be eligible.
- Only cars under \$55,000 or SUVs, vans, and pickup trucks under \$80,000 are eligible for the credit.
- On the consumer side, the income cap to be eligible for the credit is \$150,000 for single filers, \$225,000 for the head of household, and \$300,000 for joint filers.
- There will be an option to apply for the new credit at the point of sale starting in 2024.
- The new credit requirements for battery components and critical minerals will take effect on January 1, 2023.

Additionally, the IRA established a used EV tax credit. The used EV tax credit is for \$4,000 or up to 30% of the vehicle price (whichever is lower.) The used EV tax credit has a few requirements:

- The vehicle must be under \$25,000.
- The vehicle model year must be at least 2 years old (based on when the consumer is purchasing the used vehicle.)
- In order to be eligible, the vehicle must be sold by a dealer.
- As with the new EV tax credit, the used EV tax credit has income caps for consumers. The income cap to be eligible for the used EV credit is \$75,000 for single filers, \$112,500 for head of household and \$150,000 for joint filers.
- The credit can only be applied once per vehicle.
- The used EV tax credit will take effect January 1, 2023.



# Inflation Reduction Act EV incentives continued

What does this mean if I'm looking to buy an EV now?

The old tax credit is still in effect until December 31, 2022. However, some things have changed, and the selection of eligible vehicles is smaller than before.

- The maximum credit amount through the end of 2022 remains \$7,500.
- In order to be eligible, vehicles must now meet the North American assembly provision. Vehicles must undergo final assembly in North America. Other vehicles are no longer eligible.
- Additionally, the manufacturer cap still applies. This means that manufacturers that have already reached the cap will not have eligible vehicles until 2023. This includes Tesla and GM. Toyota began its phase-out on October 1, 2022, which means that its vehicles are only eligible for 50% of the credit—and only if they also meet the North American assembly requirements.
- The Department of Energy Alternative Fuels Data Center has compiled a list of vehicles that meet the North American assembly requirements under the current credit. This list will continue to be updated as manufacturers submit data and confirm final assembly locations for their vehicle models.
- See the IRS website for a detailed breakdown of the transition period rules through the end of the year.
- Note that existing state and local incentives are unchanged. Visit [PlugStar.com](https://plugstar.com) for more information on available incentives.
- The used EV tax credit will not be available until January 1, 2023.

Starting in 2023:

- The new federal tax credit will be available for eligible vehicles and consumers. As discussed above, the requirements for eligibility are more complex than the current credit, and it is unclear right now which vehicles will be eligible.
- Some of the requirements, especially the critical minerals requirement, will be difficult for manufacturers to meet in the short term. Few vehicles may likely qualify for the new credit in 2023.
- The new credit will be available through 2032 for all manufacturers.
- The used EV tax credit will also be available for eligible vehicles and consumers.
- We will provide more detailed guidance on the 2023 credit later when it is clearer which vehicles will be eligible.

In short:

- If you are considering a Tesla or GM vehicle, they are not eligible for the credit today, but some of them may be eligible in 2023. We don't know yet.
- If you are considering a vehicle from any other manufacturer, some models are currently eligible, but whether they remain eligible in 2023 is still unknown.
- Should you rush out and buy an EV today to claim the federal tax credit? Only you can decide that, but hopefully, you now have a better sense of what the IRA means for buying an EV over the coming months.

Disclaimer: Plug In America offers this information as our best interpretation of the IRA and does not guarantee its accuracy or that what we have shared will ensure a consumer will be eligible for any tax benefit.

Read more at: <https://pluginamerica.org/inflation-reduction-act-ira-ev-incentives-explained/>



**JOIN US APRIL 2023**  
**DRIVEELECTRICEARTHDAY.ORG**



**JOIN US FALL 2023**  
**DRIVEELECTRICWEEK.ORG**

Each year volunteers host more than 300 events across all 50 states and in 8 countries. These events are led by Plug In America, Sierra Club, Electric Vehicle Association and EVhybridnoire.

## **PARTICIPATE**

NDEW & DEED events are nationwide. Participate in a local event by hosting a booth, volunteering or more.



Find an event near you on the website!

## **HOST AN EVENT**

Companies, organizations, and volunteers organize events nationwide. With help and guidance from Plug In America, you can sign up to host an NDEW event.

## **SPONSOR**

Help to support National Drive Electric Week or Drive Electric Earth Day by sponsoring. Options are available at the national, regional and local levels..

Presented by



**SIERRA  
CLUB**





## Everything you need to drive electric.

### What is PlugStar?

Our PlugStar program is a one stop shop for consumers, giving them tools they need to switch to electric vehicles.



#### EV Training and Local Resources

PlugStar provides sales representatives expert training on EVs, their benefits, and how to guide consumers to available incentives.



#### EV Consumer Experience

PlugStar provides training, tools and support to deliver a more cohesive experience for EV consumers.



#### Dealership Training

Our team has provided training at over 90 Audi, Volkswagen, Kia, and Ford dealerships so far across the country.



#### EV Support Program

Have a question about EVs? Our experts provide a phone or email support system for friendly assistance!

### Incentives

Many EVs are eligible for a federal tax credit of up to \$7,500 and additional incentives may be available in your area.



### All EVs on sale

PlugStar has a full list of EVs available for purchase and is constantly updated to ensure accuracy.







## Thank you to our Plug In America Staff & Volunteers

### Staff

Joel Levin  
Chelsea Alexander  
Ingrid Malmgren  
Alexia Melendez Martineau  
Rosa Mitsumasu Scotti  
Daniel Larson  
Brittany Swinson  
Ron Kim  
Mellisa Park  
Don Dolor  
Derrick Vargas  
Linda Poppenheimer  
Sydney Frazier-Flores  
Ellie Peichel

### Board of Directors

Tonia Buell  
Marc Geller  
Barry Woods  
Tom "Smitty" Smith  
Liza Borches  
Cedric Daniels  
Raejean Fellows  
Carisa Ferrer  
Pamela Frank  
Ron Freund  
Britta K. Gross  
Jennifer Krill  
Nancy Sutley  
Eileen Tutt

### Advisory Council

Kathryn Urquhart  
Peter Chipman  
Anthony Eggert  
Jeff Finn  
Jay Friedland  
Linda Nicholes  
Chris Paine  
Fran Pavley  
Paul Scott  
Dean Taylor  
Vanessa Warheit