For Immediate Release:

First Electric Vehicles in New Car-Sharing Program to Roll Out in Sacramento

Sac-to-Zero initiative introduced to increase user awareness, citywide access to EV transit

Sacramento, CA (Oct. 30, 2018) — The first of hundreds of electric car-sharing vehicles coming to Sacramento as part of Electrify America’s $44-million investment in the City will be unveiled Nov. 1 at the Whispering Pines Apartments in Meadowview.

Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg, Electrify America and Envoy, an electric car-sharing company awarded funds by Electrify America, will introduce the program’s first electric cars Nov. 1st at 11:00 a.m. Residents of the complex will be able to rent the cars on a per-minute, per-hour or daily basis.

Envoy is the first of two electric car share initiatives Electrify America is supporting in Sacramento. By early 2019, Envoy will offer 142 Volkswagen e-Golf electric cars at 71 locations with “Level 2” charging stations.

Envoy’s electric car-sharing service includes insurance for drivers with a valid driver’s license and good driving record. Residents can unlock the cars through the “Envoy There” mobile application for Android and iOS. The program was designed to provide needed mobility to lower income communities.

Electrify America and the City of Sacramento this week also launched the “Sac-to-Zero” initiative, which aims to accelerate the use of shared “clean mobility” transportation. Electrify America is funding electric vehicle charging infrastructure, zero emissions car sharing, and electric shuttle and bus programs. A second car-sharing company, Gig, plans to arrive in Sacramento in 2019 with 260 electric vehicles that can be picked up by customers and dropped off anywhere within a 13-mile home zone.

“The objective behind Sac-to-Zero is to provide widespread access and use of zero emissions-related transportation options for Sacramento-area residents, particularly those living in affordable housing communities where access to transportation can be limited and more difficult,” said Richard Steinberg, senior director of marketing, communications and Green City initiatives, Electrify America. “Envoy’s car sharing program is the first-step in our multi-pronged approach.”

Sac-to-Zero is the new name for Electrify America’s Green City initiative in Sacramento, which is part of the company’s California Cycle 1 Investment Plan. The City plans to increase access to zero-emissions vehicles (ZEVs), expand ZEV technology use, and prepare Sacramento for future electric vehicle adoption. Over a 10-year period ending in 2027, Electrify America is investing $800 million in California to install electric vehicle-charging infrastructure and ZEV education and access programs in the U.S.
"On the heels of the Legislature’s passing the groundbreaking 100% Clean Energy Bill that sets some of the nation’s strongest clean energy goals, Sacramento steps out to bring new and necessary non-carbon producing transportation options to the Capital City,” said Mayor Darrell Steinberg. “Sac-to-Zero is more than an education campaign, it’s really a promise. It’s our comprehensive effort to dramatically shift mobility choice to e-transit options among Sacramento’s residents and visitors.”

The Sac-to-Zero initiative is a coordinated effort between Electrify America, the City of Sacramento and strategic e-transportation collaborators that include Envoy, GIG Car Share, Sacramento Regional Transit, Yolo County Transportation District, Franklin Neighborhood Development Corporation and UC Davis. The Sac-to-Zero education and outreach campaign is being executed by local communications firm 3fold Communications.

News Media are invited to cover Envoy’s first vehicle unveiling

When: News Conference begins at 11 a.m. Nov. 1, 2018
Where: Whispering Pines Apartments, 7610 Amherst in Sacramento’s Meadowview neighborhood
Visual Elements: Mayor Steinberg and other dignitaries will arrive to Whispering Pines at 10:50 a.m. by way of an Envoy Convoy. Envoy on-demand Volkswagen e-Golf electric vehicles will be on demonstration with Level 2 charging infrastructure. Property residents eligible to utilize the new Envoy ride-sharing service will be at the event.

Available for interviews: Sacramento Mayor Darrell Steinberg; Sacramento City Councilmembers Larry Carr District 8 and Eric Guerra District 6; Electrify America’s Richard Steinberg; Envoy co-founders Aric Ohana and Ori Sagie; SMUD CEO & GM Arlen Orchard; SHRA director Tyrone Williams; Whispering Pines tenants and Property Manager

About Electrify America – Electrify America LLC, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Volkswagen Group of America headquartered in Reston, Virginia, is investing $2 billion over 10 years in Zero Emission Vehicle (ZEV) infrastructure, education and access. The investment will enable millions of Americans to discover the benefits of electric driving and support the build-out of a nationwide network of workplace, community and highway chargers that are convenient and reliable. For more information, visit www.electrifyamerica.com. For general questions about Electrify America, please call toll-free: 1.833.632.2778.

About Sac-to Zero – The Sac-to Zero initiative is a coordinated effort between Electrify America, the City of Sacramento and strategic e-transportation partners that include Envoy, GIG Car Share, Sacramento Regional Transit, Yolo County Transportation District, Franklin Neighborhood Development Corporation and UC Davis. Sac-to Zero programs aim to accelerate the use of shared “clean mobility” transportation such as electric vehicles, electric shuttles and other modes of ZEV mobility for Sacramento-area residents and visitors. More information can be found at https://sactozero.com/.

About Envoy Technologies – Envoy Technologies, a Culver City-based provider of turnkey electric vehicle car-sharing services, offers vehicles where people live, work and stay (i.e. apartments, student housing, office campuses, co-working spaces, hotels). Envoy equips real estate owners and operators with a new and innovative way to enhance the lifestyle of their tenants, members and guests by providing mobility as an amenity. Learn more at https://www.envoythere.com/

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