

NEWS

Electric car show aims to spark interest

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Mildura Rural City Council's energy and water innovation officer Jay Smith is charged up and ready to go for this weekend's Electric Vehicle Showcase. Picture: Ben Gross

MILDURA Rural City Council staff are hosting an Electric Vehicle Showcase this Saturday at Jaycee Park with the aim of encouraging people to switch to zero-emission cars.

"We ran our first EV showcase last year, and it was quite successful, so we're bringing it back again this year," he said.

"It really showcases the next transition in terms of transport so there is a gradual move to EVs

"I think bringing these events to the community definitely helps with that uptake I know there were people who did attend last years event who went on to purchase EVs after attending the event.

"Once people get to drive them and experience them it changes their mind about electric vehicles."

The municipality currently has 23 EV charging stations, and Mr Smith said he hopes to increase this number in the coming years.

"The council is committed to becoming one of the most EV-friendly municipalities in Australia, and our zero-emissions strategy supports that commitment," he said.

"The council is looking towards transitioning our own fleet over to zero-emission vehicles by 2030 for our light fleet and 2040 for our heavy fleet.

"Transport accounts for about 25 per cent of our municipality's emissions, so it's an important source of reductions.

"We're also looking to facilitate charging infrastructure for residents and also tourists."

In the 2022/23 financial year, approximately 62.2 per cent of Victoria's electricity was obtained from non-renewable sources like coal and gas.

The state government is targeting to decrease the use of fossil fuels for electricity by 35 per cent by 2030.

The Electric Vehicle Showcase takes place on Saturday, October 2 between 8am to 12pm.