

DEUSA Fleet Success Stories:

Town of Weston, CT

Location: Weston, Connecticut

Fleet type: Light-duty electric and hybrid municipal vehicles



Narrative:

The Clean Transportation Coalition – Western Connecticut has developed a long-term relationship with the Town of Weston through ongoing collaboration on sustainability and transportation electrification initiatives. The relationship began in 2020, when Weston was invited to participate in the Coalition's Municipal EV Readiness Toolkit, providing the Town with access to resources and best practices for EV planning. The partnership expanded through the Electric School Bus Toolkit, where members of Weston's Sustainability Task Force participated and learned about school bus electrification opportunities. The Coalition also worked with municipal leaders and community stakeholders to develop the Weston Town-Wide Sustainability Plan, including a five-year roadmap with goals for fleet electrification and sustainable transportation. In addition, the Coalition has participated in Weston's annual Sustainability Expo, providing EV education and outreach to residents. As Weston has advanced its clean transportation efforts, the Coalition has recognized the Town's leadership through Fleet & EV Readiness Awards. With one of Connecticut's highest per-capita rates of electric vehicle ownership, Weston has created an environment where community adoption and municipal leadership reinforce one another.

The Town's municipal fleet includes a Ford F-150 Lightning operated by the Department of Public Works. Purchased through the State of Connecticut's purchasing program, the all-electric pickup demonstrates that battery-electric vehicles can successfully perform everyday municipal operations while reducing fuel consumption and emissions. The vehicle is charged at both the Public Works facility and Town Hall, providing operational flexibility while utilizing the Town's existing charging infrastructure.

Weston has also incorporated a hybrid Toyota Prius into its municipal fleet for staff use, demonstrating that municipalities can deploy multiple vehicle technologies based on operational needs. Rather than adopting a one-size-fits-all approach, Weston has matched vehicle technology to specific applications, creating a practical roadmap for future fleet replacement decisions. The Police Department has similarly taken a measured approach to fleet electrification through the deployment of Ford Police Interceptor Hybrid patrol vehicles. Building on its initial transition to hybrid patrol vehicles, Weston continues to expand its police fleet with an additional two hybrid Interceptors funded in the FY 2026-2027 budget. Once these vehicles enter service, the Police Department will operate four hybrid patrol vehicles, further reducing fuel consumption while maintaining the performance, safety, and operational flexibility required for law enforcement.



Supporting these fleet investments is a growing charging network. Weston provides public Level 2 charging stations at the Town Hall and Fire Department complex while also maintaining charging capability for municipal operations at Public Works. The Town's investment in charging infrastructure, combined with solar energy generation supported through Volkswagen Diesel Emissions Mitigation Program funding, demonstrates a comprehensive approach to transportation electrification that integrates fleet operations, public charging, and renewable energy.

Weston's success illustrates how municipalities can transition their fleets incrementally by selecting the appropriate technology for each department, leveraging state purchasing programs and grant funding, and building upon strong community support for electric transportation.

At a Glance

Municipal Fleet

- ✓ Ford F-150 Lightning (Department of Public Works)
- ✓ Toyota Prius Hybrid (Municipal staff vehicle)

Police Fleet

- ✓ Two Ford Police Interceptor Hybrids in service
- ✓ Two additional Ford Police Interceptor Hybrids funded for FY 2026-2027
- ✓ Four hybrid patrol vehicles upon deployment

Public Charging

- ✓ Two dual-port Level 2 charging stations at Town Hall / Fire Department
- ✓ Municipal Charging
- ✓ Charging Available at Public Works and Town Hall

Renewable Energy

- ✓ Solar-supported charging infrastructure

Distinction

- ✓ One of Connecticut's highest per-capita EV ownership communities



Edwin Henion, Weston Police Department; Daphne Dixon, Executive Director of Clean Transportation Coalition - Western Connecticut; Captain Joseph Miceli, Weston Police Department.

Outputs and Outcomes:



- ✓ Deployed an all-electric Ford F-150 Lightning within the Department of Public Works.
- ✓ Continued operation of a hybrid Toyota Prius for municipal staff transportation.
- ✓ Expanded the Police Department's transition to Ford Police Interceptor Hybrid patrol vehicles, with two additional hybrids funded and scheduled for deployment.
- ✓ Maintained publicly accessible Level 2 charging stations serving residents and visitors.
- ✓ Provided charging infrastructure to support municipal fleet operations at multiple Town facilities.
- ✓ Leveraged Volkswagen Diesel Emissions Mitigation Program funding and state purchasing resources to reduce the cost of transportation electrification.
- ✓ Demonstrated a phased fleet transition strategy that aligns vehicle technology with operational requirements while reducing fuel use and emissions.

Larry Roberts, Public Works Director, Weston, Connecticut; First Selectman Samantha Nestor, Weston, Connecticut

Best Practices & Lessons Learned

- ✓ Pair EV charging infrastructure with renewable energy generation whenever possible.
- ✓ Start fleet electrification where operational success is most likely.
- ✓ Use hybrid vehicles as a practical bridge in demanding applications.
- ✓ Pursue grant opportunities proactively.
- ✓ Site chargers at visible civic locations.
- ✓ Align municipal investments with existing community momentum.
- ✓ Treat transportation electrification as part of a larger energy strategy.



Claire Abate, Live Green Connecticut; Chief Edwin Henion, Weston Police Department; George Logan, Director Community Relations at Aquarion Water Company; Captain Joseph Miceli, Weston Police Department.

Looking Ahead: Weston has already established many of the building blocks necessary for long-term fleet electrification. Electric vehicles are operating within municipal service, hybrid patrol vehicles are reducing fuel use, and solar-powered charging infrastructure is generating clean energy to support future growth. Weston's greatest achievement may be the alignment it has created between community adoption, municipal operations, and clean energy infrastructure. Each reinforces the others, creating momentum that becomes easier to sustain with every vehicle replaced and every charger installed.