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## **Patterson EV charging station to open Nov. 16**

PATTERSON – While California is tops in the nation with more than 500 electric vehicle charging locations, all of them between Sacramento and Los Angeles are located several miles from the state’s Interstate 5 corridor, according to the U.S. Department of Energy.

That changes on Nov. 16 in Patterson, when the Best Western Plus Villa Del Lago opens a commercial electric vehicle (EV) charging station within seconds of I-5 following a ribbon cutting ceremony. The station features six EV charging units just east of the hotel’s entrance.

Patterson Mayor Luis Molina and City Manager Rod Butler will be on hand for the ceremony. Representatives from the offices of Senator Anthony Cannella and Assemblyman Bill Berryhill also plan to be in attendance to mark the occasion.

**The ribbon cutting ceremony is set for Wednesday, Nov. 16 at 11 a.m. The Best Western Plus Villa Del Lago is located at 2959 Speno Drive in Patterson.**

“When you think about overnight travelers who depart the next day, hotels are ideal locations for EV charging,” said Dominic Speno, owner of the Best Western Plus Villa Del Lago. “It’s exciting to be able to expand opportunities for EV owners to travel distances previously perceived as unattainable.”

Energy delivered to the EV charging station is provided by Turlock Irrigation District. In order to explore this developing technology and to be proactive in examining the future benefits and challenges of such stations, TID waived some installation costs associated with the chargers.

“The popularity of electric vehicles continues to grow,” said TID General Manager Casey Hashimoto. “With that growth TID needs to be prudent in researching how EV use and charging might affect industry operations and practices.”

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