

DEUSA Fleet Success Stories: Fairfield Municipal Fleet

Location: Fairfield, Connecticut

Fleet type: EV Pursuit-Rated Vehicles



Narrative: The Clean Transportation Coalition – Western Connecticut has maintained a strong working relationship with the Fairfield Police Department for several years, supporting its transition to electric police vehicles. The Coalition facilitated discussions with vehicle manufacturers, connected Fairfield with peer police departments already operating EVs, invited Chief Robert Kalamaras to participate in a national electric police vehicle webinar, and shared case studies demonstrating fleet performance and cost savings. Throughout the planning process, the Coalition remained engaged by monitoring project progress and supported the funding of the vehicles as the project moved through the municipal approval process. The Coalition has also recognized Fairfield's police department's leadership through regional recognition initiatives and continues to communicate with the department as it deploys its electric police vehicle pilot and associated charging infrastructure.

Fairfield's police fleet electrification was built upon the success of the Town's municipal fleet transition. After successfully converting its municipal administrative fleet to 100% electric vehicles, Town leadership expanded its electrification strategy to public safety operations. Rather than treating police and fire as separate initiatives, Fairfield developed a joint Police and Fire Department project that maximized municipal resources while supporting both departments through a coordinated implementation strategy.



The Town purchased four Chevrolet Blazer EV Police Pursuit Vehicles (PPVs)—three for the Fairfield Police Department and one for the Fairfield Fire Department, from local dealer, Maritime Chevrolet. While not utilized as front line patrol vehicles, the three Blazers designated for police use are deployed through the Records Division, Detective Division, and Administrative Bureau. The project was funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), allowing Fairfield to make a significant investment in clean transportation while minimizing the impact on local taxpayers. During the initial deployment, the vehicles utilized the Town's existing charging infrastructure while dedicated charging stations for the Police and Fire Departments were installed. This phased implementation allowed the vehicles to enter service while the Town expanded its charging network to support long-term fleet operations.

By building upon the success of its municipal fleet, leveraging ARPA funding, partnering with a local dealership, and expanding charging infrastructure as the fleet grew, Fairfield has positioned itself as one of Connecticut's leaders in public safety fleet electrification.



Chevrolet Blazer EV Police Pursuit Vehicle

At a Glance

- ✓ Municipal law enforcement agency
- ✓ Municipal administrative fleet successfully electrified before expanding into public safety
- ✓ Joint Police and Fire Department EV initiative
- ✓ Four Chevrolet Blazer EV Police Pursuit Vehicles purchased through Maritime Chevrolet in Fairfield
- ✓ Three assigned to the Police Department
- ✓ One assigned to the Fire Department
- ✓ Funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- ✓ Vehicles initially utilized existing municipal charging infrastructure
- ✓ Dedicated Police and Fire charging stations installed to support long-term operations

Building on Municipal Fleet Success: Fairfield's public safety electrification effort was the next phase of a broader municipal fleet strategy. After demonstrating that electric vehicles could successfully serve municipal staff while reducing fuel and maintenance costs, Town leadership expanded electrification into police and fire operations. This phased approach reduced implementation risk, built



organizational confidence, and allowed the Town to apply lessons learned from its municipal fleet before introducing electric vehicles into public safety. Chevrolet Blazer EV Police Pursuit Vehicle

A Phased Public Safety Deployment: Fairfield

implemented its public safety fleet transition through a practical, phased approach. The Town purchased the vehicles from Maritime Chevrolet, a local Fairfield dealership. The Chevrolet Blazer EV Police Pursuit Vehicles—three assigned to the Police Department and one assigned to the Fire Department, were initially utilized existing municipal charging stations while dedicated charging infrastructure was installed for public safety operations. This approach enabled Fairfield to place the vehicles into service quickly while expanding charging capacity to support future fleet growth.

Impact – Key Figures

- ✓ Four Chevrolet Blazer EV Police Pursuit Vehicles (PPVs)
- ✓ Three Police Department vehicles
- ✓ One Fire Department vehicle
- ✓ Purchased through Maritime Chevrolet in Fairfield
- ✓ Funded through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA)
- ✓ Existing charging infrastructure utilized during initial deployment
- ✓ Dedicated Police and Fire charging stations added to support long-term operations

Outputs & Outcomes

- ✓ Expanded Fairfield's successful municipal fleet electrification program into public safety operations.
- ✓ Purchased four Chevrolet Blazer EV Police Pursuit Vehicles through Maritime Chevrolet in Fairfield.
- ✓ Leveraged existing municipal charging infrastructure during initial deployment.
- ✓ Installed dedicated charging stations to support long-term Police and Fire fleet operations.
- ✓ Leveraged American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funding to accelerate public safety fleet electrification.
- ✓ Strengthened partnerships among municipal leadership, public safety departments, the Clean Transportation Coalition, and a local EV dealership.
- ✓ Created a scalable framework for future expansion of electric public safety vehicles.

Best Practices & Lessons Learned

- ✓ Build organizational confidence by first electrifying municipal administrative fleets before expanding into public safety.
- ✓ Leverage existing charging infrastructure whenever possible to accelerate vehicle deployment.
- ✓ Expand charging infrastructure as fleet needs grow.
- ✓ Coordinate police and fire fleet projects to maximize municipal investments.
- ✓ Utilize one-time federal funding, such as the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA), to modernize municipal fleets.
- ✓ Partner with experienced local dealerships to support procurement, training, and long-term service.
- ✓ Implement fleet electrification in phases, allowing municipalities to incorporate lessons learned while minimizing operational risk.

Looking Ahead: Fairfield has established a strong foundation for the continued electrification of its public safety fleet. By first demonstrating the success of a fully electric municipal administrative fleet, expanding that success into Police and Fire operations, leveraging existing charging infrastructure during deployment, and investing in dedicated charging capacity as the fleet grows, the Town has created a practical and replicable model for other municipalities. Fairfield's experience demonstrates that public safety fleet electrification can be implemented incrementally while maintaining operational readiness and building long-term municipal capacity.