



## Charge your electric vehicle at the shopping center



The outdoor Level 2 charging stations can be found near the main entrance of Destiny USA.  
Photo credit: Energetics

The installation of electric vehicle (EV) charging stations at Destiny USA was the product of two initiatives overlapping with a common sustainability objective. The first component was Pyramid Management’s goal to be the first shopping center to earn LEED “Gold” certification. The complementing component was a U.S. Department of Energy-funded project, administered by the New York State Energy Research and Development Authority (NYSERDA), which was awarded to Clean Cities of Central New York and project partner Synapse to install EV charging infrastructure in Syracuse.

### What they did

The EV charging stations were installed in three parking locations around the shopping mall—the North Parking Garage, the South Parking Garage, and a satellite lot—with three ports at each site. Initially, Ecotality “blink” chargers were installed, but those models could not be upgraded to allow the host site to require payment for use of the stations. Therefore, the stations were replaced with ChargePoint units operated by Car Charging Group, which enables Destiny USA to recover operational costs.

Use of the stations has increased since the installations in 2011. During winter months, the outside stations are used less. But in nice weather, these stations are easier for EV drivers to locate. The indoor garage stations are regularly used by visitors and employees and are included on a tour provided by Destiny USA. Additional ways to increase charging station usage are being investigated, including offering EV drivers promotions for restaurant, venue, and store activities on the station screens.

### SNAPSHOT

#### EV Charging Equipment

Nine Level 2 stations  
(9 total ports)

#### Locations

Two parking garages and  
one parking lot at Destiny  
USA shopping mall

#### EV Users

Retail; stations are available  
to general public

ChargeNY accelerates the use of plug-in electric vehicles on the road by making infrastructure such as charging stations more available, easier to use, and more economically viable in New York State.

## Support and results

Pyramid Management discovered the need for continuous parking enforcement because during busy periods, gasoline-powered vehicles are parking in charging station locations. Because the mall is private property, mall management does not have ticketing authority, but is working with the City of Syracuse to develop a policy on how to handle this situation. Initially, the stations had a fee of \$2.40 per hour, but recently has switched to a rate of \$0.49 per kWh to better reflect the amount of energy gained by EVs when plugging in. The outdoor installations were incorporated into a mall expansion project, which lowered costs. The stations installed in the garage operated properly after signal boosters were added to fix communications issues.

## Get started

Visit [nyscrda.ny.gov/ChargeNY](https://nyscrda.ny.gov/ChargeNY) or call **1-866-NYSERDA** to learn how you can reduce your energy consumption and costs.



Signage was added to Level 2 charging station spaces to encourage proper use. Photo credit: Energetics

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