

GAS2

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The Electric Scion iQ Lives! (in an electric car-sharing program)



The electric Scion iQ is – finally! – roaming the streets of Pleasanton, California. After a long wait and several false starts, 30 of the tiny electric Scions assigned to the Dash program will be positioned at 15 sites, with two vehicles available for pick-up/drop-off at each location.

Believe me on this one, I'm more excited than you are. See, back when [I first encountered Scion's iQ in the flesh at the 2011 Chicago Auto Show](#), I was instantly smitten. The car was small, cleverly packaged, inexpensive, well-built, got great mileage, had room for four, and had some seriously high-spec (for the price) suspension and chassis bits. The car promised frugal fun in a cube-shaped face that seemed, to my eyes, much less goofy than the Smart and much more sincere than the Mini. When Toyota announced an electric iQ, I decided I had to have one. [When they cut the roof off of another and fitted it with a multi-thousand-watt sound system I sang David Gray songs to it.](#)

I like the little Scion iQ, is what I'm saying – and, when [Toyota announced that they'd never sell the electric iQ](#) that I'd had my heart set on ... well, [I bought a bike.](#)

You can read more about the electric Scion iQ car-sharing scheme in the article, below, originally posted to Cleantechnica. Enjoy!

30 Scion iQ Electric Vehicle Fleet For Car-sharing Program

By Jake Richardson



Electric vehicle and Scion enthusiasts in the Pleasanton, CA area may rejoice. Thirty electric Scion iQs have been provided by Toyota to City Car Share for the Dash program in Pleasanton. They will be positioned at 15 sites, with two vehicles at each location. Three sites have already been selected: Schneider Electric on West Las Positas Blvd., CBRE and Nevada Pacific.



This electric car-sharing program is for travelers in need of short-distance trips of up to 40 miles. This is also the range of the Scion iQ Ev, a compact vehicle that can be re-charged in approximately three hours. They will be available at hourly rates. Since most trips in the contained area are fairly short, using one of the EVs should be affordable for anyone interested in car-sharing.

“City CarShare is pleased to introduce Pleasanton’s first electric car-sharing vehicles at Hacienda, through our Dash fleet. By providing a car-sharing option for commuters, we are working towards our goal to take 20,000 cars off of Bay Area roads by 2020, while promoting and encouraging transit, walking, carpooling and cycling,” said Rick Hutchinson, CEO of City CarShare.

Using a Scion for an errand or do go to lunch with colleagues might be a good way for a someone who is interested in driving an EV to have a good first experience. According to a US federal website, an electric Scion costs about 84 cents to drive 25 miles, for the electricity.

City Car Share is using electric vehicles because they help achieve their goal of reducing CO2 emissions. Car sharing also decreases traffic congestion, because in some urban areas it can replace individual car ownership. Public transportation such as city trains and buses can cover work commutes and other trips, but there can still be some gaps. Short distance trips to grocery stores or healthcare professionals can be undertaken with car-shares, walking or biking.

Researchers at UC-Berkeley will study the DASH program's impacts and make their findings available to the public.

Image Credit: NJo, Wiki Commons

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