

Riverwind Casino installs electric car charging station

Volkswagen-funded grant program designed to build state's charging infrastructure

NORMAN, OKLA. (Nov. 13, 2019) – Riverwind Casino is embracing "green" technology, installing an electric car charging station for its patrons.

Through a grant from the Oklahoma Electric Vehicle Charging Grant Program and Volkswagen, Riverwind was able to install two electric car chargers. They are located side by side in parking spaces marked with green lines, adjacent to the Riverwind Hotel.

The \$3.1 million grant program, administered through the Oklahoma Department of Environmental Quality and funded by the Volkswagen State Environmental Trust, reimburses up to 80% of the cost for charging station projects across the state. The program is intended to increase access to electric vehicle charging infrastructure throughout Oklahoma.

"We saw an opportunity to do two things with this grant – provide an amenity for our patrons who drive electric vehicles, and support 'green' technology," said Justin Yahola, Riverwind general manager. "It's a win-win deal."

Riverwind patron Stephen Eyler appreciates the charging station. Eyler, who lives in Purcell, drives his Tesla to the casino several times a week.

"I think it's a really nice thing they're doing," he said. Eyler and his wife Shirley have been regular visitors to Riverwind since it opened its doors 13 years ago.

"One of the valets told us about it. He came into the Poker Room one day and told me about it and showed me where it is," Eyler said. "I love it. I can plug in if I need to, and it doesn't cost anything."

Yahola said the casino was also able to purchase an electric activity bus through the grant. In addition, Riverwind has initiated a recycling program for its employees.

"These are things we can do fairly easily to help improve our environment while enhancing the patron experience at Riverwind," he said. "It was an easy decision for us."

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About Riverwind Casino

Riverwind Casino offers more than 2,800 electronic games and 19 table games, including Craps and Roulette, and 17 poker tables spread across its 287,000 square feet, providing plenty of heart-thumping action for gaming enthusiasts. The casino also includes an off-track betting lounge and offers dining and drinks at The River Buffet, Chips 'N Ales and Seasons Food Court, in addition to shopping at the casino's gift shop. For more information, please visit Riverwind.com or get updates via Facebook at facebook.com/riverwindcasino; and Twitter, @RiverwindCasino.