

# San Francisco Chronicle

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November 27, 2012



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## Electrifying car-sharing

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City CarShare, the Bay Area's first car-sharing operation, and the only one that's not in business to turn a profit, is an electrifying enterprise.

That's a reference not only to City CarShare's status as a trendsetter in the region and the car-sharing industry, but to the fact that the organization has been adding more and more all-electric or hybrid vehicles to its fleet.

With the addition of two all-electric Ford Focuses (Foci?) coming Wednesday, City CarShare will offer its members access to 18 plug-in vehicles (five all-electric and 13 plug-in hybrids), plus 160 traditional hybrids. Together, they make up about 44 percent of the fleet, rapidly closing in on the group's goal of having half of its fleet electric or hybrid vehicles.

Rick Hutchison, the organization's CEO, said the hybrids and fully electric cars have been popular among City CarShare members, who pay monthly or yearly fees plus hourly and per-mile rates to use cars. The fees cover the cars, gas – or electricity – and insurance.

"There had been some concern whether people would use them," he said. "But we've found that part of the car-sharing experience is people wanting to try out different vehicles."

A recent survey of members found that 77 percent considered electric or hybrid vehicles good options for car-sharing.

"One of the reasons we introduced (all-electric vehicles) so early," Hutchison said, "is that we want people to try them."

More information about City CarShare, including where to find the hybrids and all-electric vehicles, is available at [www.citycarshare.org](http://www.citycarshare.org)

<http://blog.sfgate.com/cityinsider/2012/11/27/electrifying-car-sharing/>