

AUTOMOTIVE

BMW gives LAPD an electric charge via i3 fleet

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BMW i3 fleet for the Los Angeles Police Department

By STAFF REPORTS

German automaker BMW has won a bid to supply the Los Angeles Police Department with a fleet of BMW i3 electric vehicles.

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BMW will provide the Los Angeles Police Department with 100 of its fully-electric vehicles to be used as part of the department's transportation fleet. The automaker secured the placement after a field trial where BMW i3s were evaluated alongside competitors' electric vehicles.

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The Los Angeles Police Department decided on the i3s due to the vehicle's EPA rated best-in-class efficiency, reliability and state-of-the-art ConnectedDrive services. BMW's ConnectedDrive service was also attractive to the police department, as it can be used to support fleet management applications.

To enhance the efficiency of its ConnectedDrive service, BMW is working on the development of a Web tool that will help the Los Angeles Police Department track the fleet in near real-time.



Los Angeles' Mayor Eric Garcetti announcing the BMW i3 fleet

BMW's charging infrastructure and availability of a large network of BMW i service centers also played a role in the Los Angeles Police Department's final decision.

In a statement, Ludwig Willisch, president/CEO of BMW North America, said, "The attributes of the BMW i3 position it to excel as the ideal vehicle for municipal organizations. The performance and technical capabilities, such as the BMW i3's acceleration and its ConnectedDrive integration, are perfectly suited to transform the future mobility of the Los Angeles Police Department while also reducing their carbon footprint."

The fleet of 100 electric vehicles, which have been branded with the Los Angeles Police Department insignia, will begin patrolling the streets of Los Angeles this spring. The department will use the vehicles for officer transportation and for community outreach initiatives.



Fleet of BMW i3 vehicles for the Los Angeles Police Department

BMW has worked with municipal organizations in the past to help city's reach their green goals.

For example, BMW furthered its good environmental standing with the delivery of emission-free scooters to the police force of Sardinia, Italy's capital city.

BMW Motorrad's C evolution scooter melds performance with riding pleasure along with the benefits of an electric, zero-emissions vehicle to create an ideal ride for urbanites. BMW has focused its efforts on sustainable vehicles under its automotive wing as well with the introduction of the electric i series, most recently with sustainable lifestyle products inspired by the models ([see story](#)).