

A journey of fits and starts

- 2009** Singapore sets up task force to assess costs, benefits and feasibility of EV adoption.
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- 2011** Singapore becomes one of the first cities in the world to test EVs at a systems level.
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- 2014** Task force announces plans to trial car-sharing programme with up to 1,000 EVs.
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- 2016** A S\$15,000 levy is slapped on the first Tesla vehicle to hit Singapore roads, catching the attention of Tesla chief Elon Musk.
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- 2018** Musk criticises Singapore for being unsupportive of EVs.
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- 2019** Then-Minister for the Environment and Water Resources Masagos Zulkifli retorts, saying Tesla's EVs are about "a lifestyle", while Singapore is interested in "proper solutions that will address climate problems". He also cites difficulties developing adequate charging stations here.
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- 2020** Deputy Prime Minister Heng Swee Keat says in his Budget speech that after considering evidence more carefully, the authorities are henceforth "placing a significant bet on EVs".
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- 2021** In the Republic's widest push towards EVs yet, the Singapore Green Plan sets ambitious goals – for all new car registrations to be cleaner-energy models from 2030, and 60,000 charging points to be built by the same year, more than doubling the target set a year ago. S\$30 million will also be set aside in the next five years for a slew of EV-related incentives.