

FPL helps Sarasota County adopt plug-in cars to save fuel, cut missions

Sarasota County is turning four of its hybrid cars into electric-powered plug-in vehicles that are expected to travel more than 100 miles on a gallon of gas. The plug-in conversions will boost fuel savings up to 60 percent over a regular hybrid and reduce CO₂ emissions by about 50 percent.

Sarasota County is partnering with FPL on the conversion project, with the utility paying for the \$45,000 lithium-ion battery conversions. The batteries upgrade standard hybrid cars into hybrid-electric vehicles that can be charged from any standard 110-volt outlet.

“FPL is providing this advanced plug-in electric technology to help Sarasota County fulfill its mission to build a sustainable community,” said Pam Rauch, FPL vice president of external affairs.

Sarasota County has adopted a “Roadmap to Sustainability” that integrates environmental, social and economic initiatives to shift the role government plays in building a sustainable community and transform its identity.