

Cynthia Freyer

I support incentivizing individuals to buy electric vehicles but I do not support the mandate to phase out all sales of new vehicles if gas-powered. I am a senior living in rural SE Washington state. I am on a fixed income. I live where a vehicle is not an option. It's a requirement. This week, I felt anxious because I rec'd notice that our sewer rates are increasing by 40 percent to comply with state rules. My power rates have increased. My food costs have skyrocketed. My credit card interest has increased. My medical costs have increased. My insurance costs have increased. Clothing costs have increased.

And now I must deal with the decline in auto repair shops for gas-powered vehicles, how to pay for an extremely expensive EV, how to pay the higher insurance for an EV and -- for a senior -- learning the nuances of driving and caring for one. That doesn't include the cost to install a charge station at my home.

It's not a question of whether I can afford an EV. There is no question. I cannot. Period. End of story. Period!

So what will happen to all the other people who are in my shoes? I realize your incomes are so high that you cannot relate to my situation. Please use your imagination. Please.