



Illegal E-Bike Charging Stations



Photo of an illegal charging station for delivery workers

Many of NYC's 65,000 delivery workers rely on electronic mobility devices as their mode of transportation. It has been reported that makeshift charging stations have sprung up around the city for workers to charge their vehicles. Small restaurants and parking garages provide charging services for delivery workers. For a fee of around \$50 a month, delivery workers can charge their batteries there, where it is more convenient. Consider the following points:

- These facilities rarely practice safe charging methods. The charging stations are typically an empty room with several racks of chargers, extension cords and power strips stretching across the wall, creating a dangerous arrangement to overload the power strips or extension cords and spark a fire which then spreads to the batteries.
- **Many of these rooms are back rooms or below grade areas without ventilation, making any potential fire even more dangerous.**
- Often, the workers will not use the charger that was supplied when the device was purchased, this greatly increases the possibility of fire.
- A safe charging location requires installation by a licensed electrician and Con Edison. Few restaurants and parking garages that provide these spaces follow regulations.

Be aware of this potential danger during routine runs and building inspection. Contact the BISP hotline for enforcement action.