Sustainable transports

A range of full electric vehicles and modern charging technology will be tested in Mariestad. They are mainly distribution-, transportation- and working automobile vehicles. These vehicles will be tested in daily operations in the municipality. Some of them will equipped for charging on electric roads. Mariestad will test out the Elonroad concept which is one of three road bound, electric road techniques available in Sweden today. This concept has not yet been tested in an urban environment.

Why electric roads?
If electric roads would cover the greater part of Europe’s road network, car batteries could be much smaller than today. This would be more convenient and environmentally friendly than using large, heavy batteries taking a lot of cargo space in the car. Manufacturing methods used in battery production are not always 100 percent environmentally friendly either. Moreover, it is convenient for drivers to charge their car while driving. When the demand for electric cars starts increasing progressively, electric roads would reduce the need for setting up numerous large, fast charging points along the roads.

Research
The electric road concept of Elonroad has been developed by the company Elonroad AB. It has been verified in a research project funded by the Swedish Energy Agency, run by the University of Lund. Except for Mariestad, this project involves Elonroad, the local energy company VänerEnergi and car manufacturer Coman. Both static (stationary) and dynamic (while driving) charging will be explored.

In another research project on cargo distribution, coordinated by Sustainable Innovation and funded by Sweden’s innovation agency Vinnova, the cargo company DHL will test out a full electric delivery van in Mariestad.