

File: E20

FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE POLICY

Policy Statement

In an effort to reduce the City of Chicopee's fuel consumption and energy costs the School Committee hereby adopts a policy to purchase only fuel efficient vehicles to meet this goal.

Purpose

To establish a requirement that the City of Chicopee purchase only fuel efficient vehicles for City use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.

Applicability

This policy applies to all divisions and departments of the City of Chicopee.

Definitions

Combined City and Highway MPG (EPA Combined Fuel Economy): Combined Fuel Economy means the fuel economy from driving a combination of 43 percent city and 57 Percent highway miles and is calculated as follows:

$$= 1/((0.43/City\ MPG)+(0.57/Highway\ MPG))$$

DriveSystem: The manner in which mechanical power is directly transmitted from the drive shaft to the wheels. The following codes are used in the drive field:

- AWD = All Wheel Drive: 4 -wheel drive automatically controlled by the vehicle power train system
- 4WD = 4-Wheel Drive: driver selectable 4-wheel drive with 2-wheel drive option
- 2WD = 2-Wheel Drive

Heavy-duty vehicle: A vehicle with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of more than 8,500 pound

Guidelines

All departments/divisions shall purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.

The City of Chicopee will maintain an annual vehicle inventory for ALL vehicles and a plan for replacing any non-exempt vehicles with vehicles that meet, at a minimum, the fuel efficiency ratings contained in the most recent guidance for Criterion 4 published by the MA Department of Energy Resources' Green Communities Division.

The Green Communities Division's Guidance for Criterion 4 for must be checked for updates prior to ordering replacement vehicles.

Exemptions

Heavy-duty vehicles: examples include fire-trucks, ambulances, and some public works trucks that meet the definition of heavy-duty vehicle

Police cruisers, passenger vans and cargo vans are exempt from this criterion since fuel efficient models are not currently available. However, we commit to purchasing fuel efficient police cruisers, passenger vans and cargo vans when they become commercially available. Police and fire department administrative vehicles are NOT exempt and must meet fuel efficient requirements.

Inventory

The following information shall be included in a vehicle inventory list and said list shall be updated on an annual basis and provided to the Green Communities Division:

- Model
- Make
- Model Year
- Year/Month Purchased
- Drive System: 2 WD, 4WD or AWD
- 8500 Pounds? (Y or N)
- Exempt or Non-Exempt
- MPG Rating
- Vehicle Function

NOTE: Departments/Divisions may use EPA combined MPG estimates or actual combined MPG.

Fuel Efficient Vehicle Replacement Plan

All non-exempt vehicles shall be replaced with fuel-efficient vehicles that adhere to the most recent Green Communities Criterion 4 Guidance. Vehicles shall be replaced when they are no longer operable and will not be recycled from one municipal department to another unless the recycled replacement vehicle meets the fuel efficiency ratings outlined in this policy. In addition, when replacing exempt vehicles, the function of the vehicle will be reviewed for potential replacement with a more fuel efficient vehicle, including a fuel efficient non-exempt vehicle.

The City of Chicopee will review on an annual basis the Vehicle Inventory, along with the Green Communities Criterion 4 Guidance, to plan for new acquisitions as part of planning for the new fiscal year budget.

Questions/Enforcement

All other inquiries should be directed to the department/division responsible for fleet management. This fuel Efficient Vehicle Replacement plan is enforced by the Mayor and/or his/her designee(s).

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