

JOINT POLICY OF THE BOARD OF SELECTMEN AND THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE OF THE TOWN OF UXBRIDGE, MASSACHUSETTS

FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE POLICY

INTRODUCTION

The Green Communities Program states that communities must purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable. The purpose behind this criterion is to reduce carbon dioxide emissions by municipal vehicles, which has a positive impact on the environment and saves the municipality money.

DEFINITIONS

- Combined city and highway MPG (EPA Combined fuel economy): the fuel economy from driving a combination of 43% city and 57% highway miles.
- 2. Drive System: The way mechanical power is directly transmitted from the drive shaft to the wheels. The following codes are used in the drive field:
 - a, AWD = All Wheel Drive; four-wheel drive automatically controlled by the vehicle power train system
 - b. 4WD = 4-Wheel Drive: driver selectable four-wheel drive with 2-wheel drive option
 - c. 2WD = 2-Wheel Drive
- 3. Heavy-duty vehicle: A vehicle with a manufacturer's gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of more than 8,500 pounds.

POLICY STATEMENT

To reduce fuel consumption and energy costs, the Uxbridge Board of Selectman and the Uxbridge School Committee hereby adopt a policy to purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles to meet this goal.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all departments of the Town of Uxbridge and the Uxbridge Public Schools.

GUIDELINES

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

The Town of Uxbridge and Uxbridge Public Schools 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.

It is the responsibility of the Town of Uxbridge and the Uxbridge Public Schools to check the Green Communities Division's Guidance for Criterion 4 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: 2WD, 4WD or AWD	> 8500 pounds? (Y or N)	Exempt or non-exempt	: MPG Rating	Vehicle Function
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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 the 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.

Town of Uxbridge and Uxbridge Public Schools 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.

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