



TOWN OF LAKEVILLE SELECT BOARD

FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE POLICY

Adopted: June 27, 2011

Amended: May 7, 2012, June 14, 2021, November 8, 2021

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines by which the Town of Lakeville purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.

Applicability

This policy applies to all departments of the Town of Lakeville

Policy Statement

In an effort to reduce the Town of Lakeville's fuel consumption and energy costs, the Select Board hereby adopts a policy to purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles to meet this goal.

Definitions

Combined City and Highway MPG (EPA Combined Fuel Economy): Combined Fuel Economy means the fuel consumption from a nominal weighted average of driving a combination of city and highway miles.

Official Source: The US Dept of Energy website www.fueleconomy.gov should be used for determining Combined MPG for all non-exempt vehicles being considered for acquisition.

Drive System: The manner in which mechanical power is directly transmitted from the drive shaft to the wheels. The following codes are used to describe the kinds of drive systems available:

- 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

Other Vehicle Specifications: Transmission type, engine size and number of cylinders will also need to be specified when determining Combined MPG.

Heavy-duty vehicle: Vehicles with a manufacturer's Gross Vehicle Weight Rating (GVRW) of more than 8,500 pounds. For the purposes of this policy, these vehicles are generally classified as exempt from meeting Criterion 4 fuel efficiency requirements.

Guidelines

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

The Town of Lakeville will maintain an annual vehicle inventory for non-exempt 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' (DOER) Green Communities Division.

It is the responsibility of the Town of Lakeville to check the Green Communities Division's Guidance for Criterion 4 for updates prior to acquiring new and/or used vehicles. Newly acquired vehicles are to have a combined city & highway MPG no less than the latest published DOER guidelines. Updated copies of DOER guidance for Criterion 4 can be obtained from Lakeville's Energy Advisory Committee.

Exemptions

- Heavy-duty vehicles such as firetrucks, ambulances and some public works trucks are exempt from this criterion.
- As of the date of this revision, police cruisers are exempt from this criterion due to lack of widespread availability. However, the Town of Lakeville commits to purchasing fuel efficient police cruisers when they become commercially available. Police and Fire Department administrative vehicles will meet fuel efficiency requirements unless they are used regularly for emergency response.

Inventory

The following information shall be included in a vehicle inventory list. This vehicle list shall be updated annually and be made available to the Green Communities Division.

					>8500 lbs	Exempt		Comb	
Emergency									
	Market	Model	Yr/Month	Drive	GVRW	or non-	MPG		
Use									
<u>Make</u>	<u>Model</u>	<u>Class</u>	<u>Year</u>	<u>Acquired</u>	<u>System</u>	<u>(Y or N)</u>	<u>Exempt</u>	<u>Rating</u>	<u>Vehicle</u>
<u>Function</u>	<u>(Y or N)</u>								

Fuel Efficient Replacement Plan

All non-exempt vehicles shall be replaced with fuel efficient vehicles that adhere to the most recent Green Communities Criterion 4 Guidance. Except under unusual / temporary circumstances, vehicles shall not be recycled from one town department to another unless the recycled replacement is more efficient than the vehicle it is replacing. Additionally, when replacing exempt vehicles, the function of the vehicle should be reviewed for potential replacement with a more fuel-efficient vehicle, including a fuel-efficient non-exempt vehicle.

Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy

As part of planning for the new fiscal year budget, Department Heads will review their vehicle inventory, along with the latest Green Communities Criterion 4 Guidance, when considering vehicle acquisitions, transfers or retirements.

Questions / Enforcement

All inquiries should be directed to the Town Administrator. This policy is enforced by the Select Board.