


Subject:	Policy Limiting Idling of City-Owned On and Off Road Vehicles	Number: 8-15
		Date Issued: February 27, 2009 Date Revised: May 19, 2015
Responsible Department:	Department of Transportation	Approved: 

Purpose

To establish a policy to reduce public and employee exposure to diesel particulate matter and other toxic air contaminants by limiting the idling of City-owned, rented, or leased on-road and off-road vehicles. This policy is established to comply with applicable State and Federal mandates, as well as to minimize operating costs for the City of Fresno.

Definitions

For the purpose of this Administrative Order, the following definitions apply:

1. "Authorized emergency vehicle" is as defined in California Vehicle Code Section 165.
2. "Auxiliary power system" ("APS") means any device that is permanently dedicated to the vehicle on which it is installed and provides electrical, mechanical, or thermal energy to the primary diesel engine, truck cab, bus passenger compartment as an alternative to idling the primary diesel engine.
3. "Bus" means any vehicle defined in Title 13, California Code of Regulations, Section 2480, subsections (h) (13)-(1q6), inclusive or as defined in the Vehicle Code Section 233.
4. "Driver" is as defined in California Vehicle Code Section 305.
5. "Idling" means the vehicle engine is running at any location while the vehicle is stationary.
6. "Queuing" means (a) through (c)
 - (a) The intermittent starting and stopping of a vehicle;
 - (b) While the driver, in the normal course of doing business, is waiting to perform work or a service; and
 - (c) When shutting the vehicle engine off would impede the progress of the queue and is not practicable.
7. "Vehicle" is as defined in the California Vehicle Code Section 670.

Policy

No on-road or off-road vehicle that is owned, rented, or leased by the City of Fresno and used by City employees shall be allowed to idle for more than five (5) consecutive minutes except under specific circumstances. Authorized emergency vehicles are exempt from this policy.

Procedures

Idling of an on-road or off-road vehicle that is owned, rented, or leased by the City of Fresno and used by City employees shall be allowed for more than five (5) consecutive minutes **only** when:

1. Idling when positioning or providing a power source for equipment or operations, other than transporting passengers or propulsion, which involve a power take off or equivalent mechanism and is powered by the primary engine for:
 - (a) Controlling cargo temperature, operating a lift, crane, pump, drill, hoist, mixer (such as a ready mix concrete truck), or other auxiliary equipment;
 - (b) Providing mechanical extension to perform work functions for which the vehicle was designed and where substitute alternate means to idling are not reasonable available; or
 - (c) Collection of solid waste or recyclable material by an entity authorized by contract license, permit by a school or local government;
2. It is necessary to complete a function of the vehicle (e.g. hydraulic power to a crane, fuel pump, or similar accessory device).
3. Idling is required for safety reasons such as:
 - (a) Idling of the primary engine or operating a diesel-fueled APS (Auxiliary Power System) when forced to remain motionless due to immediate adverse weather conditions affecting the safe operation of the vehicle or due to mechanical difficulties over which the driver has no control;
 - (b) Idling of the primary engine or operating a diesel-fueled APS when operating defrosters, heaters, air conditioners, or other equipment solely to prevent a safety or health emergency;
 - (c) Idling to verify that the vehicle is in safe operating condition as required by law and that all equipment is in good working order, either as part of a daily vehicle inspection or as otherwise needed, provided that such engine idling is mandatory for such verification.
4. Warming a vehicle up to operating temperatures, as specified by the equipment manufacturer.
5. The vehicle must remain motionless due to traffic conditions, an official traffic control device, or an official traffic control signal over which the driver has no

- control, or at the direction of a peace officer, or operating a diesel-fueled APS or other device at the direction of a peace officer.
6. It is necessary for servicing, testing, or maintenance; this exemption for servicing includes idling necessary to regenerate exhaust filters which require the engine to be idled periodically to regenerate or burn off solids collected in the filter.
 7. Queuing such as when a line of trucks forms to receive materials from a loader.
 - (a) Queuing does not include a vehicle waiting for materials or another vehicle to perform a function such as a scraper waiting for a truck to deliver soil to complete a fill or a truck being loaded by an excavator over a period of an hour idling.
 - (b) Idling while queuing is not allowable when equipment is within 100 feet from any restricted area.
 8. A bus is idling for
 - (a) Up to 10.0 minutes prior to passenger boarding, or
 - (b) When passengers are onboard.
 9. Idling of the primary engine or operating a diesel-fueled APS required by authorized emergency vehicles while in the course of providing emergency services for which the vehicle is designed provided that such an engine idling is mandatory for provision of such services;
 10. Idling when operating equipment such as a wheelchair or people assist lift as prescribed by the Americans with Disabilities.

The Fleet Management Division of the Department of Transportation will periodically review this policy for applicability, effectiveness, and compliance with State and Federal mandates.

Employee education and enforcement of this policy shall be the responsibility of each City department that is assigned City-owned, rented, or leased vehicles.