



Town of Pelham Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy

Approval date: May 24, 2012

Effective date: May 24, 2012

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish a requirement that the Town of Pelham purchase only fuel efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.

Definitions

Combined city and highway MPG (EPA Combined fuel economy): Combined Fuel Economy means the fuel economy from driving a combination of 43% city and 57% highway miles and is calculated as follows:
$$=1/((0.43/City\ MPG)+(0.57/Highway\ MPG))$$

Drive System: 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: four-wheel drive automatically controlled by the vehicle powertrain system

4WD = 4-Wheel Drive: driver selectable four-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 pounds.

Policy statement

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

Applicability

This policy applies to all divisions and departments of the Town of Pelham with the exception of the regional schools.

Guidelines

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

The Town of Pelham will maintain an annual vehicle inventory for non-exempt vehicles and a plan for replacing these vehicles with vehicles that meet, at a minimum, the fuel efficiency ratings contained in the most recent guidance for Criteria 4 published by the MA Department of Energy Resources' Green Communities Division. The fuel efficiency ratings contained therein are based on the most recently published US Environmental Protection Agency combined city and highway MPG ratings for vehicles.

This Green Communities' Guidance for Criteria 4 must be checked for updates prior to ordering replacement vehicles.

Exemptions

Heavy-duty vehicles are exempt. 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 as 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:

Model	Make	Model Year	Drive System: 2 WD, 4WD, or AWD	Year/month Purchased	> 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.

Anti-idling policy

No employee of the Town of Pelham shall allow operation of the engine of a motor vehicle while said vehicle is stopped for a foreseeable period of time in excess of five minutes, unless such operation is necessary.

Fuel efficient vehicle replacement plan

The Town of Pelham shall develop a plan to replace all non-exempt vehicles with fuel efficient vehicles as defined above. Said plan shall outline the process by which the Town of Pelham will replace vehicles, set goals for when the existing fleet will be replaced, and review said plan on an annual basis.

Questions / enforcement

All other inquiries should be directed to the department/division responsible for fleet management and/or fleet procurement. This policy is enforced by the Board of Selectmen and/or their designee(s).



Town of Pelham

Town Administrative Offices, Rhodes Building, 351 Amherst Road, Pelham, MA 01002

phone: (413) 253-7129

email: TownofPelham@comcast.net

fax: (413) 256-8927

web: www.TownofPelham.org

May 24, 2012

MA Department of Energy Resources
Green Communities Division
100 Cambridge Street – Suite 1040
Boston, MA 02114

Re: Fuel efficient vehicle policy

At a public Board of Selectmen meeting held on April 23, 2012, the Board of Selectmen voted to adopt the attached Fuel Efficiency Vehicle Policy.

Thank you.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Edward Martin". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Edward Martin
Chairman, Board of Selectmen