

City of Worcester, Massachusetts



City of Worcester	
FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE POLICY	
Effective Date	July 1, 2010
Revisions:	
City Manager Approval Date	February 28, 2019
School Superintendent Approval Date	March 5, 2019

POLICY STATEMENT

In an effort to reduce the City of Worcester's fuel consumption and energy costs and to maintain its Green Community Designation, the City of Worcester hereby adopts a policy to purchase only fuel efficient vehicles to meet this goal.

PURPOSE

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

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all divisions and departments of the City of Worcester, including Worcester Public Schools.



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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:

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

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: 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 pounds.

GUIDELINES

All departments and divisions shall purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable¹. The fuel-efficient vehicles' minimum combined city and highway MPG (miles per gallon) will adhere to the most recent [Green Communities Criterion 4](#) Guidance published by the MA Department of Energy Resources' Green Communities Division.

The City of Worcester will maintain:

- 1) an annual vehicle inventory for all non-exempt and exempt vehicles, and
- 2) a plan (see below) 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 City of Worcester to check the Green Communities Division's Guidance for Criterion 4 for updates prior to ordering replacement vehicles. This responsibility will rest with the Worcester Energy Program Administrator or the staff person responsible for the Green Communities Designation, who will, in turn, inform City staff responsible for purchasing and/or approving purchasing of vehicles.

EXEMPTIONS

- **Heavy-duty vehicles**: examples include fire engines, ambulances, and some public works vehicles that meet the definition of heavy-duty vehicle (see definitions).
- **Police cruisers, passenger vans and cargo vans** are exempt from this criterion since fuel efficient models are not currently available. However, the City commits to purchasing fuel efficient police cruisers, passenger vans and cargo vans when they become commercially available.

Notes:

- Emergency Response vehicles that are under 8,500 pounds and for which fuel efficient models are available are NOT exempt from this policy.
- Administrative vehicles for police and fire department are NOT exempt and must meet fuel efficient requirements.
- If a vehicle is found on www.fueleconomy.gov, then it has a GVWR of less than 8,500 pounds, is NOT a heavy-duty vehicle and is NOT exempt from this policy.

¹ The fuel efficiency ratings are set to ensure that at least five or more automatic transmission models of mass production are available for sale in Massachusetts (all from affordable brands; no luxury brands).

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 (if non- exempt)	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 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.

QUESTIONS / ENFORCEMENT

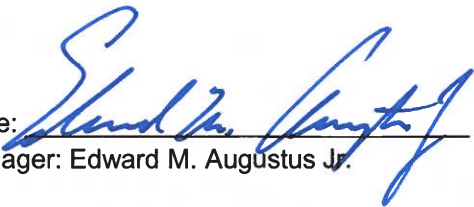
This policy is administered by the Purchasing Division, who reviews new vehicle requisition requests (aka Purchase Orders) and checks for compliance with the Policy prior to approval.

Inquiries about adherence to, maintenance of or amendments to the Fuel Efficient Vehicle Policy should be directed to the Worcester Energy Program Administrator or the staff person responsible for the Green Communities Designation. This person will also be responsible for checking the Green Communities Criterion 4 Guidance for updates at least annually, and communicating any changes to the appropriate Departments.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Websites:

- www.mass.gov/energy/greencommunities
- www.fueleconomy.gov
- Statewide contract OVM10, "Purchase of Vehicles: Gasoline, Hybrid and Other Alternative Fuel Vehicles," located on www.comm-pass.com.

Signature: 
City Manager: Edward M. Augustus Jr.

Date: 2/28/19

Signature: Maureen Binienda

Date: 3/6/19

Superintendent of Worcester Public Schools
Maureen Binienda