



CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS, GEORGIA

No Idling Policy

No Idling

The purpose of this section is to establish guidelines to eliminate the unnecessary idling of City vehicles as part of an ongoing effort to reduce fuel consumption and reduce the City's environmental footprint. This document will clarify our policy to reduce fuel consumption and describe departmental relationships, responsibilities and participation in the No Idling Policy.

A. Appropriate use of City vehicles includes the following:

1. Vehicles will not be parked with the engine operating for more than 30 seconds, unless it is essential to the performance of work.
2. Initial "warm up" idling should be minimized. If a vehicle's windows are clear, driving should be started after no more than 30 seconds of idling.
3. Initial "warm up" for diesel vehicles should be limited to 3-5 minutes, or as otherwise recommended by vehicle's manufacturer.
4. If a vehicle is going to be stopped for more than 30 seconds, except as required while operating the vehicle in routine traffic, the engine should be turned off, as idling for more than ten seconds uses more fuel than it takes to restart the vehicle.

B. Exceptions - Due to the diverse nature of the City's vehicle fleet, exceptions are needed to this No Idling Policy. Consequently, the provisions of the policy do not apply to:

1. Emergency vehicles, such as Public Safety or Public Works vehicles, while engaged in emergency operational activities.
2. Vehicles that are required to idle in order to power ancillary equipment mounted on the vehicle without risking damage to the battery.



3. Public Works vehicles performing emergency operations, but only when the vehicle must be operating for the warning devices or emergency systems to function.
4. Vehicles equipped with temperature sensitive equipment.
5. The primary propulsion engine of a motor vehicle providing a power source necessary for mechanical operation of equipment required for job performance.
6. A motor vehicle forced to remain motionless because of traffic conditions over which the operator has no control.
7. The primary engine of a motor vehicle being operated for maintenance or diagnostic purposes.
8. The primary engine of a motor vehicle when necessary to operate defrosters, heaters, air conditioners or other equipment to prevent a safety or health emergency, but not solely for the comfort of the driver or passengers.
9. The City's Public Safety departments shall follow their respective no idling policies.

Approved:


John McDonough