

**Town of Plymouth  
FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE PURCHASING POLICY**

Effective Date	June 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2011
Last Date Revised	N/A
Town Manager	June 14 <sup>th</sup> , 2011
Selectmen Approval	June 28 <sup>th</sup> , 2011

**FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE PURCHASING POLICY**

**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 power train 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 Plymouth's fuel consumption and energy costs the Town of Plymouth hereby adopts a policy to purchase only fuel efficient vehicles to meet this goal. Additionally the Town of Plymouth will discontinue the re-commissioning of old Police Cars into the Administrative Fleet, unless a fuel efficient Police Car becomes available in the future.

## **PURPOSE**

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

## **APPLICABILITY**

This policy applies to all divisions and departments of the Town of Plymouth

## **GUIDELINES**

All departments / divisions shall purchase only fuel-efficient vehicles for municipal use whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable. The purchase of vehicles are subject to appropriation by a vote of Town Meeting.



The Town of Plymouth 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 new vehicles.

The Town Manager or their Designee shall determine which vehicles will be pooled vehicles and which will be dedicated use vehicles. These vehicles will be right sized to reflect the function of said vehicle. This determination will maximize the fleet and create less duplication of use.

## ***Exemptions***

- Heavy-duty vehicles. 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.
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**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	Year Purchased	Drive System	Weight Class	MPG	Annual Miles Driven	Total Fuel Consumption	Vehicle Function

NOTE: Departments/Divisions may use EPA combined MPG estimates or actual combined MPG.

**FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE REPLACEMENT PLAN**

The Town of Plymouth 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 Plymouth 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 Town Manager and/or their designee(s)