

Fuel-Efficient Vehicle Policy

TOWN OF CHATHAM



Massachusetts Green Communities Grant Program

Criterion 4

NOVEMBER 22, 2019

FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE POLICY

Effective Date	
Revisions	
Board of Selectman Approval Date	

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:

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

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 pound

POLICY STATEMENT

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

PURPOSE

To establish a requirement that the town purchase only fuel efficient vehicles for municipal whenever such vehicles are commercially available and practicable.

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all divisions and departments of the town.

GUIDELINES

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

The town will maintain an annual vehicle inventory for ALL vehicles and a plan 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 town to check the Green Communities Division's Guidance for Criterion 4 for updates prior to ordering replacement vehicles.

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 since 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 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	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.

Town will review on an annual basis the Vehicle Inventory, along with the Green Communities Criterion 4 Guidance, to plan for new acquisitions as part of planning for the new fiscal year budget.

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 Chief Administrative Officer and/or his/her designee(s).



Town of Chatham

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Green Communities Division
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November 19, 2019

To Whom It May Concern,

At a public Board of Selectmen meeting held on November 18, 2019, the Chatham Board of Selectmen voted to adopt the attached Fuel Efficiency Vehicle Policy.

If you have any questions regarding the foregoing, please contact Terry Whalen, Principal Projects and Operations Administrator, at twhalen@chatham-ma.gov or 508-945-5194.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

Jill R. Goldsmith
Town Manager