

DARTMOUTH SCHOOL COMMITTEE POLICIES

File: EBAD

FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT

In an effort to reduce the fuel consumption and energy costs for the Town of Dartmouth over the next five years, the Dartmouth Select Board and the Dartmouth School Board hereby adopt a policy to purchase only fuel efficient vehicles to meet this goal.

PURPOSE

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

APPLICABILITY

This policy applies to all divisions and departments of the Town of Dartmouth and the Dartmouth School Department.

GUIDELINES

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

The Town of Dartmouth and the Dartmouth School Department will maintain an annual vehicle inventory for non-exempt vehicles and a plan for replacing these vehicles with vehicles that meet the fuel efficiency ratings below. Based on the most recently published US Environmental Protection Agency data on fuel efficiency vehicles, vehicles are to have a combined city and highway MPG no less than the following:

- 2 wheel drive car: 29 MPG
- 4 wheel drive car: 24 MPG
- 2 wheel drive small pick-up truck: 20 MPG
- 4 wheel drive small pick-up truck: 18 MPG
- 2 wheel drive standard pick-up truck: 17 MPG
- 4 wheel drive standard pick-up truck: 16 MPG

NOTE: THE EPA maintains a database on vehicle fuel efficiency that is updated occasionally throughout the year, as new models are released. As increasing numbers of fuel efficient vehicle models are released, the minimum combined MPG requirements of the Green Communities Program may be revised. This policy may be updated from time to time to reflect any changes to the MPG requirements. The latest fuel efficiency MPG ratings are available through the Massachusetts Department of Energy Resources Green Communities Program.

Exemptions:

- Heavy-duty vehicles such as fire-trucks, ambulances, and public works trucks are exempt from this criterion
- Police cruisers are exempt from this criterion. However, the Town of Dartmouth commits to purchasing fuel efficient cruisers when they become commercially available. Police department administrative vehicles must meet the fuel efficient requirements unless these vehicles are also used as police cruisers.

Adopted: November 13, 2012

Inventory

An inventory of non-exempt town and school district vehicles is attached to this policy and shall be updated on an annual basis. The following information shall be included in the vehicle inventory list.

Model	Make	Model Year	Year Purchased	Drive System	Weight Class	MPG	Annual Miles Driven	Total Fuel Consumption	Vehicle Function

FUEL EFFICIENT VEHICLE REPLACEMENT PLAN

The Town of Dartmouth and the Dartmouth Public Schools 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 and School District 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 Executive Administrator and School Superintendent and/or their designee(s).

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 truck: A vehicle with a manufacturer’s gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) of more than 8,500 pounds.