

Subject:               LOW-EMISSION VEHICLE (LEV) ACQUISITION POLICY

Effective Date:       February 18, 2009

**I.       POLICY OBJECTIVE**

The LEV Acquisition Policy establishes a Low-Emission Vehicle and Fleet Procurement Acquisition Program for the City of Monrovia. The program requires the purchase of low-emission vehicles when practical for on-road and off-road equipment fleets, promotes the installation of retrofit devices on existing vehicles in the City's motor vehicle fleet, and requires that existing vehicles be retrofitted if, and when, practical.

**II.       AUTHORITY**

Low-Emission Vehicle (LEV) Acquisition Policy as adopted by the City Council.

**III.       ASSIGNED RESPONSIBILITIES**

All employees and volunteers

**IV.       APPLICABILITY**

This policy applies to the purchase of all on- and off-road vehicles by the City of Monrovia. The City of Monrovia recognizes that the region has an air quality problem, which is related to all vehicle operations, especially the operation of heavy-duty vehicles. The City recognizes that many public agencies in the region operate large vehicle fleets. The City recognizes these agencies have a significant role to play in improving air quality by reducing the emissions from all fleet operations.

Authorized emergency vehicles are exempt of this policy. Emergency vehicles are defined as vehicles that respond to fire, life saving or law enforcement.

**V.       POLICY**

A. Commitment

The City of Monrovia commits to being a community leader by:

- Showing how fleets (large and small) can aggressively incorporate low-emission vehicles into fleet operations;
- Showing how fleets (large and small) can overcome training, facility and operational issues with resolve and commitment.

Efforts will focus on the conversion of the on-road, equipment fleets to vehicles certified to low-emission vehicles (LEV) standards or more stringent as these vehicles are added or replaced as part of our regular systematic replacement programs.

The process for bidding a vehicle purchase, will when applicable include low-emission/alternative fuel vehicles (to include comparisons of purchase, maintenance and fuel costs, and staff time).

The City of Monrovia is committed that entire light-duty and medium-duty non-emergency vehicles shall meet the standards for a low-emission vehicle by 2020. Fiscal responsibility, technology and product availability shall be the criteria in meeting the City's goal.

The City of Monrovia is committed that a minimum of 50% of all its heavy-duty vehicle replacements will be certified low-emission by 2020. Fiscal responsibility, technology and product availability shall be the deciding criteria in meeting the City's goal.

The City shall pursue grant and other sources of funding for a low-emission vehicle conversion program and alternative fuel facilities if sufficient funds are made available.

Vehicle conversions shall not interfere with scheduled City vehicle replacement programs already in place.

**B. Performance and Cost Issues**

The City of Monrovia recognizes that both performance and cost are issues and that accommodations will be required to make low-emission vehicles work. These issues will be addressed and managed and not used as roadblocks to the introduction of low-emission vehicles into the fleet. The implementation of these policies may result in a need to increase user fees and/or service charges for the operations served by the low-emission vehicles which are incorporated in the fleets.

**C. Assessing Alternate-Fuel Vehicle Purchases**

Staff will adhere to the following guidelines when proposing the purchase of alternate-fuel vehicles: If the cost of an alternate-fuel vehicle is within 10% of a regular-fuel vehicle, this is acceptable; if an alternate-fuel vehicle is more than 10%, staff must justify the purchase. In presenting costs for vehicles, staff will include all costs for the overall life of the vehicle, both short- and long-term.

**D. Cost-Effectiveness**

The maximum air quality benefit for dollars invested will be realized through the introduction of heavy-duty, low-emission vehicles. While this should not be the exclusive focus, it should be the primary focus.

**E. Monitoring and Reporting**

The heavy-duty replacement schedule will be monitored by staff. The monitoring will include an investigation or emerging low emission vehicle issues. The Southern California Air Quality Management District will be able to quantify and use these emissions benefits towards meeting the region's attainment plan.

## **VI. CONCLUSION**

Air pollution is a major public health concern in California. Air pollution can cause or aggravate lung illnesses such as acute respiratory infections, asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and lung cancer. In addition to health impacts, air pollution imposes significant economic costs and negative impacts on our quality of life.

Motor vehicle emissions (both on-and off-road) are the primary source of ozone precursors in Southern California. Motor vehicle emissions are also a source of carbon monoxide, particulate matter, toxic air contaminants, and greenhouse gases. Although new vehicles have become cleaner due to improved emission control technologies, the rapid growth in motor vehicle population and in the number of miles Californians drive is eroding progress in improving regional air quality. In addition, conventional vehicles produce higher emissions as their emission control systems wear out over time.

Public agencies can play an important role in improving air quality by procuring and operating low-emission vehicles, by retrofitting existing vehicles to make them low emission vehicles, which would allow the agencies to obtain low-emission fleet status.

Public agencies have the responsibility to lead the effort to improve air quality by implementing a low-emission vehicle and fleet program. Using best management practices that are fiscally sound the City of Monrovia will begin to implement the acquisition policy.



Scott Ochoa, City Manager

Approved As To Form:



Craig A. Steele, City Attorney