

“Going Green saves Money and The World”

Nostradamus

The Kingston Secure Energy Future Committee is pleased to present to the Selectmen a Fleet Report of the vehicles owned and operated by the Town of Kingston and its various Departments and Boards.

The fleet audit, as it will be referred to, will give various Boards and Departments reference points on which to plan improvements in the management of their individual fleets.

It is the hope of the KSEFC that the Selectmen will endorse a resolution to reduce the fuel consumption of its fleet by 20% in the fiscal year 07/01/07 thru 06/30/08. While this may seem aggressive, overachieving should be the goal. At no point is the KSEFC suggesting we compromise public services or safety.

What we are saying however, is that we work smarter for a common goal; reduce our dependence on fossil fuel and reduce CO2 emissions into our environment. Kingston’s air quality is below EPA standards and we are presently in a non-attainment zone.

Interesting numbers

- Every gallon of gasoline or diesel releases 22 pounds of carbon dioxide (CO2) the major pollutant causing global warming.
- Kingston’s fleet mileage = 636,727 miles/year
- Total fleet gas consumption = 20,434 gallons
- Total fleet diesel consumption = 9,945 gallons
- Gas cost for fleet per year $20,434 \times 2.38 \text{ gal} =$ \$48,632
- Diesel cost for fleet per year $9,945 \times 2.31 \text{ gal} =$ \$22,972
- Total fuel cost per year \$71,604
- Total fuel consumption 30,379 gal

20% reduction in fuel use = \$14,000 savings

CO2 reduction into environment = 133,668

The KSEFC does not have all the answers on Greening the Fleet; we have a few simple recommendations:

1. Conservation
2. Right-size the vehicle for the job. Consideration by Finance Committee and Capital Plan should be made to insure most environmentally sound vehicle for the task assigned. Replacing one F350 with another F350 truck might not be the correct logic regarding our fleet.
3. Down size the number of vehicles in the fleet.
4. Optimize vehicle travel operations and maintenance.

5. Purchase fuel efficiently
6. Switches to Bio diesel ASAP starting with 5% mix and moving toward a 20% blend. Bio fuel burns cleaner and is better for engines.
7. Consider electric vehicles that could fit job requirements.
8. Eliminate idling. An idling truck burns 1 gallon of fuel per hour and puts unnecessary wear and tear on engines. Summer idling compounds the problem.
9. Upgrades the gas and diesel distribution system with emphasis on security, accountability and control. System should require positive ID, odometer readings and maintenance schedule for fleet.
10. Financial Accountability for fuel usage. Presently, all fuel is distributed at the Highway Barn, with the cost is absorbed by the Care of Municipal Property Budget. To insure accountability, all Departments should have a line item for fuel cost and be charged accordingly.
11. An upgraded fuel accountability system should give reports to all Departments on monthly use, year to date use, as well as comparative analysis on previous monthly & yearly usage. A chart system would be a good tool to add visualization. Such a chart or information should be on the town's web site.
12. The most effective tool we will have to achieve our goal is to have the personnel i.e. department heads, Commissioners and most importantly workers buy into the concept of "Going green saves money and the world."
13. School bus fuel efficiencies and environmental impacts have to be addressed.

Enclosures

- Fuel consumption by department by month
- Fuel consumption by department by year
- Total fuel consumption for total fleet
- Mileage per year for entire fleet
- Graph & Charts

(Backup reports supplied on request.)

Respectfully submitted

Kingston Secure Energy Future Committee 7-20-07

With Gratitude to Streets, Trees & Parks Superintendent Paul Basler and Town Treasurer John LaBrache

ACTION STEPS

1. Twenty Percent (20%) reduction in Fuel Consumption
2. Fleet Audit to be transmitted to the Finance Committee & Capital Planning Committee
3. Recommendation to downsize the Fleet
4. Revert to Bio Fuels
5. Adopt a "No Idling" Policy
6. Convert the Computer System to a more Restrictive Operation
7. The Care of Municipal Buildings Budget be segregated in FY 2009 to reflect individual departmental appropriations for gas and diesel.
8. All departments be given copies of this report.