



# POLICY

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<b>POLICY NO:</b>	113	<b>APPROVAL DATE:</b>	January 24, 2011
<b>TITLE:</b>	Idle Reduction	<b>REVISION DATE:</b>	May 3, 2021
<b>SECTION:</b>	Administration	<b>PAGE</b>	<b>1 OF 2</b>
<b>DEPARTMENT:</b>	Environmental Services		

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## POLICY STATEMENT

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The City of Grande Prairie (“City”) is committed to the efficient use of resources and ensuring the sustainability of our community and organization.

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## REASON FOR POLICY

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Unnecessary idling wastes fuel and money and contributes to the overload of greenhouse gas accumulation in the atmosphere. Council has set a reduction target of 20% of greenhouse gas (GHG) reductions and the organization has a goal of carbon neutrality.

All employees and contractors driving or operating motorized vehicles owned by the City or when being compensated by the City will reduce their idling time to less than five (5) minutes when temperatures are in the range of -0°C to +25°C.

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## RELATED INFORMATION

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Motor Vehicle or City Equipment engines must be shut off when idle time is expected to exceed five (5) minutes.

Motor Vehicle or City Equipment must not be left unattended while idling except in situation authorized by specific department procedures.

Motor Vehicle or City Equipment may be idled for heat in colder temperatures while the operator mechanically clears the windows and mirrors from frost, ice, or snow.

During warm-up, the Motor Vehicle or City Equipment must not idle longer than necessary to ensure safe operation. This warm-up time may vary depending on the time of day, weather conditions, outdoor temperature, type of motor vehicle or City Equipment being operated, or how much time has elapsed since the previous engine start. For example, after several hours of inactivity, an extended period of idling for air brake equipped vehicles may be necessary to achieve proper air brake system pressure.

Motor Vehicle or City Equipment must not be used in drive-thru lineups as the expectation is that the vehicle will be expected to idle for longer than five (5) minutes.

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### **Exceptions**

All emergency vehicles, diesel powered heavy equipment, trucks and buses are exempted from this Policy, however the expectation is that operators will comply with this Policy when the situation allows for the shutting down of said vehicles.

Employees are responsible for working safely. In situations where adherence to this Policy may compromise human health or worker safety, operators are expected to use reasonable judgment in determining compliance. There is an expectation of proper judgment in adhering to this Policy when the following conditions exist:

1. Animals, plants or temperature-sensitive materials are onboard.
2. Motor Vehicle or City Equipment provides power for on-board equipment, inverters, computers, lift platform, air tools, PTO's, emergency lighting, equipment, or auxiliary equipment.
3. Motor Vehicle or City Equipment is attending an emergency scene.
4. Motor Vehicle or City Equipment is participating in, supporting public functions, e.g. parades.
5. When the Motor Vehicle or City Equipment is stopped while driving because of traffic control devices, pedestrians or other delays encountered in traffic.
6. Motor Vehicle or City Equipment requires service due to a mechanical problem provided the vehicle is not left unattended.
7. Motor Vehicle or City Equipment is idling or being brought to operating temperature as part of routine service and/or maintenance.
8. Motor Vehicles may be used in a drive-thru lineup, should there be conditions where the business is closed to in-person purchases.

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### **DEFINITIONS**

**City Equipment** - means any motorized equipment that may or may not be self propelled or mounted on a truck or trailer limited in this Policy to those owned or leased through the City.

**Idling** - means the operation of the engine of a motor vehicle while the motor vehicle is not in motion and not being used to operate auxiliary equipment that is essential to the basic operation of the motor vehicle.

**Motor Vehicle** - means:

- i) a vehicle propelled by any power other than muscular power, or
- ii) a moped, but does not include a bicycle, power bicycle, an aircraft, an implement of husbandry or a motor vehicle that only runs on rails. (Alberta Traffic Safety Act)

**Unattended** - means not in the immediate vicinity of or under constant and direct observation.

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### **RESPONSIBILITIES**

City Council will review and approve any revisions to this Policy.

City Manager will review and approve any procedures related to this Policy and ensure that all service areas are aware of this Policy and adhere to it.