

CITY OF CASTLEGAR
EMPLOYEE POLICY AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Idling Reduction Policy			
Section:	Facilities & Equipment	Resolution No.	202-07
Policy Number:	2-8	Amended by:	
Effective Date:		File Name:	

GENERAL STATEMENT:

This policy applies to Castlegar residents and municipal fleet vehicles operated within the City of Castlegar.

OBJECTIVES:

1. To reduce the health and environmental effects of vehicle exhaust by reducing unnecessary idling.
2. To educate and inform municipal employees and residents about the health and environmental effects of gasoline and diesel exhaust.

PURPOSE:

Idling vehicles pollute the air and present several health and environmental hazards. Gasoline and diesel vehicles produce carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and oxides of nitrogen (NOx). Carbon monoxide causes respiratory distress and in high concentrations can be lethal; carbon dioxide is a primary contributor to global warming; and VOCs and NOx form ozone, ground-level smog and impair lung function. In addition, diesel exhaust contains fine particulate matter, which the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency has designated as a likely carcinogen. The elderly, chronically ill and children are all particularly vulnerable to these health effects because their lung function is respectively decreased, impaired or still in development.

Therefore the City of Castlegar, in support of the reduction of unnecessary vehicle idling, will:

- post signs in public areas;
- educate municipal employees and residents;
- establish best management practices regarding the reduction of unnecessary idling for municipal vehicle operations.

Where operating, emergency and safety circumstances permit, municipal vehicles will not be permitted to idle after the vehicles have left the yard.

Maximum vehicle warm up time prior to leaving the Civic Works yard will be 5 minutes.