



Implementation of City of Dallas Idling Restriction Rule

Presentation at Sustainable
Communities Training Conference

March 10, 2009



Outline

- City of Dallas Idling Ordinance
- Why the City Passed the Ordinance
- Memorandum of Agreement
- Education Campaign
- Enforcement
- Lessons Learned



What is the City of Dallas Anti-Idling Ordinance

- Passed on May 23, 2007.
- Prohibits vehicle operators with a vehicle that has a gross weight over 14,000 lbs from idling for more than 5 minutes
- Enforceable during ozone season: April – October of each year.
- Exemptions related to vehicle type and operation apply

Why did Dallas pass a ordinance?

- City reviewed numerous short and long term measures to encourage reductions of air pollutants in DFW non-attainment area
 - Diesel emissions from heavy duty vehicles comprise approximately 50% of NO_x (ozone-forming) emissions for on-road sources in our region.
- Concerned about health effects from diesel emissions:
 - Diesel emissions from motor vehicles contribute to health problems such as cancer, heart attacks, cardiovascular disease, emphysema, and asthma.



Memorandum of Agreement

- Enforcement of the ordinance could not begin until the City signed a memorandum of agreement with the TCEQ
 - February 13, 2008: City Council approved Agreement transferring enforcement authority for idling restrictions from the State to the City.
 - Agreement expires in 2013





Education Campaign

- City of Dallas implemented a 4 month education campaign (Jan-April 2008):
 - Set-up a process with City's 311 for in-take of calls from residents wanting to report a idling vehicle
 - Designed and printed brochures and signs on the idling ordinance (see examples)
 - Provided brochures and signs on the idling ordinance to the seven truck stops in Dallas as well as trucking businesses.



Education Campaign

- Launched a new website on idling ordinance (www.enginoffdallas.com)
- Sent letters to the following companies/organizations to inform them about the ordinance and ask them to post signs/brochures
 - Companies with large transportation facilities and delivery operations
 - 80 trucking companies in Dallas
 - Trucking Associations including National Truckers Association, the American Trucking Association, and the Texas Motor Transportation Association.
 - Schools that provide training and licenses to truck drivers.
- April 2008 (first month of enforcement): Marshal's Office issued warnings to truck drivers along with a brochure

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MIN **IDLE**
LIMIT



30 MIN MAX FOR BUSES

CITY ORD. # 26766

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Anti-Idling Ordinance

To report an Idling Vehicle

If you see a vehicle over 14,000 pounds idling for over 5 minutes, please dial 311 and report the vehicle's license plate number to the operator.



Trucks idling, credit: Texas Transportation Institute

What is the [City of Dallas' Anti-Idling Ordinance](#)? (Adobe PDF)

[Know Your Options](#) (Adobe PDF)

[Additional Information](#) (Adobe PDF)

[Contact Us](#) (Adobe PDF)

Interesting Information

- EPA [Fuel Savings Calculator](#)
- [FAQs](#) about the Anti-Idling Ordinance (Adobe PDF)
- [How to order](#) a restricted idling sign or brochures (Adobe PDF)
- Read the City of Dallas [Anti-Idling brochure](#) (Adobe PDF)

Resource Links

(From the Adobe PDF files above)

- [\(EPA\) Idling Reduction Alternatives](#)
- [Texas Emissions Reduction Plan \(TERP\)](#)
- [Texas Commission on Environmental Quality](#)
- [U.S. Department of Energy Alternative and Advanced Vehicles](#)
- [SmartWay Transport Partnership \(EPA Region 6\)](#)
- [IdleAir](#)
- [National Idling Reduction Network News](#)

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- Growing Up Green
- EPA for Kids

Downloads and Helpful Information

FAQs



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September



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Enforcement

- City Staff provided training on ordinance to 20 Marshals
- Citations issued by Marshal's Office
- Penalty is a fine not to exceed \$500
- Before citation is issued, photograph of idling vehicle is taken
- Total number of citations issued since May 2008 is 114
- Primary violators are trucks at truck stops and delivery trucks for items such as produce



Lessons Learned

- Education campaign is **KEY!!**
- Despite outreach to National trucking associations, lots of complaints from out of area truck drivers
- City feels that overall goal of ordinance is being met since number of violations has decreased since enforcement began.



Future Steps

- City's legislative proposal for the upcoming session includes extending the idling rule to be applicable year round
- Continue City's education campaign around ordinance in preparation for next ozone season



Questions?

Eric Griffin

Interim Director, Office of Environmental
Quality

City of Dallas

Eric.griffin@dallascityhall.com

214-670-5732