Anti-Idling Policy Pol. #10.30

As adopted by the Glenview Park Board of Commissioners on November 15, 2012

**Purpose:** "To establish an Anti-Idling Policy to protect public health, improve the environment, and reduce fuel consumption."

## **Background:**

Air pollution is a major health concern in the Chicago region, and can affect the quality of life. Exhaust from vehicles contains a variety of pollutants such as carbon monoxide, particulate matter, toxic air contaminants, and greenhouse gases. These pollutants may aggravate respiratory ailments such as asthma, emphysema, and cause lung damage. Public agencies can play an important role in improving air quality by limiting the amount of time engines are allowed to idle in their jurisdiction. An Anti-Idling program reduces air pollution emissions and contributes to a cleaner atmosphere.

Vehicle idling gets zero miles per gallon, and wastes fuel. It also causes wear on internal engine parts compared to driving at regular speeds, and diminishes the engine life. The break-even point for shutting off/restarting an engine vs. leaving it to idle is 10-30 seconds. Contrary to popular belief, idling is not an effective way to warm up a vehicle in cold weather. Modern engines circulate oil quickly and the optimal way to warm up the lubricants in the engine is to initially drive at a moderate speed. An Anti-Idling program conserves fuel and lengthens engine life.

## **Policy:**

- 1. No driver of a Park District vehicle shall allow the engine to idle for a period of more than 30 seconds, preferably no more than 10 seconds.
- 2. Diesel powered vehicles shall follow this policy.
- 3. When making ice, employees should not sit in an idling vehicle to warm up if a fieldhouse is on site.
- 4. Patrons waiting in "pick-up" areas at Park District facilities will be encouraged to not idle through the use of signage.
- 5. Exemptions:
  - a. A vehicle may idle while standing in traffic.
  - b. A vehicle may idle to prevent a safety or health emergency.
  - c. A vehicle may idle for vehicle maintenance, servicing, repairing, or diagnostic purposes if idling is required for such activity.
  - d. The Park District Bus may idle in preparation for transporting program participants, but preferably for the least amount of time possible.

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