

Municipality of the District of Lunenburg

Policy Details	
Name	Anti-Idling Policy
Number	097
Legislative Authority	Municipal Government Act – clauses 172 (1)(a) and 172(1)(d)
Effective Date	February 27, 2024

Purpose

- 1 The primary aim of implementing this policy is to raise awareness of vehicle idling and emphasize the importance of reducing vehicle engine run-time during periods of vehicle inactivity. Turning off vehicles when not in motion offers substantial benefits, particularly in reducing air pollution, protecting public health, and conserving energy.

General Provision

- 2 All individuals operating a vehicle within the Municipality, including Idle-Free Zones, are strongly encouraged to limit idling to one minute or less.

Definitions

- 3 For the purpose of this the Policy:
 - (a) **Emergency Vehicle:** Refers to vehicle used by fire departments, police, ambulances, or any other vehicle required for life-saving purposes.
 - (b) **Idling:** Refers to the practice of keeping a vehicle's engine running while stationary and not actively performing necessary functions (such as providing power for heating or cooling) for longer than one minute.
 - (c) **Idle-Free Zone(s):** In areas with high traffic volumes on municipal properties, drivers are strongly encouraged to turn off their engines when parks or waiting, aiming to reduce emissions and promote better air quality in the surrounding environment.
 - (d) **Public Transportation:** Refers to a system of vehicles, such as buses, ferries, uber/cabs, shuttle services, or tourism related vehicles operated by public or private entities to transport passengers from one location to another.
 - (e) **Vehicle:** Includes rubber-tired or tracked machinery designed to be self-propelled by an internal combustion engine.

Exemptions

- 4 The following vehicles are exempted from the limitations on idling:

- (a) **Accessible Vehicle Features:** Vehicles may be permitted to idle when necessary to operate lift equipment or other essential mechanisms designed to accommodate persons with disabilities.
- (b) **Emergency Vehicles:** Such as ambulances, fire trucks, and police vehicles that require idling to power essential equipment and maintain readiness to respond promptly to emergencies.
- (c) **Service Vehicles:** Including utility trucks and maintenance vehicles carrying out operations requiring powered equipment.
- (d) **Public Transportation:** Refers to a system of vehicles, such as buses, ferries, Uber/cabs, shuttle services, or tourism-related vehicles operated by public or private entities to transport passengers from one location to another.
- (e) **Transportation Vehicles Carrying Perishable Goods:** Such as food trucks, may idle to maintain refrigeration, ensuring the preservation of cargo quality and compliance with food safety standards.
- (f) **Safety Measures:** Vehicles may be exempt from the anti-idling policy when idling is necessary for the removal of ice, snow, and moisture from the windshield to ensure safe and unobstructed visibility.

Awareness

- 5 To enhance public awareness regarding idling and responsible vehicle usage, the following measures will be implemented:
- (a) **Community Involvement:** Encouraging responsible vehicle practices through educational programs and collaborative efforts. Residents, private businesses, educational institutions, and other community organizations are invited to pledge commitment to reduce idling on their properties by turning off engines when parked or waiting for extended periods.
 - (b) **Educational materials:** Pamphlets, brochures, and online resources will provide information on the impact of idling on air quality, greenhouse gas emissions, and public health.
 - (c) **Idle-Free Signs:** Signage will be strategically placed in idle-free zones to promote and encourage anti-idling practices.
 - (d) **Idle-Free Zone Map:** A map displaying all designated idle-free zones will be accessible on the Municipal website for public reference and awareness.

Idle-Free Zones

- 6 In areas with high traffic volumes on municipal properties, drivers are strongly encouraged to turn off their engines when parked or waiting. The designation process in managing these zones are outlined as follows:

- (a) **Designation and Decision-making:** The designation of new anti-idling zones, removal, or amendment of existing zones will be decided by the Council.

Review and Revision

- 7 The Municipality will conduct a comprehensive review of this Anti-idling Policy every five (5) years to ensure its relevance and effectiveness. This review will consider public feedback and any notable advancements or changes in technology relevant to idling reduction measures.

Policy Adoption	
Date of Original Passage	February 27, 2024
Date of Notice of Intent to Consider	February 20, 2024
Date of Council Approval	February 27, 2024
Date of Effective Date (if different from date of approval)	N/A
I certify that this Policy 097 Anti-idling was adopted by Municipal Council as indicated above.	
Signature of Municipal Clerk 	February 27, 2024

Version	Amendment Description	Approval Date
Original V1	Policy 097, Anti-idling	Feb 27, 2024