

October 14, 2008

To: Chair and Members of the Government Management Committee

Re: Idling Bylaw

You may recall that I appeared before your committee several months ago to advise you of the need to amend our present idling bylaw. The bylaw specifically excludes TTC and most city vehicles.

The average TTC vehicle spews 32 tonnes of pollutants into the air each year. The hybrid buses spew only 3.2 tonnes less (28.8 tonnes). You may be surprised to know that an idling TTC hybrid vehicle when idling puts as much pollutant into the air as a regular TTC diesel vehicle.

Last year the TTC reduced fuel consumption by using hybrid buses by 10% saving approximately 2 million dollars in fuel. If they had simply stopped their buses from unnecessary idling they would have saved more.

Hybrid electric buses cost the TTC 200 thousand dollars more than a clean diesel bus. I am not suggesting we stop buying clean diesel buses but I am suggesting that TTC vehicles be included in the idling bylaw which is a "no cost" method to reduce idling compared to the huge capital costs we are paying for hybrid electric buses.

I have attached a proposed amended bylaw to begin the discussion. The Executive Committee has already recommended that staff report on how they can re-write the idling bylaw so that TTC and non-emergency city vehicles can be included.

Recommendation:

1. That this matter be referred to staff and they be requested to table a revised idling bylaw that includes TTC and non-emergency city vehicles for the next meeting of the committee.
2. That this matter be scheduled as a public hearing so that we can pursue this matter forthwith.

Appendix D

Saturday, May 10, 2008

IDLING BYLAW – The City of Toronto (First re-draft)

This revised bylaw is drafted on the premise that excessive idling of a vehicle is only to be allowed under exceptional circumstances. It has been written to minimize idling and to confine it to situations that are basic to public safety.

CITY OF TORONTO BY-LAW No. 673-1998 to Prohibit Excessive Idling of Vehicles and Boats.

1. As used in this by-law, the following terms shall have the meanings indicated:

- (1) BOAT - A ship or any other description of vessel not propelled by oars and includes a boat used exclusively for towing purposes, a water taxi and a boat used on water for living purposes.
 - (2) IDLE - The operation of the engine of a boat or vehicle while the vehicle or boat is not in motion
 - (4) MOBILE WORKSHOP:
 - (a) A vehicle containing equipment that must be operated inside or in association with the vehicle; or
 - (b) A vehicle serving as a facility for taking measurements or making observations operated by or on behalf of a municipality, public utility or police, fire or ambulance service while engaged in those activities.
 - (5) OFFICIAL - A police officer, police cadet, municipal law enforcement officer or any person authorized to enforce this chapter.
 - (8) VEHICLE - A motor vehicle, trailer, traction engine, farm tractor or road- building machine as defined in the Highway Traffic Act and any vehicle drawn, propelled or driven by any kind of non-muscular power, but does not include cars of electric or diesel electric railways running only upon rails.
 - (10) HYBRID VEHICLE – A motor vehicle that has zero emissions while idling.
2. (1) No person shall cause or permit a vehicle or boat to idle for more than three (3) minutes in a sixty-minute period from March 15 to

October 15 inclusive and for more than five minutes in a thirty-minute period from October 16 to March 14 inclusive.

(2) Subsection (1) does not apply to:

- (a) Hybrid vehicles.
- (b) Police, fire or ambulance vehicles or boats while engaged in emergency operations or assisting in emergency activity.
- (c) Vehicles and boats assisting in an emergency activity.
- (d) Ferry boats while they are taking on or discharging passengers or vehicles.
- (e) Boats not at anchor or tied to a dock.
- (f) Mobile workshops where the operation of the primary engine is essential to the operation of on board equipment and while they are in the course of being used for their primary function.
- (g) Vehicles or boats where idling is required to repair the vehicle or boat or to prepare a vehicle or boat for service for the minimum time required to prepare for service or to perform the repairs.
- (h) Vehicles or boats required to remain motionless because of an emergency, traffic, weather conditions or mechanical difficulties over which the driver has no control.
- (i) Vehicles or boats engaged in a parade or race or any other event authorized by Council.
- (j) Transit vehicles while passengers are embarking or disembarking en route or in terminals but only at times when a driver is present on board the vehicle. At no time shall a Transit vehicle be permitted to idle within a fully enclosed subway station.
- (k) Vehicles transporting a person where a medical doctor certifies in writing that for medical reasons a person in a vehicle requires that temperature or humidity be maintained within a certain range.

3. Any person who contravenes any provision of this by-law is guilty of an offence. ENACTED AND PASSED this day of , A.D. 2008.

DAVID MILLER, ULI WATKISS, Mayor, City Clerk (Corporate Seal)

Howard Moscoe,
Chair, Licensing and Standards for the City of Toronto