Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council  Item ID  29081  Agenda Number  41.

Meeting Date:  11/21/2013  Department:  Transportation

Subject

Approve renewal of an anti-idling memorandum of agreement between the City and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality to continue enforcement of heavy vehicle idling. Related to Item # 40.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:

Prior Council Action:  Resolution No. 20110303-033.


Boards and Commission Action:

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

March 24, 2008, Mayor Will Wynn signed an anti-idling Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City of Austin and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) which delegated vehicle idling enforcement from the TCEQ to the City of Austin. The current MOA will expire on December 31, 2013.

In August of 2011, the TCEQ amended their Locally Enforced Motor Vehicle Idling rule language (30 Texas Administrative Code 114, Subchapter J, Division 2). The current City of Austin Motor Vehicle Idling Ordinance mirrors the TCEQ rule language that was in place prior to the 2011 rule change. Resolution number 20110303-033 directed the City Manager to work with Travis County and other regional partners toward a Memorandum of Understanding including enforcement of established anti-idling policies within the City and the region.

The Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area continues to be in near non-attainment with the Ozone National Ambient Air Quality Standards. Motor vehicle emissions remain the primary source of ozone precursors and other air pollutants in the Austin region and enforcement of heavy vehicle idling is a commitment that the City of Austin plans to continue in the Ozone Advance Plan. Austin Transportation Department staff recommends the
following actions:

- Renewal of the anti-idling MOA to ensure the City continued delegated enforcement authority of heavy vehicle idling, and
- Amendment of the Motor Vehicle Idling ordinance in City Code 6-1 to realign with current TCEQ rule language for Locally Enforced Motor Vehicle Idling.