



ENVIRONMENTAL SPECIFICATION GUIDANCE FOR AUTOMOTIVE FLEET

The District of Columbia is committed to procuring quality goods and services in a timely manner and at a reasonable cost that support the District in meeting its sustainability goals. Compliance with specification guidance is sufficient to meet PPRA Section 1101(a) environmentally preferable procurement requirements. Additional contextual information is provided [here](#) to assist in the implementation of the specification.



BENEFITS

The District could save **\$139,000** in fuel costs over five years by purchasing a dozen 22-MPG vehicles instead of sport utility vehicles

This would reduce greenhouse gas emissions by **278.5** metric tons over five years

This is equivalent to the energy used annually by **7 homes**

SOURCES

<http://www.fueleconomy.gov>
<http://www.epa.gov/cleanenergy/energy-resources/calculator.html>

Scope

The environmental specification addresses light-duty vehicles. Light-duty vehicles are all class 1, 2, and 3 vehicles as defined by the US FDOT.

Additional contextual information is provided here to assist in the implementation of the main specification, as well as for those interested.

COPY AND PASTE THE FOLLOWING SPECIFICATION LANGUAGE INTO THE REQUIREMENTS SECTION OF YOUR STATEMENT OF WORK

EPPS Requirements

Light-duty vehicles purchased or leased by the District of Columbia shall meet the following requirements:

- Light-duty passenger vehicles, light-duty trucks, and general passenger vans must be battery electric, plug-in hybrid (PHEV), or fuel cell vehicles.

When purchasing or leasing light-duty vehicles for the District's Fleet, programs should consult with members of the Department of Public Works' Fleet Management Administration by calling 202-541-3705 or visiting <https://dpw.dc.gov/page/vehicle-management>.



Environmental Hotspots The most important environmental benefits associated with this specification

MATERIALS USE / SUSTAINABLE SOURCING	EVs do not use petroleum fuel like conventional vehicles, while Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles (PHEVs) use considerably less, reducing reliance on a non-sustainable resource and on foreign oil.
ENERGY USE	The transportation sector relies heavily on fossil fuels, which are responsible for air emissions. According to the EPA , the combustion of fossil fuels for transportation accounted for 27% of total U.S. greenhouse gas emissions in 2020. EVs produce no tailpipe emissions, unlike conventional vehicles. PHEVs also emit considerably less than conventional vehicles. Although more than half of the District's electricity comes from fossil fuels currently, the District has committed to using 100 percent renewable energy by 2032.
POLLUTION/TOXICITY/ HEAVY METALS	Motor vehicles emit criteria pollutants including nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, and particulate matter, and air toxics such as benzene. These substances have been linked with human health problems, including respiratory disease, heart disease, and birth defects. EVs have lower emissions of criteria pollutants compared to conventional vehicles. PHEVs, although still partially gas powered, emit fewer pollutants than conventional vehicles.

Significance to the District

SUSTAINABLE DC PLAN	Use of this specification contributes to the achievement of the Sustainable DC Plan Climate & Environment Goal 1: Minimize generation of greenhouse gas emissions from all sources; and Transportation Action 4.2: Require District Government and encourage businesses to purchase clean fuel, low-emission fleet vehicles.
LEGISLATION	Purchase of vehicles that comply with this specification are compliant with D.C. Code § 50 -203 which states that vehicles shall have an EPA estimated miles per gallon (MPG) average of not less than 22 MPG , and shall not be sports utility vehicles.
EXISTING CONTRACTS	All fleet light-vehicle purchases must be made using the pre-approved vehicle list, maintained by DPW Fleet Management.

For more information about sustainable specification guidance or the District's Sustainable Purchasing Program, please visit: <https://ocp.dc.gov/page/sustainable-purchasing-program> or call the OCP Procurement Center of Excellence at: [202.724.4477](tel:202.724.4477) or email sppdc@dc.gov.