



The City of San Antonio is seeking public input on a proposed anti-idling policy from **March 4, 2016-May 31, 2016**. Comments are accepted by letter, phone call, voicemail or e-mail directed to the City of San Antonio Office of Sustainability.

Heavy duty vehicles are a major source of air pollution in San Antonio. The City of San Antonio is working in collaboration with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality and Alamo Area Council of Governments (the region's lead air quality planning agency) to comprehensively examine the positive and negative impacts of an anti-idling policy in San Antonio.

***The anti-idling policy would limit vehicles that have a gross weight of greater than 14,000 pounds or more from idling more than 5 minutes.***

Vehicles that will be affected by this policy include:

- Beverage Trucks
- Home Fuel Trucks
- Tanker Trucks
- Flat-Bed Trucks
- School Buses
- Utility Trucks
- Heavy-Duty Utility Trucks
- Step Vans
- Dump Trucks
- Rack Trucks
- Transit Buses
- Garbage Trucks
- Stake Trucks
- Delivery Trucks
- Large Motor Homes
- Tractor-Trailer Rigs
- Furniture Trucks
- Bucket Trucks
- Inner-City Tour Buses
- Tow Trucks
- Fuel Trucks
- Service Body Trucks

Thirty-three cities and nine counties in Texas have already limited idling of heavy-duty vehicles. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality also has a state regulation affirming the right of local governments to enact such ordinances. An overview of the policy, clean idle technologies and funding options are available through the [Alamo Area Council of Governments](#)

Below is an overview of the proposed restrictions and exemptions. Thirteen exemptions are included, such as for emergency vehicles, essential for performance of work or required by the manufacturer's operational guidelines:

#### Restrictions

Year around, no gasoline or diesel powered vehicle with a GVWR greater than 14,000-pounds may idle for more than five minutes, when the vehicle is not in motion. No driver using the vehicle's sleeper berth may idle the vehicle;

- in a school zone;
- within 1,000 feet of a public school during its hours of operation

#### **Anti-Idling Policy Public Comment Period Contacts:**

City of San Antonio – Liza Meyer [liza.meyer@sanantonio.gov](mailto:liza.meyer@sanantonio.gov) phone: 210-207-1449, 1400 S. Flores, 78204



- within 1,000 feet of a hospital, or
- in a residential area, as defined in Section 244.002 of the Texas Local Government Code.

GVWR is the maximum weight of a fully loaded vehicle. No driver using the vehicle's sleeper berth may idle within a two-mile radius of a public facility offering external heating/air conditioning

### Exemptions

- Vehicle Type:
  - 14,000+ lbs GVWR vehicle with 2008 or newer heavy-duty diesel, liquefied natural gas, or compressed natural gas certified by EPA or state agency to emit less than 30 grams of NOx per hour of idling.
  - Vehicles with a sleeper berth, only during a government-mandated rest period.
  - Military, emergency and law enforcement vehicles, and armored trucks.
  - Airport ground support equipment.
  - Owner of a vehicle rented or leased to a person not employed by the owner.
- Operations:
  - Idling due to traffic congestion.
  - Motor run as power source for mechanical operations.
  - Idling during operation for maintenance/diagnostic purposes.
  - Operation of engine while defrosting a windshield.
- Air Conditioning and Heating Provisions:
  - For passenger comfort and safety in vehicles intended for commercial/public passenger transportation or passenger transit operations (30-minute maximum).
  - For employee health or safety while employee is using vehicle to perform an essential job function related to road construction or maintenance during a government-mandated rest period.

### **Critical Components of Stakeholder Outreach/Engagement**

City of San Antonio staff intend to Inform-Involve-Comment-Collaborate & Partner with area stakeholders.

- Inform – stakeholder engagement will begin with informing via informational fact sheet and open public comment. This information will help stakeholders provide feedback during the policy examination process. Stakeholder comments will be accepted in written form during the open comment period until the item is presented for City Council consideration. Comments are accepted in letters or e-mail directed to the Office of Sustainability staff. The stakeholder is encouraged to submit written comments early so City staff can thoroughly evaluate, respond and incorporate comments as applicable. Written comments allow City staff to better understand stakeholder input and develop comprehensive and thorough responses.

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Comments can be accepted by phone. Stakeholders can leave a voice mail message for up to one minute. City staff will need to transcribe the message for it to be entered into record. City staff will respond to those individuals/entities that have provided contact information.

- **Connect** - When City staff conducts outreach it provides the stakeholders with information about available anti-idling policy research and findings. The City of San Antonio web pages can help stakeholders understand the area's air quality issues and potential solutions. Additional tools include telephone and email communications to quickly provide stakeholder notification and intake feedback from stakeholders.
- **Involve, Comment and Collaborate** – When City collaborates with stakeholders, we gather input on air quality issues and solutions to understand the perspectives of different stakeholder and industry groups. Examples of stakeholder participation activities that fall in this level include stakeholder/industry presentations, industry roundtables/focus groups or one-to-one conversations. These venues will be opportunities for stakeholders to provide their ideas, feedback, comments and alternative resolutions. The stakeholder will be invited to the process early before City Council consideration.
- **Partner** – City staff partners with industries/organizations that share a mutual mission to enhance quality of life in the community. Examples of stakeholder participation activities include the Alamo Area Council of Governments Air Improvement Resources Committee and regulatory agencies such as the US Environmental Protection Agency and the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality.

### **Principles of Stakeholder Outreach/Engagement**

- **Meaningful:** support stakeholder participation to enhance decision-making and help the City improve policy development
- **Inclusive:** engage a broad range of industry stakeholders, with a broad range of interests and perspectives, in its stakeholder participation activities.
- **Transparent:** clearly communicate its decision-making processes and the role of the stakeholder in those processes.
- **Respectful:** stakeholder participation activities will be conducted with respect for all stakeholders and differing viewpoints.
- **Flexible:** Stakeholder participation activities will accommodate a variety of engagement methods and stakeholder groups and will be modified as needed
- **Timely:** stakeholder participation opportunities will be proactive and timely, occurring in advance of final decision-making by City Council.

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- Clear, Focused and Understandable: Participation methods will have a clear purpose. City staff will communicate to the stakeholder what type of input it is seeking and how input will be used in language that is easy to understand.
- Informed: provide timely, accurate and clear information to allow stakeholders to stay informed, ask questions and provide constructive input.
- Responsive: carefully consider all stakeholder input received, strive to incorporate all stakeholder input when appropriate and communicate outcomes to the stakeholder - in particular to those stakeholders who took time to submit comments.
- Quality: Achievement of each of the above principles will ensure a quality stakeholder participation processes.

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