

Issue Title: Coordinating the City's Green Fleet Initiatives

Council Member Issuing Direction: Mayor Wheeler

Bureau Directed: Office of Management and Finance

Issue Overview and Desired Goal/Outcome(s): In July 2017, Portland City Council adopted resolution 37289 establishing a commitment to meeting 100 percent of community-wide energy needs with renewable energy by 2050. This commitment includes the transportation sector. The City of Portland also committed to achieve zero net emissions by 2050 as part of the Climate Mayors Paris Climate Accord and Global Covenant of Mayor's for Climate and Energy Agreements. To meet these goals the City must develop and implement a strategic plan to transition the City's fleet to renewable energy and meet the carbon reduction objectives set forth in the Climate Action Plan (Resolution 37136) and the Electric Vehicle Strategy (Resolution 37255).

Currently, there is no staff dedicated to achieving the City's fleet-related climate objectives. Staff from the Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, CityFleet, and other Bureaus collaborate on Green Fleet initiatives on an ad-hoc basis, however, additional staff capacity is needed to take advantage of opportunities to move this work forward—including applying for grant opportunities that are currently available to fund electric vehicle infrastructure—and ensure that the City meets its goals to transition to a zero emission and 100% renewable fleet.

The Office of Management and Finance is directed to develop a decision package for the addition of one FTE, a Green Fleet Coordinator, to CityFleet to develop and coordinate the implementation of a Green Fleet Action Plan to provide a roadmap for achieving the City's fleet related climate objectives and align the efforts of all City Bureaus towards achieving these goals.

This position is modeled off of Seattle's Green Fleet Manager. The City of Seattle's Fleet Management Division created this position 10 years ago with great success; the Seattle Green Fleet Manager reports a decrease in fleet fuel consumption of 6% annually along with significant cost savings realized through fuel contract negotiations and alternative fuel vehicle purchasing policies.

Funding Options: The suggested funding for this position is through a surcharge on every gallon of diesel and unleaded fuel used by City Bureaus. Understandably this methodology places a greater financial commitment on Bureaus that consume larger quantities of fossil fuels. This funding structure will serve two purposes: first, it will incentivize heavy fuel consumers to work with the Green Fleet Coordinator to transition towards renewables; second, it provides a funding source for the position that is linked to the issue.

The coordinator will likely offset the program costs through avoided costs. Several grants are currently available to fund electric vehicle infrastructure that, if not leveraged in the short term, will present expenses in the future as costs rise and the City maintains its commitment to renewable energy and carbon emission reduction.

Additional Requests/Notes: