



# KING COUNTY AUDITOR'S OFFICE





DECEMBER 1, 2022

## Follow-up on Light Duty Fleet

**The Fleet Services Division (Fleet) has completed implementation of the remaining recommendation from our 2015 audit. These actions will reduce emissions from use and idling by King County Sheriff's Office vehicles.** Fleet now purchases only hybrid police interceptor vehicles for the Sheriff's Office. Based on performance data from the hybrid interceptors in use as of November 2022, Fleet estimates Sheriff's Office fuel use could be reduced by 25-30% or 98,000 to 118,000 gallons per year, which would save associated emissions.

We are closing two of our recommendations related to King County's vehicle acquisition policy and replacement model due to policy changes by the County. King County Code included a new requirement in 2020 to fully transition the County's light duty fleet to electric vehicles by 2030. As a result, Fleet has stated it will be making changes to its vehicle replacement and acquisition processes. These changes remove the impetus for our original recommendations. We may return to assess the County's processes for electric vehicle purchases in future audit work.

Of the seven audit recommendations:

	5 DONE		0 PROGRESS		0 OPEN		2 CLOSED
<b>Fully implemented</b> Auditor will no longer monitor.		<b>Partially implemented</b> Auditor will continue to monitor.		<b>Remain unresolved</b> Auditor will continue to monitor.		<b>Closed</b> Auditor will not continue to monitor.	

Please see details below for implementation status of each recommendation.

Recommendation 1	On December 1, 2019	DONE	✓
Recommendation 2	On August 4, 2017	DONE	✓
Recommendation 3	On August 4, 2017	DONE	✓
Recommendation 4		DONE	✓

**The King County Sheriff's Office should develop and implement a plan to reduce idle time by its patrol vehicles. Initial analysis should include a cost-benefit analysis of anti-idling technology options.**

STATUS UPDATE: Fleet started purchasing only hybrid police interceptor vehicles for the Sheriff's Office as of 2021.

IMPACT: Based on the performance of the hybrid interceptors in use as of November 2022, Fleet estimates that the Sheriff's Office could reduce fuel use by 98,000 to 118,000 gallons per year, thus reducing the associated emissions. As we noted in our 2015 report, due to the nature of the Sheriff's Office work, its vehicles consume more fuel than light duty vehicles in any other county agency, which makes efforts to increase the efficiency of Sheriff's Office vehicles key to reducing overall county fuel use by light duty vehicles.

Recommendation 5	On August 4, 2017	DONE	✓
Recommendation 6		CLOSED	✗

**The County Executive should update the Vehicle and Equipment Acquisition Policy to ensure that vehicles are purchased at the lowest effective life cycle cost, including a clearly articulated process for when life cycle cost analysis is required, such as for higher-risk purchases.**

STATUS UPDATE: Fleet is in the process of transitioning to purchasing only electric light duty vehicles to meet county code, which requires that 50 percent of light duty vehicles are transitioned to electric by 2025 and 100 percent by 2030.<sup>1</sup> Fleet Services reports that the requirement to purchase electric vehicles will necessitate changes in the County's vehicle acquisition policy and cost analysis requirements. For these reasons, we have closed this recommendation, but may return to assess the County's processes for electric vehicle purchases in future audit work.

<sup>1</sup> King County Code 18.22.010

## Recommendation 7

CLOSED



**Fleet Administration should complete its efforts to update and implement its vehicle replacement model.**

STATUS UPDATE: Fleet, along with the Office of Performance, Strategy and Budget and the Office of Economic and Financial Analysis, completed a vehicle replacement model in Microsoft Excel in 2021. However, Fleet reports that the model is no longer useful given the requirements to purchase electric vehicles and is identifying new processes for vehicle replacement. For these reasons, we have closed this recommendation, but may return to assess the County's processes for electric vehicle replacement in future audit work.

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Elise Garvey conducted this review. If you have any questions or would like more information, please contact the King County Auditor's Office at [KCAO@KingCounty.gov](mailto:KCAO@KingCounty.gov) or 206-477-1033.