



December 24, 2020

Honorable Mayor Justin Wilson and City Council Members
 Alexandria City Hall
 301 King Street
 Alexandria, VA 22314

Re: EPC Support of Alexandria's Alternative Fuel Policy

The Transportation and Environmental Services Division (T&ES) recently proposed an Alternative Fuel Policy for the City. The EPC strongly supports the Plan – it is clear, comprehensive and aligns with the EAP2040 targets and beyond as we move toward “electrifying everything.”

The EPC urges Council to adopt the Policy to document the process for purchasing and managing the City's fleet in a manner that minimizes greenhouse gas emissions and considers life-cycle economics. The policy is the result of a thorough, transparent process that provided the stakeholders ample opportunity to provide input and T&ES readily accepted recommendations making the policy better.

The Commission believes the merits of the Plan are clear and would like to highlight some specific features that are noteworthy in achieving the targets in the EAP.

Alignment with the EAP2040

1. Target: By 2035, improve energy efficiency in City facilities and operations by 50% over a FY2018 baseline use. (see Section 2.2 Energy Efficiency of the EAP 2040);
2. Mid-Term Actions: By 2024, implement electrification of, at a minimum, 25% of applicable non-electric passenger City fleet vehicles consistent with Fleet Replacement Plan criteria and scheduled replacement. (See Section 2.2.5 of the EAP 2040); and
3. Long-term Actions: By 2040, implement electrification of all non-electric City vehicle fleets (See Section 2.2.8 of the EAP2040.)

Broad, comprehensive approach allowing for future technology and hard choices

1. The Policy requires the optimization of the City's fleet size both in number of vehicles and in individual size of each vehicle thus reducing as much as possible the fossil fuel used by the Fleet;
2. The Policy requires the use of best practices to minimize vehicle miles traveled; and

3. The Policy requires each replacement vehicle to achieve the greatest level of emission reduction as possible, while still meeting the operational needs of the City. Thus, as innovation and technology improves for electric police vehicles and solid waste trucks, the policy accommodates moving toward the purchase of those electric vehicles.

The EPC looks forward to working with the T&ES Division and City Council to finalize this Policy and ensuring its effective implementation so we can fully realize the targets set by the EAP2040.

Sincerely,

Kathie Hoekstra

Kathie Hoekstra
Chair
Alexandria Environmental Policy Commission