

Local Government Alternative Fuel & Vehicle Procurement Guide

Decision-making Guidance for Procurement Rules (WAC 194-29)

FUELS

- 1) Are you fueling a diesel vehicle? If not, go to 2.
 - **Use a 5% biodiesel blend (B5) when the price is no more than 1% higher than #2 diesel.**
 - **Use higher biodiesel blends (e.g. B10, B20) to the level covered by engine warranties when the price is no more than 1% higher than #2 diesel (including cost of additives needed to ensure storage and performance).**
 - **Use renewable diesel, or the highest available blend of renewable diesel and #2 diesel, when the price is no more than 1% higher than #2 diesel.**

- 2) Are you fueling a flex-fuel vehicle? If not, go to 3.
 - **Use flex-fuel when the price is at least 20% less than regular gasoline.**

- 3) Are you fueling a natural gas vehicle? If not, go to 4.
 - **Use renewable natural gas, or the highest available blend of renewable and conventional natural gas, when the price is competitive with conventional natural gas.**

- 4) Are you fueling a propane vehicle? If not, go to 5.
 - **Use renewable propane, or the highest available blend of renewable and conventional propane, when the price is competitive with conventional propane.**

- 5) Local governments are encouraged to install electric vehicle charging infrastructure in all fleet parking and maintenance facilities, and incorporate charging into all new facility construction and substantial remodeling projects.

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VEHICLES

- 1) Are you a transit agency, and if so, are you already using natural gas for more than half of your active revenue fleet (not including vans)? If not, go to 2.
 - **Your active revenue fleet vehicles (not including vans) are exempt from the rules. Use the following steps when procuring other transit agency vehicles.**

- 2) Is a battery-only or hybrid electric vehicle equivalent to the vehicle you're looking to replace available either through state procurement or on the open market? If not, go to 3.
 - a. Does it meet your operational needs? Will it perform the required functions? If not, go to 3.
 - b. Can charging be accommodated on a routine basis (remember, charging infrastructure and creative fleet management can resolve most vehicle charging concerns)? If not, go to 3.
 - c. Compare the lifecycle costs of equivalent electric vehicles with the vehicle you'd otherwise procure. If the electric vehicles are more expensive, go to 3.
 - **Purchase an electric vehicle.**

- 3) Is a propane or natural gas vehicle (dedicated fuel or dual-fuel) or conversion package available that meets your operational needs? If not, go to 4.
 - a. Compare the lifecycle costs of propane or natural gas vehicles with the vehicle you'd otherwise procure. If the propane or natural gas vehicles are more expensive, go to 4.
 - **Purchase a propane or natural gas-fueled vehicle, or convert an existing vehicle to propane or natural gas.**

- 4) Are you purchasing a diesel vehicle? If not, go to 5.
 - **If more than one option is available at the same price, purchase the vehicle with an engine warranty that covers the highest level of biodiesel use.**

- 5) Consider leasing your gasoline vehicle in order to take advantage of new alternative fuel and vehicle technologies and associated cost-savings in a timely manner.