

RESOLUTION NO. 2022-61

**A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL
OF THE CITY OF LAFAYETTE**

DECLARING THE CITY OF LAFAYETTE AN IDLE-FREE CITY

WHEREAS, idling vehicles emit pollutants such as greenhouse gasses, hydrocarbons, nitrogen oxides, carbon monoxide, particulate matter, and other toxic air contaminants that are harmful to both the environment and to human health; and

WHEREAS, the emissions produced by idling vehicles can cause health issues such as increased rates of heart and lung diseases and can aggravate lung illnesses such as acute respiratory infections, asthma, chronic bronchitis, emphysema, and lung cancer; and

WHEREAS, poor air quality is most impactful to those with respiratory disease and for children because their lungs are still developing, and to other vulnerable populations including pregnant women, elderly people, and people with compromised immune systems; and

WHEREAS, idling is not generally beneficial to a vehicle because it wears engine parts;

WHEREAS, idling a vehicle for more than 10 seconds uses more fuel and emits more pollutants than turning a vehicle off and on again; and

WHEREAS, education about reducing idling can raise awareness and encourage the Lafayette community to develop climate-friendly habits; and

WHEREAS, the Lafayette community can improve air quality by turning off vehicles whenever idling would occur for 30 seconds or longer; and

WHEREAS, if the ambient temperatures in Lafayette exceed 85 degrees Fahrenheit or fall below 35 degrees Fahrenheit, vehicles may keep their engine running to prevent heat and cold-related health impacts; and

WHEREAS, if a vehicle is running by electricity while idling, then this vehicle may run its engine while stationed; and

WHEREAS the City of Lafayette's Environmental Action Plan, Transportation Program 3.4 states, "Encourage Sustainable Lafayette to work with the School District to promote a campaign to be 'idle-free';

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the City Council of the City of Lafayette hereby:

1. Declares Lafayette to be an Idle-Free City and encourages residents, visitors, employees, and other individuals within City limits not to exceed 30 seconds of vehicle idling time;
2. Encourages vehicles to turn off their engines immediately at schools and off-site

school related events to minimize exposure of children to vehicle emissions;

- 3. Commits to not idle municipal vehicles with the exception of cars used by patrol officers while on duty and maintain those vehicles to eliminate any visible exhaust and comply with the annual inspection requirements; and
- 4. Supports broad education of the public about the health, environmental, and economic impacts of idling and supports actions to reduce idling.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED this __ day of October 2022, by the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Mayor:

ATTEST:

City Clerk:

Reso. No. _____, Item _____, Adopted _____