



Administrative Policies & Procedures

Policy No. CORP XX – Anti-Idling Policy

Topic:	Anti-Idling Policy	Affects:	All Staff and Public
Section:	Insert section based on numbering system	Replaces:	N/A
Original Policy Date:	October 6th, 2020	Revision Date:	N/A
Effective Date:	TBD	Proposed Revision Date:	2023
Prepared By:	PDS-Engineering, By-Law Services, Communications	Approval Authority:	Council

1.0 Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to establish guidelines for unnecessary idling of vehicles by the public and Town staff. These guidelines support existing Town Bylaws, limiting vehicle idling by the public, specifically:

By-law Number 4787-06P Schedule A - General Noise Prohibitions, Section 9, where:

The operation of an engine or motor in, or on, any vehicle or item of attached auxiliary equipment for a continuous period of more than five minutes while such vehicle is stationary.

By-law Number 4752-05.P Section 30. Other Activities, where:

No person shall while in a park or public place: (c) cause a nuisance in a park or public place within the Town of Aurora;

Where “nuisance” includes shouting, screaming, unusual noises, ringing of bells, sounding of horns, blowing of whistles, squealing of tires, revving of engines, the idling of engines more than five(5) minutes;

2.0 Scope

This policy applies to all unnecessarily vehicle idling within the Town boundary.

3.0 Responsibilities

Bylaw Services:

Municipal Bylaw Officers are responsible for responding to complaints related to non-compliance of the Policy by the general public and for implementing an

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education first campaign in cases of failure to comply.

Town Communications:

Corporate Communications, in collaboration with Bylaw Services, is responsible for providing information and public education on this policy and more specifically about the adverse effects of unnecessary idling on our environment. In alignment with The Town of Aurora Community Engagement Policy, Communications will be informing the public of this new policy, providing timely, accurate and accessible information, as well as subsequent periodic campaigns. This will be achieved through a robust education campaign that will include website updates, physical signage, social media, and mention in the Town Notice Board.

Town Fleet Manager

The Town's Fleet Manager is responsible for ensuring Town Staff compliance under the Green Fleet Policy, through the application and training of this policy. The employees' Supervisor/Manager will work in conjunction with Human Resources to address infractions associated with this policy.

4.0 Policy

No person shall cause or permit a vehicle to idle continuously for more than five (5) consecutive minutes in the Town of Aurora.

5.0 Exemptions

The following exemptions exists for idling in the Town:

- (a) where continuous operation of the engine or motor is essential to the basic function of the vehicle or equipment;
- (b) where weather conditions justify the use of heating or refrigeration system powered by the engine or motor for the safety or welfare of the operator, passengers or animals or the preservation of perishable cargo.

6.0 Non Compliance

In cases where voluntary compliance is not successful, the Bylaw Services will rely on existing legislation found in the Town's Parks #4752-05 and Noise By-law

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#4787-06, as amended to achieve compliance with this policy.

7.0 Implementation

Municipal Staff:

In accordance with the Town's Green Fleet Policy, Municipal staff that operate Town vehicles undergo an anti-idling training and shall adhere to the provisions from that Policy. For more information, refer to the Town's Green Fleet Policy.

General Public:

Education will be the main strategy with the general public in implementing the provisions in this Policy.

The Town's Communications Team will lead three types of education campaigns:

- (1) An Initial Anti-Idling Town-wide Campaign, which consists of a onetime promotion of the Policy, over the course of a Season, once the Policy is approved by Council. The campaign's main focus is on the environmental and health benefits of limiting idling and on the existing Town By-laws that limit idling in the Town.
- (2) Periodic and Targeted Anti-Idling Campaigns, which consists of educating a focused group based on needs. Periodic focus groups may include, but not limited to:
 - a. GO station users
 - b. School zones
 - c. Town recreation centres
 - d. Bus stations and carpool parking lots
- (3) Seasonal Reminder Campaign, which consists of an annual reminder of the Policy to the general public.

Campaign strategies may include, but not limited to, social media announcements, Town NoticeBoard, the use of signage, handing out flyers, etc.

8.0 Regulatory/References/Codes/Standards

By-law Number 4787-06

By-law Number 4752-05.P

Town of Aurora Green Fleet Policy

Attachment 2 - Local Best Practices (Municipal Scan) on Limiting Idling

Many municipalities, especially in regions that suffer from frequent smog episodes, have adopted policies and programs to address unnecessary vehicle idling. The most common initiative is the development of by-laws that target vehicle engine idling. Currently, more than 35 Ontario municipalities have either stand-alone idling control by-laws, or anti-idling provisions within other by-laws. Some local examples are listed here:

Town of Newmarket

In 2005, the Town of Newmarket Council enacted By-law No. 2005-157 to Prohibit Excessive Idling of Vehicles within the Town of Newmarket. These regulations prohibit the idling of motor vehicles for more than 2 minutes. The By-law also provides exemptions for emergency vehicles, public transit, vehicles in parades, vehicles with passengers with a medical letter and during extreme weather conditions (below 5° and above 27°C).

<https://www.newmarket.ca/LivingHere/Documents/2005-157%20Prohibition%20of%20Excessive%20idling.pdf>

Town of East Gwillimbury

In 2019, the Town of East Gwillimbury Council enacted By-law No. 2019-085 To Prohibit Excessive Idling of Vehicles within the Town of East Gwillimbury. These regulations prohibit the idling of motor vehicles for more than 3 minutes. The By-law also provides exemptions for emergency vehicles or vehicles involved in an emergency or traffic violation, vehicles receiving or discharging passengers, public transit, vehicles in parades, funeral processions, or due to traffic, mobile workshops and during extreme weather conditions (below 5° and above 27°C).

<http://www.eastgwillimbury.ca/Assets/Idling+control+Bylaw+2019-085.pdf>

City of Richmond Hill

On June 24, 2020 Richmond Hill Council enacted By-law No. 44-20 to Regulate the Idling of Vehicles within the City of Richmond Hill. These regulations prohibit the idling of motor vehicles for more than 3 minutes. The By-law also provides exemptions for emergency vehicles or vehicles involved in an emergency or traffic violation, public transit, armored vehicles, vehicles stopped due to rail crossing, in drive thru or due to traffic, vehicles with passengers with a medical letter, mobile workshops, unanchored or tied boats, and during extreme weather conditions (below 5° and above 30°C).

<https://www.richmondhill.ca/en/shared-content/resources/Idling-By-law-44-20.pdf>

City of Markham

In 2005, the City of Markham Council enacted By-law 2005-192 to Regulate the Unnecessary Idling of Vehicles within the City of Markham. These regulations prohibit the idling of motor vehicles for more than 3 minutes. The By-law also provides exemptions for emergency vehicles or vehicles involved in an emergency or traffic violation, public transit, armored vehicles, vehicles stopped due to traffic or involved in parades, receiving or discharging passengers, stopped due to weather conditions.

https://www.markham.ca/wps/wcm/connect/markham/cb23cfb4-647c-4aa5-b6ba-9e262a64b408/Bylaw-2005-192.pdf?MOD=AJPERES&CONVERT_TO=url&CACHEID=ROOTWORKSPACE.Z18_2QD4H901OGV160QC8BLCRJ1001-cb23cfb4-647c-4aa5-b6ba-9e262a64b408-mrLW-bz

Township of King

In 2005, the City of Markham Council enacted By-law 2005-192 to Prohibit and Regulate Certain Types of Noise within the Township of King in residential areas and quiet zones. These regulations prohibit the idling of any motor vehicle or item of attached auxiliary equipment for more than 5 minutes. The By-law also provides exemptions for when equipment requires idling for proper function, due to weather conditions and idling for the purpose of cleaning or flushing radiators.

[http://www.king.ca/Government/Departments/By-Law%20Enforcement%20Services/By-Law%20Enforcement%20Issues/Documents/81-142%20-%20Noise%20By-law%20\(Consolidation\).pdf](http://www.king.ca/Government/Departments/By-Law%20Enforcement%20Services/By-Law%20Enforcement%20Issues/Documents/81-142%20-%20Noise%20By-law%20(Consolidation).pdf)

Attachment 3
THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF AURORA

By-law Number 4787-06.P

***BEING A BY-LAW to
regulate and prohibit the
causing of noise in the
Town of Aurora.***

WHEREAS Subsection 129 (1) of the *Municipal Act 2001*, S.O. 2001, c. 25 as amended, authorizes Council to enact a by-law to prohibit and regulate with respect to noise;

NOW THEREFORE the Council of the Corporation of the Town of Aurora enacts as follows:

1. DEFINITIONS:

- (a) **construction** includes the erection, alteration, repair, dismantling, demolition, structural maintenance of buildings, land clearing, earth moving, grading, excavation, blasting and detonation of explosive devices other than fireworks, the laying of pipe, and conduit whether above or below ground level, highway building, concreting, equipment installation and alteration and the structural installation of construction components and materials in any form or for any purpose, and includes any associated or related work;
- (b) **construction equipment** means any equipment or device designated and intended for use in construction or material handling, including but not limited to air compressors, pile drivers, pneumatic or hydraulic tools, bulldozers, tractors, excavators, trenchers, cranes, derricks, loaders, scrapers, pavers, generators, off-highway haulers, trucks, ditchers, compactors and rollers, pumps, concrete mixers, graders, or other material handling equipment;
- (c) **commercial area** means all areas zoned as commercial under the Town's Zoning By-law as amended;
- (d) **corporation** means The Corporation of the Town of Aurora;
- (e) **emergency** means a situation or an impending situation, which may be dangerous, caused by the forces of nature, an accident, an intentional act or otherwise, which arises suddenly and requires prompt action to remedy the situation;
- (f) **emergency vehicle** includes an ambulance, air ambulance, police helicopter, police vehicle, a fire department vehicle and any vehicle used to respond to an emergency;
- (g) **industrial area** means all areas zoned as industrial or business park under the Town's *Zoning By-law* as amended;
- (h) **motor vehicle** includes an automobile, bus, truck, motorcycle, motor assisted bicycle and any other vehicle propelled or driven other than by muscular power;
- (i) **municipal service vehicle** means a vehicle operated by or on behalf of the Corporation while the vehicle is being used for the construction, repair or maintenance of a highway, including the removal of snow, the construction, repair or maintenance of a utility service, the collection or transportation of waste, or any other municipal service;

- (j) **noise** means any unwanted and excessive noise;
- (k) **person** includes a corporation, a person, partnership or sole proprietorship;
- (l) **premises** means a piece of land and any buildings and structures on it and includes a place of business, road or any other location or place;
- (m) **residence** means a room, suite of rooms, or dwelling, operated as a housekeeping unit that is used or intended to be used as a separate domicile by one or more persons, and that normally contains cooking, eating, living, sleeping and sanitary facilities;
- (n) **residential area** means all areas zoned as residential under the Town's *Zoning By-law* as amended;
- (o) **public holidays** means those holidays as defined by the Employment Standards Act, 2000 which consists of the following: New Years Day, Good Friday, Victoria Day, Canada Day, Labour Day, Thanksgiving Day, Christmas Day, and December 26.
- (p) **town** means The Corporation of the Town of Aurora.

2. SCOPE:

- 2.1 The general prohibitions on activities described in Schedule A shall apply to the lands within the Town of Aurora at all times.
- 2.2 The prohibitions on activities by time and place described in Schedule B shall apply to the lands within residential areas, commercial and industrial areas of the Town during the days and between the hours specified in Schedule B.
- 2.3 The general exemptions described in Schedule C shall apply to lands within the Town of Aurora at all times.

3. ADMINISTRATION:

- 3.1 The By-law Services Section of the Town of Aurora will be responsible for the administration and enforcement of this by-law.
- 3.2 All Provincial Offences Officers with the authority to enforce the by-laws of the Town of Aurora as well as officers of the York Regional Police Dept. have the authority to enforce the provisions of this by-law.
- 3.3 Any person may apply for an exemption to the prohibitions described in the attached Schedules of this by-law.
- 3.4 Applications for exemptions for sections 3, 10, & 11 of Schedule B of this by-law shall be directed to By-law Services Section for consideration. All other exemption requests shall be forwarded to Council in writing for consideration and its decision shall be final.
- 3.5 If an application for exemption to the by-law is approved, the exemption will be in effect for the dates and times specified and with any imposed conditions therein.
- 3.6 If any of the exemption conditions imposed is contravened, the exemption shall be immediately revoked.

4. APPLICATION:

- 4.1 No person shall, at any time, make, cause, or permit the making of noise within the Town that is the result of any of the activities described in Schedule A and that is audible to:
- (a) a person on or in a premises other than the premises from which the noise is originating; or
 - (b) a person in a residence other than the residence from which the noise is originating.
- 4.2 No person shall, during the days and between the hours specified in Schedule B, make, cause or permit the making of noise within the residential, commercial or industrial areas as defined by the Town's *Zoning By-law* as amended, that is the result of any of the activities described in Schedule B and that is audible to:
- (1) a person on or in a premises other than the premises from which the noise is originating; or
 - (2) a person in a residence other than the residence from which the noise is originating.

5. EXEMPTIONS:

- 5.1 The prohibitions described in Schedules A and B do not apply if the noise is the result of measures undertaken in an emergency for the:
- (1) immediate health, safety or welfare of the persons and animals;
 - (2) preservation or restoration of property.
- 5.2 The prohibitions described in Schedules A and B do not apply if the noise is the result of the activities described in Schedule C.
- 5.3 The prohibitions described in Schedules A and B do not apply if the noise is the result of an activity that has been granted an exemption under section 3.4.

6. SCHEDULES:

The following Schedules are attached and form part of this by-law:

Schedule A	General Noise Prohibitions
Schedule B	Noise Prohibitions by Time and Place
Schedule C	Exemptions to the Noise Prohibitions

7. OFFENCE AND PENALTY PROVISIONS:

Any person who contravenes the provisions of this by-law is guilty of an offence and, upon conviction, is subject to a fine as provided for in the *Provincial Offences Act* and to any other applicable penalties.

8. COMMENCEMENT:

This by-law comes into force upon enactment by Council.

9. REPEAL OF BY-LAW:

By-law Number 4746-05.P is hereby repealed.

10. SEVERABILITY:

Each and every one of the provisions of this By-law is severable and if any provisions of this By-law should, for any reason, be declared invalid by any court, it is the intention and desire of this Council that each and every of the then remaining provisions hereof shall remain in full force and effect.

READ A FIRST AND SECOND TIME THIS 9TH DAY OF MAY, 2006.

READ A THIRD TIME AND FINALLY PASSED THIS 9TH DAY OF MAY, 2006.

P. MORRIS, DEPUTY MAYOR

B. PANIZZA, CLERK

SCHEDULE A

GENERAL NOISE PROHIBITIONS
(SUBJECT TO SECTION 4.1)

1. The operation of a motor vehicle other than on a highway.
2. The operation of a motor vehicle in such a way as to squeal the tires.
3. The operation of a combustion engine or pneumatic device without an effective exhaust muffling device that is not in good working order and in constant operation.
4. The operation of any construction equipment without an effective exhaust muffling device.
5. The operation of a vehicle in a manner that results in banging, clanking, squealing, or similar sounds.
6. The operation of a horn of a vehicle or other warning device except where required or authorized for safety reasons.
7. Persistent barking, calling or whining or other similar persistent noise making by any domestic pet or any other animal kept or used for any purpose other than agriculture.
8. The unauthorized setting off of fireworks.
9. The operation of an engine or motor in, or on, any vehicle or item of attached auxiliary equipment for a continuous period of more than five minutes while such vehicle is stationary unless:
 - (a) the continuous operation of the engine or motor is essential to the basic function of the vehicle or equipment;
 - (b) the weather conditions justify the use of heating or refrigeration system powered by the engine or motor for the safety or welfare of the operator, passengers or animals or the preservation of perishable cargo.

SCHEDULE B**NOISE PROHIBITIONS BY TIME AND PLACE**
(SUBJECT TO SECTION 4.2)

Activity	Prohibited Times		
	Residential Areas	Commercial Areas	Industrial Areas
1. Operation of any construction equipment in connection with construction.	C and F	C and F	C and F
2. Erection, alteration, repair, dismantling, of any structure or activity related to construction.	C and F	C and F	C and F
3. The exterior operation of any device or group of connected devices intended for the production, or reproduction of amplified voices, music or sound.	A	C	C
4. The interior operation of any device or group of connected devices intended for the production, or reproduction of amplified voices, music or sound.	C	C	C
5. Operation of a combustion engine that (i) is, or (ii) is used in, or (iii) is intended for use in a toy or model or replica of a larger device, which is not a vehicle for transport and which has no purpose other than amusement.	D	E	E
6. Operation of an outdoor solid waste bulk lift or refuse compacting equipment.	C	C	C
7. Operation of a mechanical commercial car wash.	E	E	D
8. Operation of a public address system	A	C and F	C and F
9. Operation of voice activated drive-thru order facilities.	A	E	E
10. Operation of any electrical or gas powered tools for domestic purposes other than for snow removal.	D	D	E
11. Loading, unloading, delivering or otherwise handling any containers, products or refuse unless necessary for the maintenance of an essential service.	C and F	D	E
12. Yelling, shouting, hooting, whistling, singing, the playing of musical instruments, or any other noise.	C	E	F
13. Private and community functions held on private property	E	E	E

Prohibited Times

- A. At any time
- B. 1700 (5:00pm) of one day to 0700 hours (7:00 am) of the next day & 0900 hours (9:00 am) Sundays
- C. 1900 (7:00pm) of one day to 0700 hours (7:00 am) of the next day
- D. 2100 (9:00pm) of one day to 0700 hours (7:00 am) of the next day & 0900 hours (9:00 am) Sundays
- E. 2300 (11:00pm) of one day to 0700 hours (7:00 am) of the next day & 0900 hours (9:00 am) Sundays
- F. All day Sundays and Public Holidays

SCHEDULE C

EXEMPTIONS FROM THE NOISE PROHIBITIONS

1. Operation of emergency vehicles.
2. Operation of municipal service vehicles, including municipally contacted services, and related equipment including equipment for snow removal.
3. Authorized displays of fireworks.
4. Midways, carnivals or circuses approved by the Town.
5. Races, parades, processions and events for ceremonial, religious purposes that have been authorized by the Town.
6. Operation of bells, chimes, carillons, and clocks in churches, schools and buildings that are open.
7. Cultural, recreational, educational and political events in parks and other public places that have been authorized by the Town where required.
8. Events open to the community on municipal property or highways that have been authorized by the Town.
9. Non-emergency construction, reconstruction or repair of any municipal, provincial or federal public works including the construction, reconstruction or repair of a public highway provided the Town of Aurora is given advanced written notice of the hours to be worked if outside the permitted construction hours.
10. Operation of bells utilized as traffic control devices including the following:
 - (a) bells and other devices at traffic signal locations;
 - (b) bells at railway crossings.
11. Businesses located in Industrial Zones possessing a current and valid Ministry of Environment Certificate of Approval for Air Emissions where required.

Help slow the spread of COVID-19: Please practise physical distancing, don't gather in groups of more than ten people, and stay home when you are sick. Information on this webpage may not be accurate. Visit barrie.ca/services to confirm the current status of City services.

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Related Links

Anti-Idling

The City of Barrie, in partnership with the **Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit** (<http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org/Home.aspx>) and **Natural Resources Canada** (<http://www.nrcan.gc.ca/home>), are teaming together to generate an increased awareness about idling so we can all work towards a greener community and environment.

The City is not sitting idle on this issue and is currently working on an idle control policy that will minimize idling of City vehicles, saving money and reducing harmful emissions to the environment. This is part of the **Greening Barrie's Fleet** (<http://www.barrie.ca/City%20Hall/Departments/InfrastructureAndGrowthManagement/Pages/Operations.aspx#fleet>) initiative.

What is Idling?

Idling is running a vehicle's engine when the vehicle is not in motion. It commonly occurs when drivers are stopped at a red light, waiting while parked outside a business or residence, or otherwise stationary with the engine running. If you keep your engine on while you wait to pick someone up, you are idling.

Idling Facts

- An idling engine produces twice as many emissions as a moving vehicle.
- Idling increases your maintenance costs. When an engine idles, the engine oil becomes dirty more quickly than when a car is moving.
- A single bus can take 40 vehicles off the road, saving 70,000 litres of fuel and 9 tonnes of pollutants each year!
- 10 seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting your car.
- Idling gets you nowhere and wastes your money; an idling engine gives you zero kilometres per litre.

Idling Myths

Myth: Restarting the engine uses more gas than idling.

Reality: An engine restart uses fuel approximately equal to 10 seconds of idling.

Myth: Restarting the engine causes greater engine wear than idling.

Reality: Restarting causes less.

Myth: Cars need to idle to warm up the engine.

Reality: The engine warms up faster when being driven.

Winter Idling Tips

In the peak of winter, studies show Canadian motorists idle their vehicles for about eight minutes a day, resulting in a combined total of more than 75 million minutes of idling per day.

- The best way to warm up a car in winter is to drive it! Even at -18°C, most cars need only 15 to 30 seconds of idling before being driven.
- To reduce idling, avoid using a remote car starter during reasonably warm weather (above -10°C).

Summer Idling Tips

Many motorists idle their cars in the summer in an effort to cool it down with air conditioning. Rather than letting it idle, you have alternatives:

- **Try to park in the shade.** It may mean a longer walk, but the additional exercise will be good for you!
- **Use a car sun shade.** This foldable cover that is placed on your dashboard will help prevent those hot rays from heating up your car when you return.
- **Use your windows.** By leaving the windows down half an inch you will be keeping the air moving. Roll down the windows for a few minutes before you get in or open and close the door a few times to help fan the cooler air in.

What Else Can You Do to Reduce Idling?

- Be more aware of the amount of time you idle.
- Reduce "warm-up" idling before driving away making sure your vehicle's windows are clear. Wheel bearings, steering, suspension, transmission and tires are only warmed when the vehicle is moving. It typically takes at least five kilometres of driving to warm up these components.
- Turn your engine off if parked for more than 60 seconds during reasonably warm weather (above -10°C).
- Stuck in traffic, using a drive-thru, picking up someone at school or waiting for a train to go by? Shut off the vehicle! Ten seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting your engine.
- Consider using other ways to get around, such as public transit, driving an electric vehicle (EV), walking, biking or jogging instead of driving. *Related page: [Active Transportation](http://www.barrie.ca/Living/Getting%20Around/Pages/ActiveTransportation.aspx)* (<http://www.barrie.ca/Living/Getting%20Around/Pages/ActiveTransportation.aspx>)

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Find this page at: <http://www.barrie.ca/Living/Environment/Conservation/Pages/Anti-Idling.aspx>

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