
FW: NOLA OIG City Council Vehicle Exemption Request

From Clerk of Council <clerkofcouncil@nola.gov>

Date Wed 8/20/2025 12:23 PM

To Naomi R. Mark <nrmark@nola.gov>; Denise M. Russ <dmruss@nola.gov>; Denise Mills <dmills@nola.gov>; Cecil C. Hartzog <cchartzog@nola.gov>

 1 attachment (492 KB)

NOLA OIG City Council Vehicle Exemption Request.pdf;

From: Sayde F. Finkel <Sayde.Finkel@nola.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 10:25 AM

To: Alison Broyles <abroyles@nolaoig.gov>

Cc: Ed Michel <emichel@nolaoig.gov>; Michael Laughlin <mlaughlin@nolaoig.gov>; chorne@nolaoig.gov; Steven Krueger <skrueger@nolaoig.gov>; Clerk of Council <clerkofcouncil@nola.gov>; Amanda B. Rizzo <Amanda.Rizzo@nola.gov>; LeeAnn M Moss <LeeAnn.Moss@nola.gov>

Subject: Re: NOLA OIG City Council Vehicle Exemption Request

Allie:

Thank you for including the clerkofcouncil@nola.gov email. They are the appropriate recipients of your request to ensure this moves forward timely.

So that everyone is on the same I included the legislation below.

Next Steps:

- Asking the Clerk's Office to note this communication on an upcoming agenda.
- This request is then referred to the **Council's Budget Committee (chaired by CM Giarrusso)** for consideration. I have included his staff here- Amanda Rizzo and LeeAnn Moss- so they are aware.

Thank you!
Sayde

The Section of the Code addressing the requirement of e-vehicles for the City fleet is outlined here: [Sec. 2-905.- Elimination of fossil-fuel-powered vehicles.](#)

Sec. 2-905. Elimination of fossil-fuel-powered vehicles.

- (a) The city shall not purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire passenger vehicles powered by fossil-fuel-burning internal combustion engines, including non-plug-in electric hybrids. This prohibition shall be phased in as follows:
- (1) Beginning in 2023, the city shall no longer purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire any passenger vehicle that does not meet the then-current model year greenhouse gas emissions thresholds for that vehicle type, as established pursuant to Section 141 of the 2007 Energy Independence and Security Act (42 U.S.C. § 13212) and the implementing regulations.

(2) Beginning in 2025, the city shall no longer purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire passenger vehicles powered by fossil-fuel-burning internal combustion engines and may purchase, lease, or otherwise acquire only passenger vehicles powered by alternative propulsion technologies, including plug-in electric hybrid vehicles, battery-electric vehicles, hydrogen fuel cell vehicles, and any vehicle propelled by a zero-tailpipe-emissions technology, as defined by the U.S. Department of Energy and/or the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

(b) Any exemption from section 2-905(a) must be approved by council motion. Exemptions are disfavored and may be granted only on a case-by-case basis. Prior to entering negotiations for vehicle acquisition, the department seeking an exemption must submit a written request to the city council for the acquisition that sets forth a substantial public-safety justification for the exemption. The written request shall be forwarded to the council's budget committee for consideration before it may be considered by the full council. The council shall accept, modify, or deny the exemption by motion.

Sayde Faraday Finkel, JD

Chief of Staff

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Please be advised that communications to and from this e-mail address are subject to provisions of the State of Louisiana Public Records Act.

From: Alison Broyles <abroyles@nolaoig.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, August 20, 2025 9:14 AM

To: Sayde F. Finkel <Sayde.Finkel@nola.gov>

Cc: Moreno Council Shared <morenocouncil@nola.gov>; Ed Michel <emichel@nolaoig.gov>; Michael Laughlin <mlaughlin@nolaoig.gov>; chorne@nolaoig.gov <chorne@nolaoig.gov>; Steven Krueger <skrueger@nolaoig.gov>; Clerk of Council <clerkofcouncil@nola.gov>

Subject: NOLA OIG City Council Vehicle Exemption Request

INTER-AGENCY EMAIL

Hello,

I am Deputy Inspector General for the New Orleans OIG. I was states to send the request to the Council and I was given your contact information.

I respectfully submit this memorandum to formally request an exemption to Ordinance No. 2028930, Section 2-905, which mandates the elimination of fossil fuel-powered vehicles within city jurisdiction.

While I fully support and commend the City Council's commitment to environmental sustainability and reducing carbon emissions, compelling operational and logistical considerations necessitate the purchase of a gas-powered vehicle by the Office of Inspector General. Additionally, our office has more than sufficient funds in our budget to cover this expense.

Please see the attached memo for the justification request.

Please call me with any questions.



Allie Broyles, CPA, CFE, CIG, CIGA
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This correspondence is part of an ongoing investigation, examination, audit, inspection, or performance review and is exempt from the Public Records Act until the investigation, examination, audit, inspection, or performance review is complete. See La. R.S. 33:9614 and La. R.S. 44:4.1(B)(18). Please notify this office immediately should you receive a Public Records Request which includes this correspondence.

TO: New Orleans City Council
FROM: Edward Michel, Inspector General
DATE: August 18th, 2025
SUBJECT: Request for Exemption to Ordinance 2028930, Section 2-905: Elimination of Fossil Fuel-Powered Vehicles

Dear Honorable Members of the New Orleans City Council,

I respectfully submit this memorandum to formally request an exemption to Ordinance No. 2028930, Section 2-905, which mandates the elimination of fossil fuel-powered vehicles within city jurisdiction.

While I fully support and commend the City Council's commitment to environmental sustainability and reducing carbon emissions, compelling operational and logistical considerations necessitate the purchase of a gas-powered vehicle by the Office of Inspector General. Additionally, our office has more than sufficient funds in our budget to cover this expense.

Justification for Exemption Request:

1. Operational Necessity:

The vehicle for which the exemption is requested serves a critical function that electric or alternative-fuel models cannot currently meet due to limitations in procurement, range, power capacity, and specialized equipment compatibility.

2. Infrastructure Limitations:

The current availability of charging stations and maintenance support for alternative energy vehicles in our area remains insufficient to sustain uninterrupted service operations. Additionally, our Lease Agreement with the Federal Reserve Bank for our office space prohibits us from making any alterations to the property and from using electrical current that exceeds the existing feeders, risers or wiring installation, so we will not be able to install charging stations at our office location.

3. Commitment to Transition:

We remain committed to aligning with the city's environmental goals and propose a detailed timeline for transitioning to alternative energy vehicles, contingent upon infrastructure development and budgetary allowances. We have adequate monies allotted within our independent budget for the expense of a new vehicle.

4. Law Enforcement Capabilities:

Our vehicles are used primarily by our Investigators and are critical to our function as law enforcement agents. We currently have only one reliable vehicle for our department.

In light of the above, we respectfully request a formal exemption for purchasing one new vehicle for use by our department.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Edward Michel
Inspector General
New Orleans Office of Inspector General