



Mayor Michael B. Coleman

# **City of Columbus Green Fleet Action Plan**

2011-2014

Department of Finance and Management  
Division of Fleet Management

**City of Columbus  
Green Fleet Action Plan  
2011-2014**

**Mayor Michael B. Coleman**

**Section 1: Introduction**

Mayor Coleman continues to be a front-runner in the Midwest in “greening” our environment. The past several years have yielded significant accomplishments toward this end goal, including:

- City of Columbus awarded the 7<sup>th</sup> “greenest” fleet in the country by Government Fleet in 2010
- Environmental Stewardship Award (2009) presented to Mayor Coleman by Government Fleet Magazine, Bobbitt Publishing for public sector fleets in the USA
- “Environmental Leadership” award received from the Ohio Environmental Council for our 2009 green fleet initiatives
- City of Columbus awarded the 22<sup>nd</sup> “greenest” fleet in the country by Government Fleet in 2009

In 2008, Mayor Coleman issued the City’s first Green Fleet Action Plan (available at [www.getgreencolumbus.com](http://www.getgreencolumbus.com)). This plan addresses the management, operation and procurement of Columbus fleet vehicles in order to improve vehicle energy efficiency and reduce emissions. This was a plan for greening our city’s fleet and addressed the most pressing issues of the time, with most targets and goals going through 2010. The majority of targets of the original plan were met, including:

- Reduction of overall fuel consumption by almost 2% since the plan was implemented
- Significantly increasing our use of bio-fuels
- Implementation of our first CNG refuse truck demonstrating reduced carbon emission and fuel savings
- Retrofitting all eligible diesel vehicles with emission reduction equipment and anti-idling equipment
- Increasing our purchases of “green” vehicles

This updated plan is intended to lead us through the next phase of greening the City’s fleet and strengthening our efforts to reduce our carbon footprint. It is based on the City’s 2008 original plan and Mayor Coleman’s 2005 Green Memo. The goals of this plan remain the same – to reduce fleet petroleum use and reduce vehicle emissions, while realizing cost efficiencies when possible.

## Section 2: City of Columbus Facts

- The City of Columbus Fleet Management Division maintains over 5,600 pieces of equipment
  - Approximately 3000 are on-road vehicles, i.e., cars, trucks, SUVs, etc.
  - Approximately 2600 are off-road, e.g. construction equipment
- 3,528,452 gallons of fuel consumed in 2010
  - 945,167 gallons biodiesel (68% of all diesel purchased was biodiesel)
    - B2: 180,008 gallons
    - B5: 557,014 gallons
    - B20: 208,145 gallons
  - E-85 – 3566 gallons (<1% of total unleaded)
  - CNG – 3701 gge (<1% of total diesel)
- 30,231,140 total miles were driven in 2010 by all city-owned vehicles
- City population of 769,360

## Section 3: Metrics

### Immediate/On-going Initiatives:

- **Measure:** Total annual City fuel use (includes **all** fuel used- bio, ethanol, petroleum, CNG, etc.)
  - **Target: Reduce overall City fuel use by 2% compared to 2010 usage by 2014**  
**Accomplish through:** Working with city agencies to right-size and downsize the fleet, refine and enhance “green” procurement policies, greater promotion of the anti-idling policy, GPS and AVL telematic technologies, and long-range planning and use of vehicle replacement plan
- **Measure:** Total annual City petroleum use (includes **only** petroleum fuel- does not include “green” fuels - bio fuels, ethanol, CNG, etc.)
  - **Target: Reduce annual petroleum use by 5% compared to 2010 levels by the end of 2014**  
**Accomplish through:** Increased use of alternative-fueled vehicles- hybrids, CNG and flex fuel, and greater use of biodiesel
- **Measure:** Percentage of City bulk diesel purchases that are a biodiesel blend (at least B2 and up to B20 depending on season)
  - **Target: 100% by end of 2013**
    - **75% by end of 2011**
    - **85% by end of 2012**
  - Accomplish through:** Cleaning of diesel tanks so that all tanks can be switched to biodiesel

- **Measure:** Light duty vehicle purchases that are considered green
  - **Target: 50% by end of 2011**  
**Accomplish through:** Continue to enforce “environmentally preferable purchasing” policy, continue to review all vehicle specifications in conjunction with the end user agency and the Purchasing Office to ensure the most “green” vehicles possible are being specified, continue to meet with City divisions to review purchase requests in order to right-size vehicles for their intended purpose
  
- **Measure:** Heavy-duty truck purchases that are considered green
  - **Target:** Purchase at least 22 heavy duty CNG trucks and 5 heavy duty hybrid trucks through federal grant programs  
**Accomplish through:** Implementation of CMAQ and Clean Cities grant for 2010 funded vehicle purchases to be received in first half of 2011
  
- **Measure:** Create CNG fueling infrastructure
  - **Target:** Construct and open the first City-owned CNG fueling station at Groves Road by November 1, 2011  
**Accomplish through:** Implementation of Clean Cities grant for construction and operation of a CNG fueling station

#### Long-term Initiatives:

- Expand CNG fueling infrastructure
  - **Target:** Identify the location of the next CNG City-owned fueling station(s) and secure funding by end of 2011; begin design by end of 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter 2012
- Expand numbers of CNG heavy duty vehicle fleet
  - **Target:** As fueling infrastructure grows, create strategy for increasing the number of heavy duty CNG vehicles to keep pace with infrastructure growth
- Reduction of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from City vehicles
  - **Target:** Establish baseline and reliable measurement tool to calculate GHG emissions from City-owned vehicles; establish target for GHG reduction by end of 2011
- Electric vehicle use
  - **Target:** Explore electric vehicle options and infrastructure available and viable to the City of Columbus operations; explore cost and funding opportunities
- Green Off Road Vehicles
  - **Target:** Explore available “green” off road options such as propane mowers and electric golf carts at city-owned golf courses, etc.
- Help create a green infrastructure
  - **Target:** Cooperate with other Central Ohio private and public fleets in alternative fuel procurement, in refueling station placement and in demonstrating new technologies

## **Section 4: Next Steps**

Achievement of these goals and targets will require the cooperation and participation of all City department and divisions. The Fleet Management Division, with support from the Mayor's Environmental Steward's Office, will take the lead in implementing these initiatives and will track the progress of the targets. However, each city division should be responsible for calculating and tracking its own carbon footprint. Updates will be provided at mid-year and year-end that outline the activity that has taken place. The Mayor's Green Team will be kept informed about the progress of the plan and will have the opportunity to provide input and assist in monitoring progress. We expect this document to be fluid- new technology, new grant opportunities, funding challenges, etc. are constantly happening. Every effort will be made to take advantage of the best options available to green our fleet, while minimally impacting City operations.