From: Megan Smith
To: Grp. City Council and City Web Site
Subject: Idling Patrol Vehicles
Date: Monday, April 5, 2021 6:16:27 PM

Good Evening,

I have noticed recently how often police vehicles are idling around City Hall.
This occurs for hours every day, including directly in front of the newly placed "No Idling" signs.
Not only is it occurring for hours every day often there are SEVERAL different patrol cars idling in the City Hall parking lot for LONG periods of time.

I find this incredibly frustrating for several reasons:
-Idling is bad for the environment – the number of carbon emissions being released into the atmosphere and negatively impacting Missoula's air quality has to be enormous.
-Idling is bad for the vehicles' engines – these patrol cars are paid for by tax payers who already feel over taxed. They should not have to pay to replace them more often because officers refuse to turn off their engine.
-Idling uses fuel – again this is paid for by taxpayers. Many of these tax payers are choosing to make sustainable choices in their daily life but are paying for the unsustainable habits of officers
-Idling does not fall in line with the City of Missoula's values, including goals to lower carbon emissions
-Idling in front of "no idling" signs just isn't a good look and doesn't set the example for the Missoula community that officers should be setting.
-City employees are required to pay for parking to encourage sustainable alternatives – MPD parks for free and idles all day long negating any positive impact other employees are creating. I can't imagine this feels very fair to other City employees.

Based on all these reasons and likely more I am asking that the Missoula PD institute a policy of no idling in patrol vehicles. This is in line with the City's values.

Thank you
Megan Smith

Sent from Mail for Windows 10