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## CITY of BEAVERTON

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### NEWS RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **BEAVERTON POLICE DEPARTMENT INSTALLS ENERGY SAVING ANTI-IDLE SYSTEM IN VEHICLES**

**BEAVERTON, Ore.** – The Beaverton Police Department (BPD) is installing energy-saving anti-idle systems in 16 new police vehicles.

The BPD purchased the Eco-Lock anti-idle systems from InterMotive Vehicle Controls. They are currently being installed in Ford Interceptor Utility police vehicles used by officers.

The anti-idle system allows officers to shut off and lock police cars when arriving at an accident or incident, even while the emergency lights and radio are in use. The system monitors battery level and interior temperature, and will start the vehicle to turn on the heat or air conditioning as needed, or if the battery needs to be charged.

The amount of idling time per vehicle varies depending on the day and type of shift. K9 officers, for example, often leave their vehicles running for most of a 10-hour shift for the safety of the K9.

Allowing officers to turn off vehicles for just one hour with the anti-idle system in place can prevent 19 pounds of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere and save half a gallon of fuel. For a police car that idled for an average of seven hours a day for an entire year, the anti-idle system could save \$2,555 in fuel costs and prevent 48,545 pounds of carbon dioxide emissions.

The 16 anti-idle systems were purchased through an internal city sustainability grant program that allows employees to propose innovative and progressive sustainability projects. Previous projects have included rain gardens on Hart Road to improve conditions for stormwater management, a public bike repair station at the Beaverton City Library, volunteer events to plant trees for Arbor Day, and a pilot program in which employees can check out bicycles for work or personal errands instead of driving.

For more information, reminders and community news, visit [www.BeavertonOregon.gov](http://www.BeavertonOregon.gov).

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**Caption:** The Beaverton Police Department's new anti-idle system will allow officers to shut off vehicles to save energy and reduce carbon dioxide emissions, including K9 units which may run all day for the safety of the K9. The BPD is installing the system in 16 new police vehicles. *(Photo/City of Beaverton)*