



Kriss Worthington

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REVISED
CONSENT CALENDAR
October 9, 2007

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

From: Councilmembers Kriss Worthington and Dona Spring

Subject: Increase Percentage Of Bio-Diesel Fuels For City Vehicles

RECOMMENDATION:

Refer to the City Manager an increase in the percent of bio-diesel fuels from the current 20 percent to 100 percent or 50 percent in the next invitation for a bid for fuel for city vehicles and that there be a report back to the City Council regarding this referral before the invitation of a bid.

BACKGROUND:

One of the City of Berkeley's biggest environmental steps was converting the fuel for its vehicle fleet to 100 percent bio-diesel. However after the Council approved this policy, technical issues caused the City to abandon its commitment and go to zero percent bio-diesel. Later the City reinstated the bio-fuel program at 20 percent bio-diesel.

It appears that the market is changing and that many of the technical problems that were identified previously have been addressed. Many companies are successfully switching to 50 percent and 100 percent bio-diesel.

The City should reaffirm its commitment to alternative fuels by exploring the possibility of using 50 percent or 100 bio-diesel as part of the next invitation for a bid for fuel for city vehicles. Such a step would reduce the impact that the city's vehicle fleet has on our environment and could encourage other cities to adopt similar policies helping to further reduce global warming.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

NONE

CONTACT PERSONS:

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