

Fleet Technical Assistance Improves Performance and Finds Cost Savings

The Challenge

Local governments are constantly under pressure to provide cost-efficient services to their residents and often transportation expenses are one of the most expensive line items for any city or county. Transportation expenses run the gambit - vehicles, fuel, maintenance, insurance, parts and repairs. The establishment and effective administration of a fleet management program can have a positive impact on the cost effectiveness and efficiency of a local government's fleet. Efficiencies can often be realized through alternative fuel vehicles and other advanced technologies, targeted policies, driver behavior modifications, and through state-of-the-art fleet operation and management systems. Incorporating these provisions into local government systems requires time and expertise, and many times local governments don't have staff capacity to research regional and national best practices related to fleet planning and operations.

Helping Fleets Improve Economic & Environmental Performance

The Centralina Council of Governments can assist local governments in establishing fleet guidelines to enhance efficiency. While every jurisdiction's fleet is unique, there are commonalities that can be honed for optimal productivity. A typical fleet system review and analysis would include:

- Fleet operation and management systems
- Contracting and procurement
- Fleet composition
- Acquisition and disposal
- Maintenance and repair
- Fuel efficiency and tracking

Through the Centralina Clean Fuels Coalition, a diverse partnership of public and private stakeholders representing fleets and technology providers from across the 9-county region, our services include a comprehensive look at methods to reduce petroleum use. Typical strategies include:

- Alternative and renewable fuels
- Idle-reduction measures
- Fuel economy improvements
- Practice and policy changes
- New transportation technologies

Centralina understands that fleet managers are interested in fleet efficiency but may not have the time to invest in a comprehensive strategy. Centralina staff have experience developing efficient fleets and working with the clean transportation sector to reduce service costs, strengthen local economies, and improve local and regional air quality.

CCOG's knowledge and expertise allowed our company to pursue the use of compressed natural gas and realize large monetary savings in fuel costs plus added air quality benefits for the communities we serve in the City of Monroe and beyond.

**– Erik Blowers
President, GBUSA Inc.**

Thanks to our partnership with CCOG we're keeping the City of Charlotte clean and green!

**– Kathy Sanders
City of Charlotte Solid Waste Services**

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