

**Idle-Free Newark Campaign Development Discussion**  
**City of Newark's Environmental Commission, Idle-Free Subcommittee**  
**February 21, 2018 • 1:00 – 2:00 pm • City of Newark**

**Meeting Goals:**

- Introduce the Commission's efforts to reduce idling.
- Learn about the City's efforts to reduce idling and emissions.
- Discuss successful strategies from other communities and how they might be applied in Newark.
- Discuss opportunities for partnership and potential action items.

**Meeting Agenda:**

1. **Welcome and Introductions (Skeo, 5 min)**
  - Introduce Skeo, assisting on behalf of EPA
  - Introduce the Commission's efforts to reduce idling and benefits to Newark
2. **Newark Idle-Free Sub-Committee's Goals and Current Efforts (Newark Environmental Commission, 5 min)**
  - Goal to identify champions within the City to assist with implementation
3. **Current efforts to reduce idling and emissions (Newark City Staff, 10-20 min)**
  - Hear from participants about their efforts
  - Discussion facilitated by Skeo
4. **Overview of Successful Idling Reduction Strategies (Skeo, 10 min)**
  - Review handout
5. **Partnership Opportunities (Skeo, 20-30 min)**

Discuss opportunities to collaborate on idling reduction efforts:

  - Are participants interested in working with the Commission to reduce idling?
  - Which of these strategies could work for city staff and programs?
    - Which strategies could be implemented more easily in the near-term?
    - What support might be needed?
    - What could be some of the challenges or roadblocks?
  - What additional departments, staff or other city stakeholders could be involved?
    - Who are other city staff that the Commission should contact directly?
  - How can the Commission help communicate idling issues to important stakeholders (city council, other staff, department heads, etc.)?
  - What existing program communications could be used for city staff to spread the word? (mentions, tagline inserts, etc.)
  - Who are other organizations or resources that the Commission should look into?
6. **Next Steps (Skeo, 5 min)**
7. **Closing (Idle-Free Sub-Committee, 5 min)**

## **Meeting Invitees**

\* indicates that participant was present

\*Nathaly Agosto Filion, Department of Administration, Office of Sustainability

\*Richard Budris, Essex Regional Health Commission

Van Crossen, Department of Public Works, Motors

Captain Derek Glenn, Newark Police Department

\*Europe Harmon, Newark City Vehicle Fleet Manager

\*Nikeysha Harris-Neal, Department of Community Health and Wellness, Health Education – Rosie Garcia present instead of Nikeysha

Wynn-Fred Hinds, Newark Environmental Commission

Lester King, Department of Public Works, Motors

\*Reema Louton, US Environmental Protection Agency

\*Michael J Lythcott, Skeo

Elizabeth McGrady, Newark Environmental Commission

Cynthia Mellon, Newark Environmental Commission

\*Nicole Miller, Newark Environmental Commission

\*Sabina Pendse, US Environmental Protection Agency

Nicole Rondon, Department of Community Health and Wellness

\*Beth Schermerhorn, Skeo

\*Kimberly Singleton, Department of Engineering, Traffic & Signals

\* Mhedí [need last name and department]

\*Robert Thomas, Department of Engineering, Director's Office

Holly Wilson, US Environmental Protection Agency

## **Notes:**

NOTE: Pre-meeting discussion on putting up idling signs and developing training for drivers.

## **Background Work and Information**

- City of Newark's Sustainability Plan 2013 – has a whole chapter on air quality. Plan is to be updates in 2018.
- The City had worked on a project several years ago to develop an idling facility at the airport with charging stations for trucks at a former brownfield site, would have been helpful for people with C-Packs and other health related issues. The plans fell through because the property was already promised to someone else. Economic Development was the driving City department, Nathaly and others can follow up on who would be the best person to learn more about what happened and any lessons from the project.
  - Technology to get trucks not to idle and be a source of revenue.

## **Existing Programs and Projects; Opportunities for Idle-Free Work**

- Community Health and Wellness Department: education programs related to idling that are already in existence:
  - Dept. of Health and Wellness has done some things related to idling and would be glad to add more that is specific idling education to what they are already doing.

- Dept. of Health and Wellness sees an opportunity to add idling information to asthma education.
  - Participants identified parks and parents who idle while kids are playing/at practice as a potential intervention point that could have significant impact.
- Health Education – Ms. Garcia’s focus areas are nutrition, diabetes, mental health and abuse – each trainer has a series of topics that they cover which includes:
  - STIs/HIV, Heart Health
  - Cancer
  - Lead
  - Asthma and related health issues
  - Health educators go to health fairs, typically from August-September when most happen; senior centers.
- Idling is multi-disciplinary – could be a part of cancer, heart and cardiovascular health education curriculum.
- Traffic and Signals (T&S)
  - Ms. Singleton will have to get back to the Commission on their budget for installing signs.
  - T&S will need more detailed information on where to put signs, the more efficient the city can be with putting the signs up.
    - Skeo has developed a hot spot table with the Commission that could serve as a list of priority locations for idling sign installation.
    - Mid-summer is when project budgets get approved, so this would be a good time to check back in with T&S.
- City Fleet Vehicle Opportunities
  - The City has 1,250 vehicles in their fleet. Verizon, Sprint, provide fleet solutions – if a vehicle is idling more than 5 minutes, the company gets an email to let them know that they have been idling for too long. It is called on-board diagnostics.
    - City fleet pilot project for vehicle diagnostics that looked at a whole range of services.
    - Fleet department is waiting for funding to fully implement.
  - Regional Fleet Stations: need idling signage.
  - Fleet Safe Review Board: Europe is on this board. The review board meets regularly, every 3 months. Review accidents over the 3 months. Have a piece of software for information accidents.
  - Are there trainings for people who drive city fleet vehicles?
    - There are standard forms that they need to sign to drive city vehicles. It is not the type of form that many typically read.
  - Practice in various departments – monitoring through electronics is an interest in City Fleets.
    - Signs may not have a huge impact on idling, but City Fleet would be interested in leading an effort to get vehicles in the city fleet on-board monitoring systems.
      - Jack Kelly is the person who would make this decision – Business Manager

- Need software that would provide clear data on usage. There may be a software contract for tracking in the works – pre-approved contractor negotiations in the works.
  - Does EPA have a federally available technology available?
  - What is the status of fleet vehicle motor conditions? – Public Works would know the answer to this.
- School Buses are very old and perhaps one of the biggest offenders – many students take NJ Transit buses.
- Bus Garages: City manages; DEP can plug in if you know of a bus that is having issues. Bus drivers are accountable for a violation.
- Essex Regional Health Commission (ERHC) enforces bus violations and confronts them on the spot. Bus drivers have slammed door and sped away in a few situations.
  - ERHC enforces idling on commercial/industrial property. The owner of the property is equally responsible as the driver. ERHC will waive fee if idling signs are displayed and can be exempt for future fines.
    - Opportunity to get signage up!
    - \$250 fine to property owner AND driver; ERHC negotiates with property owner.
    - The state idling law is 3 minutes. In practice they wait for 5 minutes. 25 degrees or under given 15-minute warm up period.
    - There is a need for more education to dispel the myth that cars need idling time in order to warm up.
  - Common Idling Offenders based on ERHC's enforcement work:
    - Contractors and construction vehicles: especially early in the morning.
    - Gas stations, convenience stores, service stations, delivery stations, strip malls, storage centers.
      - Gas stations need to have a no idling sign in addition to a turn off engine sign.
      - Turn off engine sign does not exempt them in the fine for idling.
    - Hospitals: exhaust in ambulances; they can idle more than they should. May need exemptions to control medications that are in vehicles.
      - Ambulance retrofitting opportunity. Ambulances do not have a long shelf life.
      - Hospitals in South Ward and Essex County have anti-idling signs.
      - Example: LA Port of Long Beach – ordinance to get trucks to retrofit vehicles. Potential to learn from this example as translated to emergency vehicles.
    - Ambulances and Police: emergency response vehicles are exempt from idling.
      - What about police who often are idling for hours?
      - Changes on idling have to come from the top down within Police Department.
- Changing Idling Practices for City Employees, Vendors, etc.
  - Construction on city buildings and vendors: there is not any information on how vehicles should behave on city properties.

- Can idle-free language be developed to pass along to vendors and construction workers?
- Employee Administration: employees receive a packet with code of conduct.
  - Idle free language could be incorporated and probably low hanging fruit.
- Best Practices: city leadership in operations lead to ripple effect for outside organizations.

#### Idle-Free Champions within the City

- Is there a role for your organization to become a champion of the Idle-Free Campaign?
  - Municipal leadership leads to citizen compliance
  - Cost savings from reduced idling
  - City as a first leader
  - Port Authority: airport and port would lead to huge impacts. There are other organizations working on this.
  - NJ Transit and DEP Connections: Participants will provide contact information and leads.
  - Myth busting and changing habits/culture
  - Monitoring results and seeing behavior change is key
  - Internal Communications Office would be good for getting information to all city staff:
    - Takwan Williams – has innovative ideas and would be great to get involved with this campaign.
    - Developing Idle-Free Zones
    - Tie ins with Newark Public Schools campaign
    - Placards in every vehicle to not idle

#### Action Items

- All:
  - Share names and contact information for contacts with NJ Transit and DEP with Idle-Free Sub-committee members.
- Idle-Free Sub-committee:
  - Reach out to Takwan Williams, Internal Communications Office and Jack Kelly, Newark Business Manager to learn more about opportunities to collaborate.
  - Connect with Community Health and Wellness with information on idling that could be incorporated into their community education programs.
  - Follow-up with Ms. Singleton at T&S in early summer to learn more about budget allocations for putting up idling signs throughout the city.
  - Follow-up with Europe and City Fleets to determine if there are opportunities to reduce idling, install monitoring systems and provide idle-free language for using city fleet vehicles.

**Idle-Free Newark Campaign Development Discussion**  
**City of Newark's Environmental Commission, Idle-Free Subcommittee**  
***January 23, 2018 • 10:00 am • Newark Public Schools***

**Meeting Goals:**

- Introduce the Commission's efforts to reduce idling.
- Learn about Newark Public School's (NPS) efforts to reduce idling and emissions.
- Discuss successful strategies from other communities and how they might be applied in Newark.
- Discuss opportunities for partnership and potential action items.

**Meeting Agenda:**

1. **Welcome and Introductions (Idle Free Sub-Committee, 5 min)**
  - Introduce Skeo, assisting on behalf of EPA
  - Introduce the Commission's efforts to reduce idling and benefits to Newark
2. **Newark Idle-Free Sub-Committee's Goals and Current Efforts (Skeo, 5 min)**
  - Goal to identify champions in each focus area
  - Why is NPS a focus area?
3. **Current efforts to reduce idling and emissions (NPS, 10-20 min)**
  - Hear from participants about their efforts
  - Discussion facilitated by Skeo
4. **Overview of Successful Idling Reduction Strategies (Skeo, 10 min)**
  - Review handout
5. **Partnership Opportunities (Skeo, 20-30 min)**
  - Discuss opportunities to collaborate on idling reduction efforts:
  - Are participants interested in working with the Commission to reduce idling?
  - Which of these strategies could work for NPS?
  - What could be some of the challenges or roadblocks?
  - What support might be needed?
  - Which strategies could be implemented more easily in the near-term?
  - Would NPS be interested in identifying student groups or classes to include?
  - How can the Commission help NPS in communicating idling issues to important stakeholders (students, parents, teachers, staff, vendors, etc.)?
  - Opportunities for NPS to spread the word in their regular stakeholder communications. (mentions, tagline inserts, etc.)
  - Who are other NPS decision-makers that the Commission should contact directly?
  - Who are other organizations or resources that the Commission should look into?
6. **Next Steps (Skeo, 5 min)**
7. **Closing (Idle-Free Sub-Committee, 5 min)**

## Meeting Participants

Dr. Marguerite Lueze, Newark Public Schools  
Kim Gaddy, Newark Board of Education  
Wilma Davis, Newark Public Schools  
Valerie Wilson, Newark Public Schools  
Traymanesha Lamy, Newark Thrives!  
Nicole Miller, Newark Environmental Commission  
Nathaly Agosto-Fillion, City of Newark  
Sabina Pendse, US Environmental Protection Agency  
Reema Louton, US Environmental Protection Agency  
Holly Wilson, US Environmental Protection Agency  
Michael J Lythcott, Skeo  
Beth Schermerhorn, Skeo

## Meeting Notes

### Existing Programs, Efforts and Potential Collaborators:

- *NPS Health Services*
  - In 2005, all schools in Newark became “Asthma Friendly Schools”. NPS is interested in renewing this award through PACNJ.
  - Since the award and despite a large concerted effort to reduce in-school air agitators, asthma rates and school absences have not fallen.
- NPS is very interested to work with the Commission to develop an idle-free campaign for Newark Public Schools.
- *NPS Facilities*
  - Facilities has been working to update their in-house buses to reduce emissions and idling.
  - They are unsure about their independent vendors who provide transportation services and vendors who deliver food and supplies to schools.
  - How can NPS work with their service providers to ensure compliance? Several ideas were discussed:
    - Add idle-free language to contracts
    - Vendor idle-free pledge
    - How to reach each individual driver to ensure compliance?
- *Newark Thrives*
  - The organization has a parent committee composed of various parent groups that meet 4 times each year. This could be a good platform to present on the Idle-Free initiative and efforts with NPS.
  - Health fairs are another great outreach resource. The Commission could set up a table or be a speaker.
  - Would be willing to connect the group with Ivory Williams. NPS is launching a new program in February, Students to Science, which will include 6 labs and pharma/med industry volunteers to teach classes.
  - Youth Media Symposium could be an opportunity to develop a youth-led video about the positive impacts that stem from idling reduction.
- *General Discussion*
  - Newark School Board is working with Jill Buck of the Go Green Initiative, on a recycling initiative so NPS could receive the NJ Sustainable Jersey for Schools certification. It may be worthwhile to see if she could include idle-free efforts in her work.

- NPS would be interested to develop shared measures for success, messaging and a commitment across organizations such as afterschool programs, facilities, hospitals, etc.

### Needs for a Successful Campaign

During the meeting, participants shared the following needs and ideas for the development of a successful NPS Idle-Free Campaign:

- Shared metrics of success (based off of the Cincinnati case study).
- Shared positive messaging.
- Building a critical mass between various youth sectors (schools, facilities, transportation, health/nurses, etc.).
- Opportunities for youth involvement and leadership including:
  - Developing a video promoting the positive impacts of being idle-free.
  - Creating a slogan competition within pilot schools.
  - Involving the Arts High School in a poster competition with awards from either the New Jersey Devils or Prudential Center.
- Opportunities for parents to get involved such as developing a pledge for parents to sign that also highlights the work that NPS has already completed to create clean air environments within schools.

### Action Items

All:

- Share contacts for Prudential Center, Prudential, NJ Devils, Covanta, Panasonic, United Airlines, Red Bull Stadium with Commission.
- Identify next steps for a campaign roll out in September, including identifying pilot schools.

Kim Gaddy:

- Share materials from Sustainable Jersey regarding asthma friendly practices with NPS.
- Draft a letter to send to parents through the School Board and with collaboration from other departments such as Facilities and Health. Acknowledge actions taken by school facilities (chalk, boilers, fleet upgrades, using green cleaning products), ask parents to stop idling.
- Update School Board Operations committee.
- Contact M. Muniz, to have an Idle-Free session at the Parent Conference in April.

Newark Thrive:

- Add Idle-Free Newark to agenda for April 10<sup>th</sup> Newark Thrive "Creating Safe and Healthy Spaces" St. Joseph's Plaza.
  - Who from Commission can attend to present?
- Add Idle-Free messaging to their bi-weekly mailings.
- Connect Commission with Children's Cabinet Tony Richardson.
- Connect Commission with Youth Policy Board (Dr. Robert Johnson, Robin Wells) focusing on chronic absenteeism.
  - Who from Commission can participate?
- Include Idle-Free presentation during regular Parent Committee in February.
  - Who from Commission can participate?

School Facilities:



- Determine best method to communicate the health impacts of idling to vendors.
- Share contacts for who can give addresses for sign installations with Nathaly/Newark Traffic and Signals.
- Share contact for “environmental person” in facilities.

#### Health Services

- Share existing outreach info with nurses on 1/31. Need 150 copies English and Spanish/French.

#### Skeo:

- Share detailed case study from Cincinnati with NPS.

# City Leadership Can Save Big Dollars by Reducing Idling Emissions

## Background

Emissions from idling in Newark contribute to poor air quality, which can impact the health of residents who live or work near large event centers, schools, industrial sites and other areas where idling is frequent. In addition, city vehicles that idle cost tax payers unnecessary money. The City of Newark's Environmental Commission is seeking partners to support an Idle Free Campaign and reduce idling at critical locations. City leadership across departments is vital to ensure that city operations set a model for the city, including the public and other large agencies and organizations. Adopting idle-free policies and practices will save the city money, improve the health of workers and make Newark and cleaner, healthier city for all.

***Did you know?** The City of Newark prohibits idling for more than five consecutive minutes in an hour.*

## Case Study

### Minneapolis, MN

In 2008, a City of Minneapolis adopted an idle-free ordinance that applied to public and private, diesel and gasoline powered vehicles. Ordinance development included city staff and department head perspectives to ensure feasible implementation. Providing accurate information about idling to city staff and residents on how idling reduction could lower fuel costs and improve health created a ripple effect that drastically reduced idling. The city's commitment to reduce idling helped improve the lives of Minneapolis residents by reducing government spending and improving air quality.

[http://aceee.org/files/pdf/case-studies/Minneapolis\\_Anti-Idling.pdf](http://aceee.org/files/pdf/case-studies/Minneapolis_Anti-Idling.pdf)

## Lessons Learned

### Strategies and Tools

- Focus efforts on education and dispelling myths rather than enforcement.
- Develop an implementation plan with department heads outlining goals for each city department to reduce idling for city fleet vehicles.
- Focus on cost saving in fuel money as major benefit to support city and private vehicle fleets.
- Work with major idling offenders to raise awareness, identify cooperators and develop policy.
- Equip fleet managers and department heads with accurate information to share with their staff to support implementation.
- Use EPA's model ordinance as guidance for any policy or ordinance updates.

## Messaging Examples

Effective examples from the case study include:

"Cars burn more than half a gallon of fuel for every hour spent idling."

"Ten seconds of idling uses more fuel than restarting the car."

"Turn off the engine to save money and keep our air clean."

## Resources

<http://iturnitoff.com/#/savings>

[http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@regse rvices/documents/webcontent/convert\\_285816.pdf](http://www.minneapolismn.gov/www/groups/public/@regse rvices/documents/webcontent/convert_285816.pdf)

# Idle-Free Schools Improve Student Health and Performance

## Background

While some students walk or bike to school in Newark, many take NJ Transit or are driven in private cars. Cars or buses that idle while waiting for students can affect air quality around schools. Poor air quality impacts on children's health include adverse respiratory health outcomes (asthma and deficits in lung function and growth), school absenteeism, altered immunity and increased risk of vitamin D-deficiency. By reducing idling at schools, we can create healthy and safe learning environments for Newark School children, faculty, and staff.

***Did you know?** The City of Newark prohibits idling for more than five consecutive minutes in an hour.*

## Case Study

### Cincinnati Public Schools

Cincinnati Public Schools (CPS) implemented an anti-idling campaign in partnership with the University of Cincinnati, Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center and the Cincinnati Health Department. Before launching the campaign on a district-wide basis, the partners piloted the program at a few schools. The campaign included:

- installing idle-free signage
- encouraging parents to sign idle-free pledges (more than 900 pledge forms received!)
- hosting student assemblies
- developing a student anti-idling awareness video

Training was central to the project's success; bus drivers were trained on idle-free practices, and teachers were given curricular materials to educate students. CPS also added anti-idling language to the school's policy, institutionalizing their commitment to the environment and public health.

Post-campaign, school bus idle time decreased 60-80%. Passenger vehicle idle time decreased 15-68% among the project schools.

<https://www.cps-k12.org/families-students/student-safety/anti-idling>

## Lessons Learned

### Strategies and Tools

- Start small by piloting the program at a few schools with the highest asthma rates.
- Post idle-free signs in bus and carpool lanes.
- Educate students and parents by sharing informational handouts and hosting assemblies & open houses on the impacts of idling.
- Work with local parent-teacher associations to educate and advocate for idle-free practices.
- Encourage parents to sign idle-free pledges.
- Work with NJ Transit to train bus drivers on Newark's idle-free ordinance and benefits.
- Create an idle-free policy specific to Newark Public Schools.
- Partner with universities, the County Health Department, Safe Routes to Schools, organizations working in children's health, NJ Transit and any parent-teacher associations.

## Messaging Examples

Effective campaigns have relied heavily on building public awareness and a sense of issue ownership across stakeholders. Examples from *Cincinnati Public Schools* anti-idling awareness video that tied idling to school outcomes include:

*"Idling affects air quality, air quality affects health, health affects attendance, attendance affects performance"*

*"Turn Your Key, Be Idle-Free"*



*Anti-idling signs posted in bus and carpool lanes*

## Resources

<https://www.epa.gov/region8/idle-free-schools>  
<http://iturnitoff.com/#/savings>  
<http://www.cleanairpartnership.org/>

# Idle Free Schools

## Pledge Form for Parents

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby pledge to my child \_\_\_\_\_ that I will turn off  
(Name of Parent) (Name of Child)  
my engine on school grounds and anywhere else I might be waiting in my vehicle.

Signed by (Signature of Parent) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed by (Signature of Child) \_\_\_\_\_

Teacher's Name \_\_\_\_\_

*To protect air quality and your children's health, it is recommended  
that you idle your vehicle no longer than 10 seconds.*

## Turn Your Key, Be Idle Free!

=====

# Idle Free Schools

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## Turn Your Key, Be Idle Free!

# Idle Free Schools

## Pledge Form for Teachers and Staff

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby pledge that I will turn off my engine on school grounds and  
(Name of Teacher/Staff)  
anywhere else I might be waiting in my vehicle.

Signed by (Signature of Teacher/Staff) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Witnessed by (Signature of a Student) \_\_\_\_\_

*To protect air quality and children's health, it is recommended  
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## Turn Your Key, Be Idle Free!

=====

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that you idle your vehicle no longer than 10 seconds.*

## Turn Your Key, Be Idle Free

# Idle Free Schools

## Pledge Form for Truck Drivers

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby pledge that I will turn off my engine on school grounds and  
(Name of Driver)  
anywhere else I might be waiting in my delivery truck.

Signed by (Signature of Driver) \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

*To protect air quality and children's health, it is recommended  
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## Turn Your Key, Be Idle Free!

=====

# Idle Free Schools

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## Turn Your Key, Be Idle Free!



**MEDIA ADVISORY**

**Contact:**

Press Information Office

973-733-8004

[PressOffice@ci.newark.nj.us](mailto:PressOffice@ci.newark.nj.us)

Trust for Public Land

Donna Kirkland

973-998-9440

[Donna.kirkland@tpl.org](mailto:Donna.kirkland@tpl.org)

**MAYOR RAS J. BARAKA TO KICKOFF CITY-WIDE "IDLE-FREE NEWARK"  
CAMPAIGN  
TO HALT VEHICLE IDLING ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 22, AT 1 P.M., AT HAWKINS  
STREET SCHOOL, 8 HAWKINS STREET**

***Mayor will unveil first "No Idling" sign; City will enforce three-minute idling ordinance to  
reduce pollution***

**Newark, NJ -- April 20, 2015** - Mayor Ras J. Baraka, members of the Newark Municipal Council, Health and Community Wellness Director Dr. Hanaa Hamdi, the Newark Environmental Commission, the Trust for Public Land, and Ironbound Community Corporation Executive Director Joseph Della Fave will launch the "Idle-Free Newark" campaign to reduce automobile idling in the City of Newark on Wednesday, April 22, at 1 p.m., at Hawkins Street School, located at 8 Hawkins Street, in the City's East Ward. The ceremony is part of Newark's observances of Earth Day 2015.

The Mayor will unveil Newark's first "No Idling" sign in front of the school, and the City will resume enforcing its three-minute idling law, on the books since 1986, to crack down on motorists who leave their cars running. Idling wastes gas, leaves engines dirty and requiring more maintenance, and contributes to soot, which has been linked to respiratory problems in adults and children. Idling near schools is especially problematic because children breathe up to 50% more air per pound of body weight than adults. Newark has a disproportionate asthma rate of 25%, compared to the statewide average of 12%. Once enforced, the NJ idling ordinance will carry fines of up to \$1,000.

The signs will soon be installed throughout the city, especially in high-traffic areas around schools and recreation centers. In partnership with community groups, the Newark Environmental Commission is working to inform Newark residents and commercial truck and bus drivers about the benefits of creating an *Idle-Free Newark*.

**Who:**           **Mayor Ras J. Baraka**  
                  **Newark Municipal Council Members**  
                  **Health and Community Wellness Director Dr. Hanaa Hamdi**  
                  **Newark Environmental Commission**  
                  **Trust for Public Land**  
                  **Ironbound Community Corporation Executive Director Joseph Della Fave**

**What:** Will kick off the City-wide "Idle Free Newark" campaign to halt vehicle idling.

**When:** Wednesday, April 22  
1 p.m.

**Where:** Hawkins Street School  
8 Hawkins Street  
East Ward  
Newark

**MEDIA NOTE:** Media parking will be available in streets and lots in the area.

For more information, contact the Press Information Office - (973) 733-8004.

E-mail: [Pressoffice@ci.newark.nj.us](mailto:Pressoffice@ci.newark.nj.us)

-NEWARK-

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