

**BOROUGH OF WATCHUNG
RESOLUTION: R2**

WHEREAS, emissions from gasoline and diesel-powered vehicles contribute significantly to air pollution, including greenhouse gases, ozone formation, fine particulates; and

WHEREAS, numerous scientific studies have found links between exposure to fine particles and health effects including premature death, and increased incidents of asthma, allergies, and other breathing disorders; and

WHEREAS, the United States Environmental Protection Agency has classified diesel exhaust as likely to be carcinogenic to humans; and

WHEREAS, vehicle idling occurs in locations (e.g. school grounds, parking lots, distribution centers, strip malls, construction sites, business centers etc.) where residents can be exposed to concentrated sources of air pollutant emissions; and

WHEREAS, the reduction of fine particle emissions from diesel engines could prevent thousands of new asthma cases annually and save hundreds of millions of dollars in health care and related costs in New Jersey; and

WHEREAS, idling more than ten seconds uses more fuel and emits more pollutants than turning an engine off and on again and wears engine parts; and

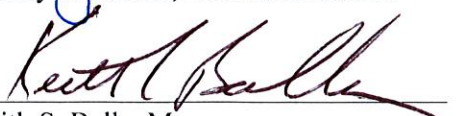
WHEREAS, current New Jersey state law prohibits the idling of vehicles for more than three minutes and studies have shown that an anti-idling policy will save fuel, prolong engine life, and improve air quality; and

WHEREAS, all of the foregoing reasons are as valid today as when the Mayor and Council first passed the anti-idling resolution via R7, adopted on November 10, 2010.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Watchung, County of Somerset, State of New Jersey support the adoption of strong anti-idling policy by government agencies, schools, businesses, and other organizations by:

- 1) Making enforcement of New Jersey's existing no-idling law a priority pursuant to N.J.S.A. 39:3-70.2 and N.J.S.A. 26:2C-1
- 2) Encouraging drivers of gasoline or diesel-powered motor vehicles to turn off their engines immediately at schools and off-site school-related events to minimize exposure of children to vehicle emissions.
- 3) Maintaining municipal vehicles to eliminate any visible exhaust and complying with the annual inspection requirements for these vehicles.
- 4) Promoting widespread use of emission controls in construction contracts.
- 5) Supporting broad education of the public about the health, environmental, and economic impacts of idling and ways to reduce idling.


Wendy Robinson, Council President


Keith S. Balla, Mayor

ADOPTED: AUGUST 12, 2021
INDEX: MISC.
C: ENV. COMM., B. HANCE,