



MEMO TO CITY COUNCIL

Request to Include Topic on the City Council Workshop Agenda

From:	Laurelei McVey, Public Works	Meeting Date:	June 21, 2022
Presenter:	Laurelei McVey, Public Works & Emily Kane, Legal	Estimated Time:	15 minutes
Topic:	Vehicle Emission Testing Update		

Recommended Council Action:

Seeking guidance on the intended direction regarding the future of vehicle emission testing in Meridian.

Background:

Currently vehicle emission testing is required in Ada County at three levels: (1) State of Idaho law; (2) federal requirement specified and agreed to in Northern Ada County Carbon Monoxide Maintenance Plan; and (3) city and county ordinances in Ada County implementing the Maintenance Plan requirement.

During the 2022 Idaho Legislative session, Senate Bill 1264 was passed by the Senate and House and signed into law by Governor Little to strike the requirement of vehicle emission testing in Idaho from state law effective July 1, 2023. This action eliminates the vehicle emission testing program in Canyon County on July 1, 2023. That action does not impact the federal requirement contained in the Maintenance Plan nor the local ordinances requiring vehicle emission testing in northern Ada County.

In December 2022, the Idaho Department of Environmental Quality (IDEQ) intends to request the US Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA) remove the federal requirement of vehicle emissions testing in northern Ada County. IDEQ will provide US EPA with data and analyses showing the removal of vehicle emission testing in northern Ada County will have negligible impacts upon ambient air quality levels, especially carbon monoxide, in the future.

If the US EPA agrees with the demonstration and request to remove the federal mandate for vehicle emission testing in northern Ada County, the local ordinances will still be in effect, but can be repealed without impacting Ada County's standing relative to federal ambient air quality standards and associated maintenance plans.

City Ordinance:

The Ada County Air Quality Board needs to know whether Ada County and the cities within the county intend to keep or repeal their enabling local ordinances requiring vehicle emission testing within their jurisdictions if the US EPA removes the associated federal mandate for the program.

Each jurisdiction's intended direction is needed to provide guidance into the FY2023 budget development process, including consideration of a short-term or long-term software vendor contract coming up for renewal in September 2022, and to provide direction to station owners.

Questions related to this proposal should be directed to Laurelei McVey, Public Works, lmcvey@meridiancity.org, 208-985-1259.