



REQUEST FOR COUNCIL ACTION

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

**From: Henry Holling
Interim City Manager**

AGENDA DATE REQUESTED: February 10, 2009

ACTION REQUESTED: Recommend Council receive and file report-back from the Police Department relative to the benefits of the Segway.

BACKGROUND: In July of 2008, the Council approved a request from the Police Department to authorize the expenditure of \$13,775.00 for the purchase of two (2) Personal Transport Devices (Segways). Council directed a report back in six months regarding the benefits achieved with the Segways. The below table contains a comparative analysis between Segway use and the traditional automobile.

One-Month of Usage

	Vehicle (Ford Focus)	Segway
Mileage	436 miles x 2 units = 872 total miles driven for the month	436 miles x 2 units = 872 miles
Fuel	Average of 48 gal per month x \$2.00 = \$96 x 2 units = \$192	Recharge battery* @ approx. \$6 per month x 2 units = \$12
Tickets	Avg of 600 tickets written monthly x 2 units = 1,200 tickets issued	Avg. of 800 tickets written monthly x 2 units = 1,600 tickets issued

Six-Months of Usage

	Vehicle	Segway
Mileage	2,616 miles x 2 units = 5,232 miles	2,616 miles x 2 units = 5,232 miles
Fuel	Average of 288 gal x \$2.00 = \$576 x 2 units = \$1,152	Recharge battery* @ approx. \$36 x 2 units = \$72
Tickets	Avg of 3,600 tickets x 2 units = 7,200 tickets issued	Avg. of 4,800 tickets x 2 units = 9,600 tickets issued

Note regarding methodology for analysis: Because 2 officers are assigned to downtown parking enforcement, all figures are multiplied by 2. For the purpose of this report, the analysis was based on the average number of total miles driven by two downtown parking enforcement officers for the period of one month, using actual fuel consumption rates. The comparative figures for the Segway assumed: The weather would permit Segway usage each work day; The price of \$2.00 per gallon fuel costs; The current CILCO rate for electricity (80 cents per KWH); The known amount of electricity needed to recharge each Segway unit, each day (0.4 KWH). As to the figures for ticket production, prior to Jan. 1, 2009, Parking Officers rotated zones and did not work exclusively downtown so there are no hard numbers to represent the actual number of tickets written in a month (by car or Segway) exclusively in the downtown zone.

However, during the month long training of the Parking Enforcement Officers, observations by the supervising sergeant saw a pattern emerge defining the average number of tickets written by officers in that zone by both car and Segway. While one officer was training on the Segway, the second officer was still working from a vehicle. The citation activity during this period reflected the increase in activity that is identified in the table, extrapolated over the period of time stated.

Summary:

In the short period of time that we have had to utilize and analyze the Segway, it has shown to operate at approximately a 94% energy savings, compared to the automobile, while increasing productivity by 33%. The savings rate will fluctuate somewhat depending upon the cost of gasoline versus electricity. Additionally, the Segway has been advantageous in that it operates on the sidewalk and therefore does not obstruct downtown vehicular traffic, it has zero emissions, and it has shown to be a very positive public relations tool. Lastly, the Fall deployment did not allow for a test of the vehicle's usefulness at summertime special events. The Department plans to utilize this tool at events such as Steamboat Days and Taste of Peoria and we expect it to prove useful in this capacity as well.

FINANCIAL IMPACT: \$13,775 was expended in 2008. The monies were taken from an account that is funded solely by a surcharge on traffic fines.

NEIGHBORHOOD CONCERNS: Citizen feedback has been overwhelmingly positive

IMPACT IF APPROVED: Impact is noted above.

IMPACT IF DENIED: N/A

ALTERNATIVES¹: N/A

EEO CERTIFICATION NUMBER: N/A

RELATIONSHIP TO THE COMPREHENSIVE PLAN: The use of the Segway has shown to be consistent with the City's efforts to reduce energy costs and increase efficiency.

REQUIRED SIGNATURES

Department Director




Police Department

Finance Director

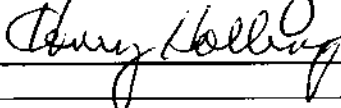


(Certification of Availability of Funds)

Corporation Counsel



City Manager



¹ If necessary, this section to be used to explain alternate purchase that would be more energy efficient and a justification for choosing otherwise.