

**SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH
ORDINANCE NO. 786-A**

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 6, CHAPTER 4, VEHICLE IDLING,
OF SUMMIT COUNTY CODE**

WHEREAS, emissions from vehicle idling contributes significantly to air pollution, climate change and increased rates of cancer, heart and lung diseases, which adversely affect health; and

WHEREAS, children whose lungs are still developing are at a higher risk because they breathe more rapidly and inhale more pollutants per pound of body weight than adults; and

WHEREAS, it is vital that we protect the health and well-being of our children who are the future for Summit County; and

WHEREAS, emissions from vehicle idling significantly affects the natural environment and economic well-being of residents, guests and visitors of Summit County; and

WHEREAS, petroleum-based fuels are nonrenewable and should be used wisely and not wasted; and

WHEREAS, idling a typical vehicle for longer than ten seconds consumes more fuel than restarting that vehicle, resulting in excessive emissions and wasted fuel; and

WHEREAS, every citizen can improve our county's air quality by turning off vehicles whenever we are going to idle more than one minute; and

WHEREAS, reducing needless vehicle idling is in keeping with Summit County's promotion as an eco-friendly community and its affiliation with ICLEI (Local Governments for Sustainability); and

WHEREAS, education about idling can raise community awareness, encourage consumers to develop idling free habits, and influence adoption of idling free policies within county governments; and

WHEREAS, the County Council, with support from the Summit County Board of Health, desires to ensure that idling does not occur in locations such as school grounds, parking lots/garages, ski resort premises and business centers, where idling is frequent; and

WHEREAS, the County Council, with support from the Summit County Board of Health, desires to take a proactive position on air pollution to protect the livability and viability of Summit County and its residents, visitors and guests; and

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that Summit County residents, guests and visitors reduce vehicle emissions to protect the health, economy and natural environment of Summit County and the surrounding area;

WHEREAS, Utah State Code, 41-6a-1403, prohibits the idling of an unattended vehicle; and

WHEREAS, Summit County currently prohibits the idling of unattended vehicles, however, desires to strengthen that prohibition so that is more in line with the above stated goals and issues;

NOW THEREFORE, the County Legislative Body of the County of Summit, the State of Utah, hereby ordains the following:

Section I. Amendment. Title 6, Chapter 4, Vehicle Idling of the Summit County Code is hereby amended as follows:

6-4-1: NO IDLING:

No driver, while operating a vehicle within unincorporated Summit County, shall cause or permit a vehicle's engine to idle for more than one minute, with exceptions for the following circumstances.

- (1) The vehicle is forced to remain motionless on a roadway because of traffic conditions.
- (2) The vehicle is an authorized emergency vehicle used in an emergency situation.
- (3) Vehicle idling is necessary for auxiliary power for law enforcement equipment, fire, emergency and water equipment, refrigeration units, loading and unloading lifts, well drilling, farming, battery charging, or is required for proper functioning of other equipment that is part of the vehicle.
- (4) Vehicle idling is necessary for repair or inspection of the vehicle.
- (5) The health or safety of a driver or passenger, including service animals, requires the vehicle to idle. This exception also includes idling needed to operate window defrosters and other equipment necessary to promote safe driving conditions.
- (6) Vehicle idling is necessary for efficient operations of a turbo-charged heavy duty vehicle (e.g., buses) or to operate a vehicle within manufacturer's operating requirements. This includes building air pressure in air brake systems, among other requirements.

Vehicles idling under these exceptions should not violate Utah State Code, 41-6a-1403, which prohibits the idling of an unattended vehicle.

The primary purpose of Section 6-4-1 is to educate the public on the health and environmental consequences of vehicle idling.

6-4-2: IDLING FINES: The owner or operator of a vehicle cited for illegal idling under this chapter shall be issued a warning citation and, after receiving three warning citations, shall be required to pay the penalty equal to a Class II violation under the County Parking Code (6-2-6).

Any person receiving an administrative citation who wishes to challenge the citation, may request a hearing before the administrative law judge as outlined in section 1-13-4-4 of this code.

6-4-3: IDLING ON PUBLIC AND PRIVATE PROPERTY: Section 6-4-1 may only be enforced when the idling vehicle is found on:

(1) public property; or

(2) private property that is open to the public unless the private property owner:

(i) has a private business that has a drive-through service as a component of the private property owner's business operations and posts a sign provided by or acceptable to Summit County informing its customers and the public of Summit County's time limit of one minute for idling vehicle engines; or

(ii) adopts an idling reduction education policy approved by Summit County.

6-4-4: SAFETY OF LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS: Section 6-4-1 shall be enforced in such a manner as to provide for the utmost safety of the law enforcement officers or designees who enforce it.

Section 2. Effective Date: This Ordinance shall take effect fifteen days (15) days after the date of its publication.

APPROVED, ADOPTED, AND PASSED and ordered published by the Summit County Council, this 3 day of June, 2015.

SUMMIT COUNTY COUNCIL
SUMMIT COUNTY, UTAH

By:


Council Chair

Councilor Carson voted	<u>aye</u>
Councilor McMullin voted	<u>aye</u>
Councilor Armstrong voted	<u>aye</u>
Councilor Ure voted	<u>aye</u>
Councilor Robinson voted	<u>absent</u>