

ORDINANCE NO. 27 - 23

By: Lori Ann Feibel

An Ordinance to amend Section 452.06, “Unattended Vehicles; duty to lock ignition, remove key, set brake, etc.” in order to modernize provisions of this section and to expand restrictions on idling for the protection of both the health of citizens and the environment, and to add Section 618.25 Animals in Unattended Motor Vehicles, in order to protect the health and welfare of animals in unattended vehicles.

WHEREAS, The good health and safety of the Bexley community is a preeminent priority in the city of Bexley; and

WHEREAS, Idling tailpipes spew out the same pollutants as moving cars. These pollutants have not only been linked to serious human illnesses including asthma, heart disease, chronic bronchitis, and cancer, but also contribute to ozone, regional haze, and global climate change; and

WHEREAS, An idling engine is not operating at its optimum temperature, which means fuel combustion is incomplete. Idling leaves fuel residues that can condense on cylinder walls, where they contaminate oil and damage engine components such as spark plugs, increasing fuel consumption by 4 to 5 percent¹; and

WHEREAS, The City of Bexley continuously strives to do its part to reduce our community’s carbon footprint.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BEXLEY, OHIO:

Section 1.

That Section 452.06 be amended to read as follows:

~~452.06 UNATTENDED VEHICLES; DUTY TO LOCK IGNITION, REMOVE KEY, SET BRAKE, ETC. (a) No person driving or in charge of a motor vehicle shall permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine, locking the ignition, removing the key from the ignition, effectively setting the parking brake, and, when the motor vehicle is standing upon any grade, turning the front wheels to the curb or side of the highway.~~

UNATTENDED VEHICLES AND IDLING REGULATIONS

(a) No person owning, operating, or having control over the engine of a gasoline or diesel-powered motor vehicle on public or private space, including the engine of public vehicles for hire,

¹ <https://climatechangeconnection.org/solutions/transportation/idling/problems-caused-by-idling/>

commercial buses and school buses or any vehicle transporting students, shall permit it to stand unattended without first stopping the engine and effectively setting the parking brake.

(b) No person shall allow the engine of a motor vehicle to idle unattended. No person shall allow the engine of a motor vehicle to idle attended unless it is for a reason related to the health or welfare of a human being. For the purpose of this section, idling is defined as “leaving a vehicle’s engine running while the vehicle is not in motion.”

Section 2.

That Section 618.25 be created to read as follows:

618.25 Animals in Unattended Motor Vehicles

(a) No person shall leave or confine an animal in any unattended motor vehicle under conditions that endanger the health or well-being of an animal due to heat, cold, lack of adequate ventilation, or lack of food or water, or other circumstances that could reasonably be expected to cause suffering, disability, or death to the animal.

Section 3.

That this Ordinance shall go into effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed _____, 2023

Troy Markham, President of Council

Attest:

Matt McPeek, Clerk of Council

Approved: _____, 2023

Benjamin Kessler, Mayor