

**Fleet Management Review Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** March 11, 2024 – 5:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** K.L. Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building, Kingston  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chair Maloney  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Michael Tierney, Legislative Service Specialist  
**PRESENT:** Chair Maloney, Legislators Hewitt, Levine, Litts, Roberts, Stewart, and Former Legislator Petit  
**ABSENT:** 0  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislator Nolan, Charles Dinstuhl, Deputy Comptroller, Pat Doxsey, Deputy County Executive LaValle, Rokosz Most

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**Call Meeting to Order:** 5:00 PM

**Election of Committee Chair:**

Legislator Hewitt recommended and motioned in electing Legislator Maloney as Fleet Management Review Committee Chair and Laura Petit as Deputy Chair. Legislator Roberts and Stewart seconded the motion, and all Committee Members were all in favor.

Chair Maloney suggested conducting deeper dives into various county departments, including the Sheriff's Department, to improve transparency and accountability.

Chair Maloney hoped to develop a workable policy for take-home vehicles and other expenses, drawing from examples from other counties like Putnam and Columbia.

Legislators discuss leasing and buying vehicles for county use, with confusion over why certain decisions were made.

Deputy County Executive LaValle provided a status update on the deployment of GPS technology in county vehicles, noting that it has been deployed on most vehicles but not all, and she will provide a detailed update via email.

The Green Fleet policy for 2023 was recently released and may provide answers to questions asked by the committee, including those related to GPS technology deployment.

Laura Petit questioned the policy on providing take-home vehicles and fringe benefits to employees.

Employees track personal use of take-home vehicles on daily timecards, with implications for taxable income and union contracts.

Legislator Stewart questioned Ulster County's vehicle policies for employees, similar to Putnam County.

Chair Maloney suggested comparing the Sheriff's department's vehicle usage with other counties, including Dutchess and Sullivan, to identify potential savings. Legislator Hewitt agreed and suggested starting with Dutchess County, but also considering other northern counties for a more comparable analysis.

Legislators discussed potential benefits and drawbacks of providing county-owned vehicles to employees.

Chair Maloney emphasized the importance of a fair and balanced evaluation of the current situation, with all opinions taken into consideration.

Legislator Nolan expressed concerns about the committee's goal and process, suggesting that they should gather a full and fair understanding of the existing situation before making policy decisions.

Legislator Roberts expressed concerns about the fairness of the process and the potential for bias in awarding vehicles.

Legislator Stewart suggested involving department heads and commissioners in the decision-making process.

Chair Maloney expressed support for patrol vehicles being taken home by sheriff's members and road patrol, while Legislator Levine inquired about the cost of installing GPS in the entire fleet.

Deputy County Executive, LaValle explained that the fleet vehicles have a software platform called Asset Works that tracks assets, including vehicles, and provides cost of maintenance data to evaluate replacement.

Legislators discussed the installation of SAMSA technology in fleet vehicles, with some clarifying that it's already been installed and others asking about cost and timeline.

Legislator Hewitt and Chair Maloney discussed comparing Green Fleet policies with surrounding counties and pre-charter fleet management practices.

Deputy County Executive, LaValle highlighted the County Executive's role in Green Fleet policy and union benefits and also highlighted the detailed data provided in the fleet policy, including operational and procedural aspects that may require updating.

Chair Maloney emphasized the importance of following relevant parts of the policy, while also considering the functionality of how it will impact day-to-day operations.

Deputy County Executive, LaValle discussed the streamlining of data collection for vehicle maintenance and fuel usage, with the help of Asset Works and Samsara technology.

Legislator Nolan requested analysis of current reimbursement rates based on internal combustion engine vehicles, with potential for low maintenance vehicles in the future.

Deputy County Executive, LaValle and Legislator Nolan discussed the cost-effectiveness of electric vehicles versus internal combustion engine vehicles, with LaValle highlighting the low maintenance costs of electric vehicles.

Laura Petit raised concerns about the feasibility of implementing a take-home vehicle policy for legislators, citing the lack of reimbursement for driving to and from work.

Legislator Nolan suggested a policy to prioritize green vehicles in the county's take-home fleet, citing air quality and meeting goals.

Chair Maloney agreed with the policy but questions the feasibility of implementing it in a short timeframe. Legislator Stewart discussed County vehicles, including the number of official vehicles and their uses.

Chair Maloney mentioned that take-home vehicles for legislators may not be limited to the county of residence, and there may be 11 vehicles available for legislators to use outside of DSS.

Legislator Litts mentioned that the Putnam County policy is similar to the New York State Department of Transportation policy, and non-state employees are not allowed to take vehicles home unless they have permission.

Chair Maloney suggested starting with Dutchess County as a template for a new policy and gathering data from various sources before the next meeting.

Chair Maloney planned to send out date possibilities to attendees and collectively work on a plan with Michael to craft the policy.

**Future Meeting Dates:** April 25, 2024 @ 5:00 PM

**Motion to Adjourn**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Hewitt

**Votes in Favor:** 7

**Votes Against:** 0

**Adjourned:** 6:01 PM

**Respectfully submitted:** Lizvett Bost

**Approved:** April 25, 2024