OFFICE OF INSPECTOR GENERAL

CITY OF NEW ORLEANS



ED QUATREVAUX INSPECTOR GENERAL

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CITY'S FLEET NEEDS BETTER MANAGEMENT; CITY AGREES

The New Orleans Office of Inspector General (OIG) today released a report titled "Fleet Management."

OIG evaluators examined City practices from 2009 through 2014 to determine whether the City had effective policies and procedures in place to manage its fleet and control the cost of operations. The report shows that the City could not produce reliable basic information such as how many vehicles it had, how often they were used, and what type of repairs were performed.

The City owned more than \$60 million in motor vehicle and equipment assets including police cars, fire trucks, ambulances, garbage trucks, street sweepers, vacuum trucks, bucket trucks, and passenger vehicles, and spent approximately \$12 million in 2014 on fleet management.

Evaluators found that the City did not:

- have a functional fleet management information system;
- have an accurate and reliable list of vehicles and equipment;
- establish vehicle use standards or track vehicle use to determine the right size and make-up of the fleet;
- ensure that vehicles received preventive maintenance at recommended intervals;
- conduct life-cycle analyses to create vehicle replacement criteria; and
- implement an organizational structure that supported effective fleet management.

The OIG recommended that the City should:

- begin systematically collecting and analyzing information about its fleet;
- ensure that it has an accurate and reliable vehicle list;
- develop data-driven standards for vehicle and equipment use to achieve optimal fleet size;
- establish formal preventive maintenance schedules and enforce them;
- use life-cycle analysis to create fleet replacement criteria and fund vehicle acquisitions at the optimal time;
- provide the fleet manager with sufficient authority to oversee effective fleet operations.

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The City agreed to implement all of the OIG's recommendations.

"We found that the City's fleet management program needs a total overhaul, and the City agreed to fix it," stated Inspector General Ed Quatrevaux. "The City's plan to issue a request for proposals for a new information system by the end of this month shows it is making management of the fleet a priority."

In addition to today's report, the OIG released a <u>brief</u> with highlights. All OIG reports can be viewed at <u>nolaoig.gov.</u>

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