

Lemoore council will consider purchase of more natural gas vehicles

By Mike Eiman

Hanford Sentinel, Tues., March 19, 2013

LEMOORE - The Lemoore City Council will hear an update Tuesday night on the city's compressed natural gas (CNG) station.

Located on Iona Avenue, the station debuted in September serving city vehicles, Lemoore-area school buses, KART buses and members of the public who own natural gas vehicles. As of Feb. 28, the station had dispensed more than 14,000 gallon equivalents of natural gas.

In order to save on fuel costs and help the environment, the city purchased a natural gas front-loading refuse truck and street sweeper to replace older diesel-powered vehicles.

The council will consider authorizing staff to go to bid for two CNG side-loading refuse vehicles. The city expects the vehicles would save about \$8,500 in fuel costs per year.

The \$725,000 station was paid for using air quality offset credits, AB 118 grant funds and other sources.

In other action, the council will consider an ordinance that would prohibit individuals or businesses from blowing, raking, sweeping or placing debris onto city streets and other public rights of way.

During a 5:30 p.m. study session, the council will discuss an ongoing proposal to install solar arrays at the city's wastewater treatment plant and various well sites. The project would cost an estimated \$10.5 million.

The Lemoore City Council meets at 7:30 p.m. in the council chambers, located at 429 C St.