

City of Punta Gorda

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA, ENCOURAGING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF ONE OR MORE COMPRESSED NATURAL GAS (CNG) STATIONS WITHIN CHARLOTTE COUNTY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the City Council seeks operationally to reduce expenses; and

WHEREAS, compressed natural gas is available at 30-60% less than the cost of gasoline, as a rule of thumb; and

WHEREAS, Fleet vehicles which use large amounts of fuel, realize savings more quickly from the lower price of compressed natural gas relative to gasoline and diesel; and

WHEREAS, Compressed natural gas powered vehicles have lower maintenance costs when compared with other hydrocarbon fuel-powered vehicles; and

WHEREAS, whenever possible and feasible the City of Punta Gorda should seek opportunities to reduce our dependence on gasoline (petrol) and diesel fuel, seeking substitutes where economically feasible; and

WHEREAS, Compressed natural gas is much safer than other fuels in the event of a spill (natural gas is lighter than air, and disperses quickly when released); and

WHEREAS, Compressed natural gas use has grown steadily at a 30 percent annual rate in response to high fuel prices and environmental concerns of petroleum fuels; and

WHEREAS, vehicles powered by combusting natural gas instead of gasoline would still produce CO₂, they would produce about 25% less for the same amount of energy; and

WHEREAS, combustion of gasoline produces much larger amounts of nitrogen oxides (NO_x, which cause smog) and other air pollutants than combustion of natural gas; and

WHEREAS, due to lower carbon dioxide and nitrogen oxides emissions, switching to compressed natural gas can help mitigate greenhouse gas emissions; and

WHEREAS, lack of available fueling stations for compressed natural gas vehicles greatly inhibits the opportunity to take advantage of the cost savings, safety and environmental benefits of using compressed natural gas.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PUNTA GORDA, FLORIDA, THAT:

1. The recitals above are hereby true and incorporated herein.
2. That the City Council of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida supports an initiative for one or more compressed natural gas refueling stations to be established within Charlotte County for use by County, City and other government and private fleet vehicles.
3. The City Council of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida supports a similar initiative for one or more compressed natural gas refueling stations to be established within Charlotte County for use by private vehicle owners.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.

ADOPTED at regular session of the City Council of the City of Punta Gorda, Florida this _____ day of _____, 20____.

WILLIAM ALBERS, Mayor

ATTEST:

SUE FOSTER, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

DAVID M. LEVIN, City Attorney