

Public Comment regarding Board Agenda Item 7:

The prior Sweetwater Authority policy of recommending replacement of vehicles at a) age of 10 years, b) 100, 000 miles, or 5,000 hours, and c) a certain cost ratio - is 1950's vintage maintenance philosophy. Additionally, the SWA cost ratio does not make economic sense and it uses Preventative Maintenance costs to help justify a new vehicle.

Times have changed and the vehicles produced now, some 70 years later last much longer.

Time or mileage (engine hours) is not a good indicator of the ability of a vehicle to perform its' function. A vehicle should be kept in service and used until it requires repairs costing some amount, say about 30% of the cost of a new vehicle. Private sector uses a vehicle until the cost to repair is 50% of the cost of new. Prior repairs are not considered as they are a cost of ownership which has restored the form, fit or function to the vehicle.

Submitted,

Mike Sampsel