

Mayoral Column

NEW HYBRID TRUCK HELPS CUT CO2 EMISSIONS IN LEICHHARDT

Dear Residents,

Once again, Leichhardt Council is leading the way on sustainability and reducing its impact on the environment in purchasing a new Hybrid Diesel truck for use by the Parks and Gardens section using captured rainwater from tanks at its depot.

Council's new environmentally friendly truck is powered by an electronic motor in conjunction with a diesel engine which has the potential to reduce its fuel consumption by up to 40%.

The unique idle-stop feature on this vehicle turns off the engine when the truck is stationary in traffic which is perfect for the main street garden maintenance work where a lot of time spent in traffic.

The hybrid truck achieves up to 72% less Carbon Monoxide (CO₂) emissions and an 87% reductions in partial matter (PM) and decrease in Nitrogen Oxide (NO_x) going into the atmosphere.

To add to the environmental benefits of the Hybrid truck in reducing Carbon Monoxide emissions, the onboard water tanks will be filled (when possible) with water from captured rainwater in tanks at the Leichhardt depot.

The purchase of this Hybrid vehicle follows the decision by Council to become the first local Council in the Sydney metropolitan area to power its entire fleet of diesel trucks and plant equipment using Biodiesel.

Leichhardt Council has 59 trucks and plant equipment that operate on diesel fuel. Using biodiesel in our entire fleet will result in significant benefits to the environment, particularly in the reduction of emissions of carbon monoxide and hydrocarbons.

Leichhardt hopes to replace many more vehicles across its entire fleet of trucks and cars with hybrid vehicles to reduce emissions and much as possible and to set an example to the general public that real action is necessary to address climate change.

Cr Jamie Parker
Mayor of Leichhardt