

Reducing Fuel Consumption without Impacting Police Service

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Rising fuel costs coupled with shrinking public safety budgets create the need for police departments to become innovative in service delivery. The purpose of this paper is to identify methods of transportation and identify fuel strategies that reduce fuel consumption while maintaining existing standards. Twenty-four departments, primarily in Florida and a few in the Southeast United States, with similar geography and climate as the Tallahassee Police Department, were surveyed with 63% participation. All alternatives were examined on the basis of cost savings and effectiveness. Findings illustrate that modifying policies rather than utilizing alternative vehicles are an agencies best chance for reducing fuel consumption while maintaining the same level of police service.