



## Perris Press Release

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### AQMD Funds Bring Hybrid Vehicles to Perris

Perris officials continued their commitment to green energy in 2012 with the purchase of two hybrid vehicles that will save thousands of gallons of gasoline and reduce carbon emissions for years to come.

The new Lincoln MKZ cars were purchased with funding provided through the Air Quality Management District as an incentive for the City to remove older, less fuel-efficient vehicles from its fleet.

That means the total costs of the vehicles came from restricted state funding that can only be spent on improving air quality, and not a penny from City of Perris funds.

Public Works Manager Daryl Hartwill said the new vehicles operate on a combination of gasoline and electricity. Below 45 mph, the new Lincolns operate exclusively on electricity. The battery is recharged every time the driver depresses the brake pedal.



This silver 2012 Lincoln MKZ gas/electric hybrid will save Perris thousands of gallons of fuel and reduce carbon emissions for years.

Hartwill said the City expects to save thousands of gallons of fuel and its associated costs over the lifetime of the hybrids. Perris elected officials said the new vehicles keep the City on its course to developing a comprehensive sustainable energy policy.

"This is a great deal for the City of Perris," said Mayor Daryl Busch. "Not only are we getting green vehicles, they are state-of-the-art vehicles. These are high-performance, highly fuel-efficient vehicles. They will save us a lot of money over the years." Saving money and energy is nothing new for Perris. For years, the City has used clean-burning compressed natural gas vehicles in its Public Works and Development Services fleets.

In 2008, the City was honored by the League of California Cities for installing solar panels throughout its City Hall Campus, which reduced electricity consumption by 20 percent and removed nearly a million pounds of carbon dioxide from the atmosphere each year.

In 2009, the City worked with HaneBrands Inc. to create the largest green building in the world, a 1.3-million square-foot distribution center in north Perris.

Work is progressing on the installation of the one of the country's largest array of solar collectors atop the Whirlpool distribution center. When operational, the 29,600 solar panels will collect and store 10-megawatts of electricity, enough to power 5,000 homes in Perris.

At the new City fire station on San Jacinto Avenue, architects are incorporating natural lighting to maximize energy efficiency. The station is scheduled to open later this year.

"We are really proud to do our part to create a green-energy community," Busch said. "I think we are ahead of the curve."

Hartwill said the City of Perris expects to obtain a third hybrid vehicle later this year. The City is seeking bids on a new animal control truck that will replace an older, less-efficient vehicle. That vehicle should join the City fleet sometime in the next few months.