



Perris News

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New Public Work Truck is Green...and Free

Perris' new Public Works truck is a big rig for big jobs.

But it's oh so friendly to the environment. And it didn't cost City taxpayers a cent.

The 4-wheel drive Chevrolet arrived earlier this month and will be on display at the upcoming Southern California Fair at the Lake Perris Fairgrounds from Oct. 10-18. It's powered by compressed natural gas, an alternative fuel that doesn't produce the volume of greenhouse gases and other pollutants that gasoline-powered vehicle create.

Funding from Southern California's Air Quality Management District picked up the \$127,000 price tag.

"We are very glad to receive this truck," said Public Works Manager Daryl Hartwill. "It's a rolling repair shop. This truck will be used daily to help maintain our fleet that is in the field."

The rig looks impressive. The on-board crane can hoist the front end of a road grader so a flat tire can be changed without having to call pricey towing companies. Its welder can fix a broken blade from a City bulldozer and quickly put it back on the job. The fuel system can hold enough compressed natural gas to fuel other vehicles should they run dry.

The specialty lighting system can illuminate a large area at night.

There's plenty of space for tool boxes.

Hartwill said the truck will save the City significant funds over time by allowing Public Works staff to complete emergency repairs in-house rather than outside contractors.

The fleet maintenance vehicle marks the City's latest effort to go green. Perris has already installed solar panels around its City Hall Campus, recently began operating a water-stingy demonstration garden and helped bring about one of the largest green buildings in the world, the Hanesbrands Inc. distribution center. Hartwill said Perris operates 12 alternative-fuel trucks in its 54-vehicle fleet and hopes one day to have an entirely green fleet.

City Councilman Al Landers said he's pleased, but not surprised that Perris once again is using its resources to help make the air cleaner.

"Without any costs to our residents, the City has re-confirmed its commitment to the environment," Landers said. "I am very pleased to be part of a City that is so forward thinking and responsible. We all want to leave a legacy of responsibility for future generations. Once again Perris is on the cutting edge."

See a short video about Public Works employees

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Mayor Daryl Busch in front of the City's new Public Works Truck. The new rig will help the City in its commitment to "go green" with alternative fuel vehicles.



The Public Works rig is a big truck for big jobs. Funding from the Air Quality Management District paid for the truck.