

City of Dayton City Commissioners

Wednesday August 2, 2023

Brian Buschur, Dayton Resident and Business Owner

My name is Brian Buschur, I'm a Dayton business owner and resident. My family owns McMahan's Bottle Gas on Intercity Drive. We have been servicing greater Dayton families and businesses since 1955.

I'm here to commend the City's efforts to reduce emissions through their Climate Action Plan. The plan includes replacing the city's 1, 200 gasoline-fleet vehicles with electric vehicles by 2035. The plan will also ban residents and businesses from using gas and diesel vehicles by 2040.

I believe someday electric vehicles will have a major role in transportation, but I also think the city should explore other fuels and technologies available right now that are more cost effective and cleaner than electric vehicles.

There's over 30,000 propane-fueled vehicles in Ohio and only 21,000 electric vehicles in the state. That's according to the US Department of Energy and the EPA. Both the DOE and EPA say propane is the most widely adopted alternative fuel used by U.S. cities, schools and private fleets. Propane vehicles cost less and have lower carbon emissions than gasoline, diesel and even less than electric vehicles.

As the supply-chain for electric vehicles grows to keep pace with sales, there are serious human and environmental issues.

Recent news reports highlighted the work of a Harvard scientist who exposed EV's hazardous environmental footprint.

He was quoted saying that 75% of the world's supply of cobalt mined for EV batteries comes from brutal mining practices controlled by a militia in the Congo using child labor, their parents and other adults.

Our company wholeheartedly agrees with most of the reasons driving the growth of EVs and strongly believe in EV's future.



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What's not being discussed - in the rush to advance EVs - is the destructive human and environmental costs in their supply chain. I hope Dayton leaders will make room for this discussion.


Our local electric utility is a good one. But like most utilities it needs to use a mix of fuels that includes coal and other fossil fuels to generate electricity. That means if the city's 45 transit buses were electric our city would emit 24 additional metric tons-per-year of green house gasses when compared to propane buses.

I know the city of Dayton wants to get rid of internal combustion engines, but propane fleets are an example of why we should consider fuel diversity as we transition to a carbon neutral city.


I hope our city leaders consider what I have shared with you today.

Thank you Mayor Mims and our Commissioners for letting me speak today.


Greater Dayton Electricity Sources




Nuclear Energy Facilities >
About 20% of America's electricity is generated from nuclear energy. Some states such as South Carolina generate more than 50% of their electricity from nuclear energy.




Oil and Gas Electricity >
Most of the electricity in the United States is generated using fossil fuels. Duke Energy operates a system of generating plants fueled by oil or natural gas to supplement the power supply during peak times.



Energy From Coal >
Coal plants have helped Duke Energy reliably meet customer needs for more than a century and represent about 27% of our generation portfolio. As we pursue cleaner energy technologies to meet increasing customer deman...



Pumped Storage Hydro Plants >
Electricity itself cannot be stored, but the potential to create electricity can. Pumped-storage plants make it possible for us to store the potential energy of water and quickly deliver it when it is needed.



Conventional Hydro Plants >
Inexpensive and environmentally friendly, hydroelectric plants harness energy produced by flowing water. While hydroelectricity accounts for only a small percentage of the electricity used by our customers, it...

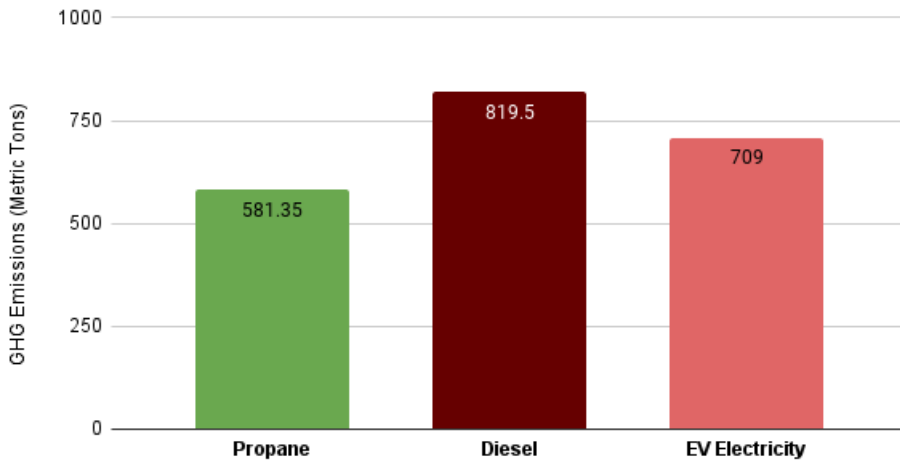
Greater Dayton Electric Sources:
Renewables and hydro: 7%, coal: 27%, Natural Gas: 43%, Nuclear: 17%, Other: 16% (Source: *Duke Energy*)



Clean Cities Coalition video explains the benefits of propane vehicles <https://afdc.energy.gov/case/1725>

The City of Dayton
High Cost and High Emission of Electric Vehicles

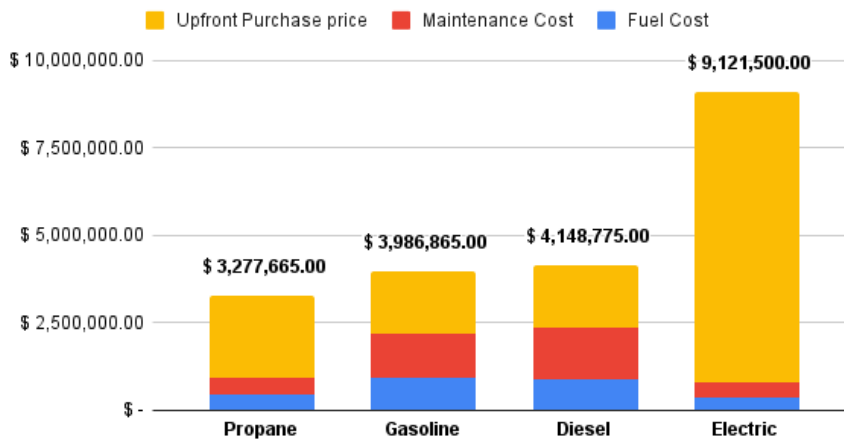
**Total Greenhouse Gas Emissions
 (45 Dayton Para-Transit Buses, Over 1 Year)**



Emissions Source:
 US Dept. of Energy, Argonne National Laboratory
 GREET Calculator 2022

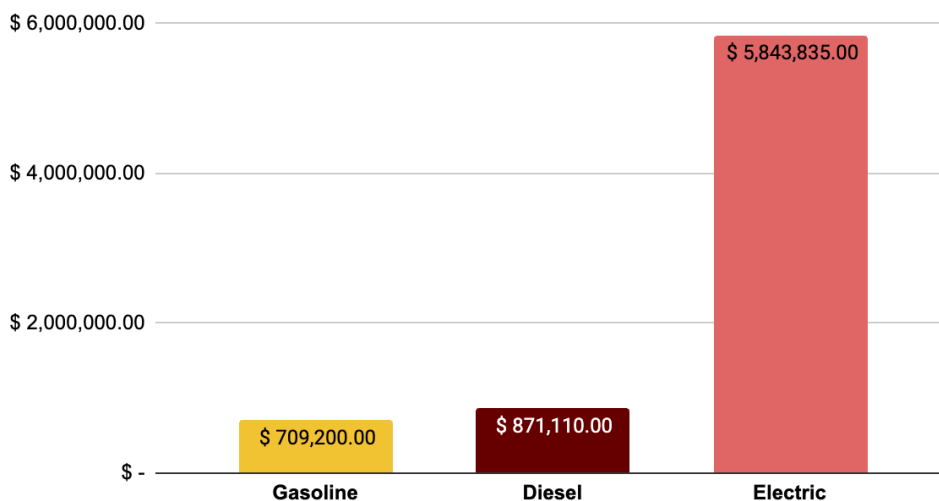
Greater Dayton Electricity Generation Sources

**Cost of Ownership For Dayton Tax Payers
 (Comparing 45 Dayton Transit Buses Over 15 Year Life-cycle)**



Cost Source:
 Federal Department of Transportation
 Bus Lifecycle Cost Model for
 Federal Land Management Agencies

**Life-Cycle Savings Switching To Propane
 (45 Para-Transits, 15 year Life-Cycle)**



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 Federal Department of Transportation
 Bus Lifecycle Cost Model for
 Federal Land Management Agencies