

## **NEWS RELEASE From Mayor Dean DePiero**

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## PARMA TEAMS-UP WITH ENVIRONMENTAL GROUP FOR EMISSION CONTROL PROGRAM

**(PARMA)** – The City of Parma is partnering with the non-profit Ohio Environmental Council (OEC) to retrofit a dozen city vehicles with state-of-the-art emission control devices. Center City International, a major manufacturer of heavy-duty trucks, is also a partner in the program that was made possible by a grant from the U.S. EPA.

"Grant money can be used in a number of ways to help our residents and businesses," said Parma Mayor Dean DePiero. "Helping to keep our environment clean and healthy benefits everyone in the region. Being "green" is the smart thing to do."

According to the OEC, the diesel oxidation catalysts (DOCs) will reduce pollution by about 30% on heavy duty diesel vehicles. The closed crankcase ventilation systems reroutes other engine emissions out the tailpipe. Twelve DOCs are installed and ten closed crankcase ventilation systems.

"This is a great collaboration," said David R. Celebrezze, Director of Air and Water Special Projects at the Ohio Environmental Council. "By taking steps to reduce pollution, we are improving air quality and helping Ohio's counties meet federal air quality standards."

The OEC says the \$30,000 grant awarded to the City of Parma was designed to clean-up diesel fleets in Ohio. Parma is one of nine fleets that are benefiting from the program.

"This grant allows us to use state-of-the art emission controls on our fleet," said Parma Service Director Brian Higgins. "These modifications go a long way to help us stay one step ahead in keeping our air quality healthy for our residents as well as our workers."

"We know air pollution can cause serious environmental problems, not to mention health hazards that force businesses to cope with lost work days," said Mayor DePiero. "Taking a pro-active, innovative approach like this creates a healthier atmosphere for people, pets and mother nature."

You can contact David R. Celebrezze for more information at 614-487-7506 or david@theOEC.org.