

Junk Vehicles: Program Overview & Electric Vehicle Considerations

Transportation Interim Committee
July 10, 2024
Katy Callon, Research Analyst

LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

Key Definitions

- Junk Vehicle
- Motor Vehicle Wrecking Facility
- Motor Vehicle Graveyard
- Abandoned Vehicle



EGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION

Junk Vehicle Program – Entities Involved & Roles

- Montana Department of Environmental Quality
- Counties
- Motor Vehicle Wrecking Facilities
- Others, Including Law Enforcement, Tow Truck Operators, Etc.



Overview of the Process

- For junk and/or abandoned vehicles, the city or county is notified, either by citizens or law enforcement.
- DEQ has a flow chart for the process regarding abandoned vehicles:
 - https://deq.mt.gov/files/Land/JunkVehicles/Documents/JV%20Abandoned%20Vehicle%20Flow.pdf
- The vehicle is towed to either a county junk vehicle graveyard or a private motor vehicle wrecking facility.
- The vehicle may then be either stowed or depending on the ownership and condition, may be sold or taken to a motor vehicle wrecking facility.



Program Funding

Junk Vehicle Disposal Account Ending Fund Balance						
	Actual FY 2019	Actual FY 2020	Actual FY 2021	Actual FY 2022	Actual FY 2023	YTD FY2024
Beginning Fund Balance	\$175,565	\$149,174	\$278,591	\$179,726	\$266,156	\$376,870
Nominal Revenues						
Grants/Transfers/Misc	\$1,617,308	\$1,606,100	\$1,741,548	\$1,793,156	\$1,818,571	\$1,540,341
Licenses & Permits	104,730	229,794	164,728	306,271	234,746	\$106,064
Other				53		-
Total Revenues	\$1,722,038	\$1,835,894	\$1,906,276	\$2,099,480	\$2,053,317	\$1,646,405
Nominal Disbursements						
Personal Services	(\$190,309)	(\$89,359)	(\$193,546)	(\$207,744)	(\$234,770)	(\$222,051
Operating Expenses	(200, 262)	(211,484)	(263,281)	(251,566)	(235,923)	(327,462)
Speculator Mine Centenary Memorial Grant	-	-	-	-	-	-
Grants to counties	(1,356,489)	(1,404,259)	(1,546,945)	(1,552,336)	(1,471,909)	(1,494,617
Transfer to Natural Resource Operations	-	-	-	-	-	-
Non Budgeted Transfer	(1,369)	(1,375)	(1,369)		-	-
	-			(1,404)		-
Total Disbursements	(\$1,748,429)	(\$1,706,477)	(\$2,005,141)	(\$2,013,050)	(\$1,942,602)	(\$2,044,130
Prior Period Adjustments	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	(\$1)	\$0
Ending Fund Balance						
Cash	\$295,275	\$382,893	\$263,024	\$354,486	\$463,707	\$57,855
Receivables	1,000	100	300	300	600	1,500
Liabilities	(147, 101)	(104,402)	(83,599)	(88,630)	(87,436)	(80,210
Other			1		(1)	-
Ending Fund Balance	\$149,174	\$278,591	\$179,726	\$266,156	\$376,870	(\$20,855

Source: Legislative Fiscal Division



Electric Vehicle Considerations

- DEQ is currently developing a plan to ensure the proper infrastructure is in place to ensure safe acceptance of junk electric vehicles when the need arises.
- Some specific EV considerations include:
 - Towing
 - Lithium-Ion Battery Recycling
 - Safety & Storage



Summary

- Montana has a well-developed program for the recycling and disposal of junk and abandoned vehicles in the state.
- Electric vehicle adoption is predicted to grow in the state.
- As these vehicles move toward the end of their life cycle, it will be important
 to safely incorporate them into the program, as well as to account for any
 additional funding that may be needed to accommodate them.



LEGISLATIVE SERVICES DIVISION