

Request for Approval- Purchase of DEF Storage and Oil Container System

Town of Worthington – Highway Department

Overview *(please note this information is combined and there will be 2 items to vote on)*

The Highway Department is requesting approval to purchase and install a **Diesel Exhaust Fluid (DEF) storage system (\$2,263.50)** and a **bulk oil container system (\$5,027.41)** for use in the town garage. This investment will modernize current fluid handling practices, improve safety, reduce long-term costs, and increase operational efficiency.

Current Conditions/Why This Matters

At present, DEF and oil products are stored in individual containers and tanks on the garage floor. This setup presents several concerns:

- Increased risk of spills and contamination which can damage equipment and harm the environment
- Messy and cluttered workspace, limiting safe movement and efficiency
- Use of an outdated and potentially hazardous transfer pump
- We are paying more than necessary by buying DEF in smaller quantities instead of bulk

Proposed System

The proposed system includes:

- A **dedicated DEF storage and dispensing unit**
- A **bulk oil container system with controlled dispensing**
- Replacement of the **existing transfer pump** with a modern, enclosed, and safer alternative



This upgrade would replace that setup with a clean, organized system that safely stores and dispenses fluids. Instead of multiple containers on the floor, everything would be in one secure, easy-to-use system.

Key Benefits

1. Improved Safety

- Eliminates loose containers and reduces tripping hazards
- Reduces risk of spills and environmental contamination
- Replaces the current hazardous transfer pump with a safer, more reliable system
- Provides controlled, enclosed fluid transfer

2. Increased Efficiency

- Streamlined dispensing saves employee time during daily operations
- Cleaner and more organized garage workspace
- Easier inventory tracking and management of fluids



This current pump is not up to OSHA standards and is a liability.

3. Cost Savings/Saving the Town Money

- Ability to **purchase DEF in bulk**, significantly reducing per-gallon cost
- Reduced waste and product loss from spills or improper handling
- Longer equipment life due to cleaner and more consistent fluid handling

4. Environmental Responsibility

- Minimizes risk of fluid leaks reaching drains or soil
- Supports best practices for handling petroleum-based and chemical products
- Aligns with ongoing efforts to improve environmental stewardship within the department

Financial Impact

While there is an upfront cost for the purchase and installation of these systems, the town can expect:

- Long-term savings through bulk purchasing
- Reduced maintenance and replacement costs
- Lower risk of costly environmental cleanup or liability

Conclusion

Investing in a DEF storage and oil container system is a practical and responsible upgrade for the Highway Department. It enhances safety for employees, reduces environmental risk, improves efficiency, and provides measurable cost savings over time.

While there is an upfront cost, this system will pay for itself through savings, safer operations, and reduced risk.

Approval of this purchase is respectfully requested.



Replacing the loose drum barrels.



1" Wall-Mounted Waste Oil Evacuation System



New Pump