propane autogas

Paratransit Fleet Saves $9.8 Million in Six Years with Propane Autogas

Thanks to propane's low fuel costs and available grants, Broward County Transit is saving the environment and its budget at the same time.

When deciding on the right energy solution for Florida's Broward County Transit, Paul Strobis, the director of paratransit, had several factors to take into account. First, the vehicle range. With a 471-square-mile county, Broward County Transit provides more than 900,000 trips a year across 11.5 million miles. Second, the environment. Broward is nestled between the fragile Everglades and coral reefs, so the energy source had to reduce emissions. Finally, the cost. The energy solution couldn't drive up the cost of achieving a high-volume, near-zero emissions fleet.

The only energy source that could achieve all of these goals at once was propane autogas. Not only has Broward County been able to easily keep up with the volume of passengers, but the fleet has reduced CO_2 emissions by thousands of metric tons and saved more than $9.8 million in the process.

FLEET PROFILE

73%
OF THE FLEET USES PROPANE AUTOGAS:

- **124** FORD E-450 DRW CUTAWAYS
- **44** FORD TAURUSES
- **102** FORD TRANSIT CUTAWAYS

6
PROPANE AUTOGAS REFUELING STATIONS



BROWARD COUNTY TRANSIT PROPANE HIGHLIGHTS

11,975
METRIC TONS
of CO_2 reduced from the fleet over five years

$9.8M
IN COST SAVINGS
from 2015–2021

300
MILE
range for each vehicle

73%
OF THE FLEET
currently operates on propane autogas with plans to transition more vehicles as they are retired

20¢
THE AMOUNT OF MONEY
saved per mile on propane autogas maintenance costs compared to gasoline





PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

Broward County as a whole prioritizes alternative energy solutions to protect the fragile environment it encompasses. It's why Strobis chose propane autogas engines, which are 90 percent cleaner than the most stringent Environmental Protection Agency standards. Since making the switch from gasoline to propane, Broward County has reduced its CO_2 emissions by 60.5 metric tons per bus. That means within the full fleet, Broward has reduced its CO_2 emissions by 11,975 metric tons in five years.

COST SAVINGS

Broward County isn't just turning heads with its impressive emissions reductions. Because propane autogas offers low maintenance and fuel costs, Broward County has saved $6.3 million compared to gasoline in the six years that it's operated on a mostly propane fleet. Broward's average net cost-per-gallon for propane autogas is $0.86, and the average maintenance cost-per-mile is $0.20 less than gasoline.

Strobis was also able to take advantage of state and federal grants, like the Alternative Fuel Tax Credit, which has amounted to an additional $3.5 million in savings over six years. When it's all added up, that's over $9.8 million saved and put back into the fleet.

REMAINING RESILIENT

During hurricane season, Broward County Paratransit is tasked with evacuating its vulnerable population who cannot evacuate themselves. For Strobis, that meant he needed a reliable energy solution that could keep running for hundreds of miles even when gasoline stations closed or ran out of fuel. Propane autogas was the mobile energy source he needed.

When a recent hurricane hit Florida, Broward County worked with its propane supplier to have two propane autogas delivery trucks on site to provide fuel for the vehicles. While the gasoline-powered vehicles were grounded, the propane autogas buses were able to continue evacuations. Not to mention, Broward's propane autogas vehicles have a range of over 300 miles before needing to refuel, allowing the fleet to keep going when it was needed most.

Since implementing propane autogas, Strobis has been able to demonstrate significant environmental, financial and operational efficiencies, allowing him to check off each of these goals for his fleet.

Another BROWARD COUNTY GO GREEN Project
SEAL OF SUSTAINABILITY

FOR MORE INFORMATION

To learn about propane autogas vehicles and the fleets that use them, visit **Propane.com/Fleet-Vehicles**.

"When you compare the types of infrastructure, this is the most cost-effective infrastructure you can have and it's so mobile. It's wonderful."

PAUL STROBIS
Director of Paratransit

Propane Education & Research Council

1140 Connecticut Ave. NW, Suite 1075 / Washington, DC 20036
P 202-452-8975 / F 202-452-9054
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