

2009 Vehicle Comparison

	Kia - Sorrento	Ford – Escape	Chevy - Equinox	Saturn - Vue
Year	2009	2009	2010	2009
Engine	3.3L V6	2.5L V4	3.4L V6	V4
Transmission	Rear Wheel	Front Wheel	Front Wheel	Front Wheel
MPG	16/22	20 / 28	17 / 24	19 / 26
Warrantee	10y / 100K Power train 5y / 60k Basic	5y / 60K Power train 3y / 36k Basic	5y / 100K Power train 3y / 36k Basic	5y / 100K Power train 3y / 36k Basic
Est. Price	\$20,870.71	\$23,445	\$22,041	\$23,280

	Pontiac - Torrent	Jeep - Compass	Dodge - Nitro	Mazda – Tribute
Year	2009	2009	2009	2009
Engine	V4	2.2L V4	3.7L V6	2.5L V4
Transmission	Front Wheel	Front Wheel	Rear Wheel	Front Wheel
MPG	17 / 24	21/25	16 / 22	20 / 28
Warrantee	5y / 100K Power train 3y / 36k Basic	Lifetime Power train 3y / 36k Basic	Lifetime Power train 3y / 36k Basic	5y / 60k Power train 3y / 36k Basic
Est. Price	\$23,515	\$22,045.42	\$22,985	\$23,605

	Background Information	
--	------------------------	--

	Background Information
Kia Sorrento	The only vehicle in this class with rear wheel drive. This will eliminate our CV Joint issues. This has been a problem with all of our previous patrol cars and has amounted to the majority of our maintenance costs. The Sorrento is easy to get in and out of, and has exceptional visibility. It offers a 5Y/60K warrantee and is nicely priced.
Ford Escape	A reliable patrol car, good visibility, but having front wheel drive makes maintenance issues a concern. Not aggressively priced as the Kia's.
Chevy Equinox	Excellent ride and handling that comes with lots of standard options even on the base model. It is built on a car chassis, but the vehicle is larger than either the Ford or Kia with 17" rims. Price is the main issue with this vehicle. Residents could also perceive it as too large of an SUV.
Saturn Vue	Staff rated this vehicle the worst in comfort. It's small interior and difficulty in getting in and out make it a poor choice for a patrol car.
Pontiac Torrent	Made several requests to preview the vehicle but the dealership was not able to locate a vehicle for us to test drive.
Jeep Compass	Good gas mileage but vehicle drove very poorly, vehicle is geared to change gears at 25mph which makes it unpractical for patrolling at low speeds. Small interior makes normal patrol deliveries an issue.
Dodge Nitro	Aggressive styling, poor ride and handling, makes this vehicle not suitable for commercial use. It has also been rated by several automotive reviews for having poor reliability.
Mazda Tribute	The sister to the Ford Escape, again with any front wheel drive vehicle, maintenance issues are expected.
Other Alternatives Considered	To be as efficient as possible, several times in the past we have looked at purchasing vehicles with hybrid technology. However when closely researched the increase of price and actual usage does not make hybrids a sensible alternative. The fuel efficiency rating on the vehicles is deceiving, because our usage is not the "average persons". Our fuel average is 15mpg. This is what we can expect to get. On most hybrid vehicles, the ac/heater cannot run without the engine. Even though we produce high mileage the cost saving would not been seen until the vehicle is over the 100k mile range at which point we would run into maintenance issues and down time as we experienced with the 2006 trial. In which we kept the vehicles for two years. Additionally we have considered smaller vehicles. However, by doing so substantially loose our ability to view over shrubs and bushes. Traffic control also requires high range of visibility. Most communities with patrols use SUV's for these reasons. As alternative fuel and hybrid technology improves, we will carefully consider those options as efficient as possible.