

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE December 9, 2022

TO Honorable Members of the Public Safety Committee
Adam McGough (Chair), Cara Mendelsohn (Vice Chair), Tennell Atkins, Jesse Moreno,
Jaime Resendez, Casey Thomas, Gay Donnell Willis

SUBJECT **December 14, 2022, City Council Agenda Item #59; 22-2755 Towing Ordinance**

The following agenda item is scheduled to go before City Council on December 14, 2022.

Agenda Item #59; 22-2755

An ordinance amending Chapter 15D, "Emergency Vehicles," and Chapter 28, "Motor Vehicles and Traffic," of the Dallas City Code by amending Sections 15D-57 and 28-4; **(1)** updating the maximum fee schedule for emergency wrecker services; **(2)** updating fees for impoundment and vehicle storage; **(3)** providing a penalty not to exceed \$1,000.00; **(4)** providing a saving clause; **(5)** providing a severability clause; and **(6)** providing an effective date - Estimated Annual Net Revenue: General Fund \$69,734.00 (see Fiscal Information).

BACKGROUND

The Dallas Police Department is seeking to improve efficiencies with Emergency Wrecker services through the Council award of the contract for Auto Pound Management and Towing Services approved by Resolution No. 22-1470 on September 28, 2022. Changes approved through this action will update the maximum fees charged for towing, impoundment, and storage related to emergency wrecker services. Impound and Storage Fees were last updated in 2005, while Towing Fees were updated in 2018.

Fee adjustments will include the following:

<u>Fee Description</u>	<u>Current Fee</u>	<u>Proposed Fee</u>
Impound	\$20.00	\$21.03
Storage fee for vehicles under 25	\$20.00/day	\$21.03/day
Storage fee for vehicles over 25	\$35.00/day	\$36.80/day
Tow fee for Light Duty	\$139.00	\$150.00
Tow fee for Medium Duty	\$219.00	\$300.00
Tow fee for Heavy Duty	\$509.00	\$550.00

These updates will align City-charges fees with other large Cities in Texas such as Fort Worth, Austin, Houston, and San Antonio.

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Impound Tow Fee Comparison							
City	Impound	Notification	Storage Under 25'	Storage Over 25'	Tow Fee Light Duty	Tow Fee Medium Duty	Tow Fee Heavy Duty
Dallas Current Fee	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$20.00/Day	\$35.00/Day	\$139.00	\$219.00	\$509.00
Dallas Proposed Fee	\$21.03	\$50.00	\$21.03/Day	\$36.80/Day	\$150.00	\$300.00	\$550.00
Date of Last Change	9/1/2005	9/1/2005	On or About 9/1/2005	On or About 9/1/2005	10/1/2018	10/1/2018	10/1/2018
Benchmark Cities							
Ft Worth	\$21.03	\$50.00	\$21.03/Day	\$36.80/Day	\$150.00	N/A	\$500.00
Austin	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$20.00/Day	\$36.11/Day	\$150.00	\$400.00	\$800.00
Houston	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$20.00/Day	\$35.00/Day	\$190.00	\$357.00	\$459.00
San Antonio	\$20.00	\$50.00	\$20.00/Day	\$35.00/Day	\$175.00	\$293.00	\$690.00
Average Cost of Benchmark Cities	\$20.26	\$50.00	\$20.26/Day	\$35.72/Day	\$166.25	\$350.00	\$612.25
State Regulated Max Fee Allowed	\$21.03	\$50.00	\$21.03/Day	\$36.80/Day	\$272.00	\$380.00	\$489 to \$978

PRIOR ACTION/REVIEW (COUNCIL, BOARDS, COMMISSIONS)

The Public Safety was briefed regarding this matter on June 13, 2022

On June 22, 2022, City Council authorized a public hearing to be held August 10, 2022.

On August 10, 2022, City Council held a public hearing to receive comments amending chapter 15D, "Emergency Vehicles" of the Dallas City Code by amending Sections 15D-15, 15D-16, 15D-17, 15D-21, 15D-22, 15D-50, 15D-52, 15D-53, 15D-55, and 15D-56; (1) providing a definition of dispatcher; (2) clarifying language concerning emergency wrecker service; (3) providing a penalty not to exceed \$1,000.00; (4) providing a saving clause; (5) providing a severability clause; and (6) providing an effective date.

On September 28, 2022, City Council authorized a five-year service contract in the amount of \$38,110,709.72, with a two-year renewal option in a total amount of \$15,244,283.88, as detailed in the Fiscal Information section, for auto pound management and tow services for the Police Department with AutoReturn US, LLC by Resolution No. 22-1470.

FISCAL INFORMATION

Estimated Annual Net Revenue: General Fund \$69,734.00 (potential gross revenue reduced by anticipated annual payments for wrecker services related to City Auto Pound operations, as prescribed in the contract with AutoReturn in the agenda item approved by

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City Council on September 28, 2022, No. 22-1470, totaling an estimated net revenue of \$69,734.00 annually). Ordinance enforcement of penalty up to \$1,000.00 may generate additional revenues to the City.

Should you have any questions or concerns please contact me at (214) 670 5299.



Jon Fortune
Deputy City Manager

c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Biliera Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Deputy City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Assistant City Manager
Robert Perez, Interim Assistant City Manager
Carl Simpson, Interim Assistant City Manager
M. Elizabeth Reich, Chief Financial Officer
Genesis D. Gavino, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
Directors and Assistant Directors