



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: June 26, 2012

Prepared By/Phone Number: Jessica Sammons, 512-854-9759

Elected/Appointed Official/Dept. Head: Sheriff Greg Hamilton, 512-854-9788

Commissioners Court Sponsor: County Judge Sam Biscoe

AGENDA LANGUAGE:

Consider and approve acceptance into the Travis County vehicle fleet of seized Mercedes Benz to be utilized by the Travis County Sheriff's Office in law enforcement operations.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

In April 2011, Travis County Sheriff's Office and the US Marshals Service executed narcotics search warrants in which a 2008 Mercedes Benz was seized. In October 2011 the US Marshall's Service awarded the vehicle to Travis County Sheriff's Office, followed by the transfer of the vehicle in December 2011.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

Vehicle maintenance paid by TCSO funding.

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

Sheriff Greg Hamilton, TCSO 854-9788

Major Phyllis Clair, TCSO 854-9759

Captain Paul Knight, TCSO 854-3239

Mike Joyce, TNR Fleet 854-9383

AGENDA REQUEST DEADLINE: All agenda requests and supporting materials must be submitted as a single pdf to Cheryl Aker in the County Judge's office, Cheryl.Aker@co.travis.tx.us by **Tuesdays at 5:00 p.m.** for the next week's meeting.



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June 12, 2012

To: Honorable Sam Biscoe, County Judge
Honorable Ron Davis, Precinct One Commissioner
Honorable Sarah Eckhardt, Precinct Two Commissioner
Honorable Karen Huber, Precinct Three Commissioner
Honorable Margaret Gomez, Precinct Four Commissioner

From: Major Phyllis Clair, Law Enforcement Bureau 

Reference: Acceptance of a Seized 2008 Mercedes Benz

The Travis County Sheriff's Office would like to request that the Commissioners' Court consider and approve the addition of a seized vehicle awarded to the Travis County Sheriff's Office into the county fleet for use by TCSO.

On 04-14-11, the Travis County Sheriff's Office Vice Unit executed search warrants on a suspected narcotics trafficker. During the execution of the search warrants, one of the arrested persons was driving a 2008 Mercedes Benz Sedan. On 10-25-11, the US Marshals Service awarded the vehicle to TCSO for use in law enforcement. On 11-08-11, the US Marshals Service officially notified TCSO of the seizure award. On 12-06-11, the US Marshals Service certified that the 2008 Mercedes Benz has been transferred to the TCSO.

By procuring this vehicle through federal seizure, TCSO is able to perform undercover operations without having to purchase these types of vehicles which can be costly and once identified as a police vehicle can no longer be used for such operations. The vehicle has been inspected and is in usable condition.

TNR Fleet Manager Mike Joyce has agreed to accept the vehicle into the Travis County Fleet. TCSO would bear the cost of maintenance for the 2008 Mercedes Benz due to the specialized nature of the vehicle. The vehicle will not be eligible for county replacement at the end of its usable life.

We request the Court accept the requested vehicle as county property and allow TCSO to utilize it for undercover surveillance and law enforcement operations. All appropriate title and paperwork will be forward to the county fleet for processing upon approval.

We appreciate the continued support of the Commissioner's Court in our endeavors to serve all of the citizens of Travis County.

cc: Greg Hamilton, Sheriff
Mike Joyce, TNR Fleet Manager



Safety, Integrity, Tradition of Service