



Travis County Commissioners Court Agenda Request

Meeting Date: August 28, 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 changes to towing fees for Travis County Sheriff's Office.

BACKGROUND/SUMMARY OF REQUEST AND ATTACHMENTS:

On July 3, 2012, members of Travis County Sheriff's Office and the Austin Towing Association were directed by Judge Biscoe to meet and attempt to come to an agreement on proposed changes to the towing fees. All parties met on August 13, 2012. As a result of that meeting, proposed changes were agreed upon and are being submitted with this request.

STAFF RECOMMENDATIONS:

ISSUES AND OPPORTUNITIES:

FISCAL IMPACT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:

NA

REQUIRED AUTHORIZATIONS:

Sheriff Greg Hamilton, TCSO 854-9788

Major Phyllis Clair, TCSO 854-9759

Captain Paul Knight, TCSO 854-3239

Travis Gatlin, PBO 854-9065

Jim Connolly, County Attorney 854-9415

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.



JAMES N. SYLVESTER
Chief Deputy

GREG HAMILTON

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(512) 854-9770
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PHYLLIS CLAIR
Major - Law Enforcement

DARREN LONG
Major - Corrections

MARK SAWA
Major - Administration & Support

August 15, 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 

SUBJECT: Adoption of Proposed Towing Fees

The Travis County Sheriff's Office would like to request the Commissioners' Court consider and approve the proposed towing fees.

As directed by Judge Biscoe during Commissioners' Court on July 3, 2012, the Travis County Sheriff's Office and the Austin Towing Association worked together to come up with recommendations for the court. On August 13, proposed fees were agreed upon by representatives from both organizations.

In addition to the proposed increase in towing fees, the TCSO recommends these rates become effective after the following occur:

- 1) The completion of the needed re-write of The Travis County Non-Consent Towing Agreement (in progress with County Attorney Jim Connelly) which will include an increase of the fee for the annual TCSO inspection of wreckers from \$35.00 to \$75.00 (APD charges \$100.00).
- 2) The annual inspection and certification of Wrecker Companies approved to work with Travis County. Generally, this occurs in November / December.



Safety, Integrity, Tradition of Service

3) Changes to internal Travis County Sheriff's Office documents / forms for public information (cost associated).

4) Education of law enforcement staff / and tow truck drivers.

Expecting that the above requisites be completed in a timely fashion, it is anticipated the new towing fees could be assessed beginning January 1, 2013.

Travis County Sheriff's Office has shared this information and agenda request with the President of the Austin Towing Association so that they can be prepared to attend the session.

Thank you in advance for your continued support in our endeavors to serve all of the citizens of Travis County.

xc: Jim Connelly, County Attorney

Travis County Proposed Towing Fee

Recommendation for Commissioner's Court

New towing fees discussed with Austin Towing Association on August 13, 2012 at the TCSO Central Command

<u>Proposed Rate</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Change/ % increase</u>
<u>Class A (<10,000lbs. gvw)</u>		<u>Regular Tow</u>
Tow \$175 flat rate	\$130	\$45 =35%
Wait time \$50/hr. truck and driver after 1 st hour	\$35	\$15 =43%
Clean-up \$50/hr. (cargo/load) After first hr. on scene	\$35	\$15 =43%
Winching \$35	\$35	0
Dollies		included in price
Extra labor \$50/hr.	\$35	\$15 =43%
<u>Class B (gvw>10,001 but<26,000lbs.)</u>		<u>Medium Tow</u>
Tow \$400	\$400	ACCEPTED non challenged
Wait time/ \$50hr. truck and driver after 1st hour	\$35	\$15 =43%
Clean-up \$50/hr. (cargo/load) After first hr. on scene	\$35	\$15 =43%
Winching \$50	\$35	\$15 =43%
Dollies		included in price
Extra labor \$50/hr.	\$35	\$15 =43%
Specialized equipment		rental cost plus 35%

<u>Proposed Rate</u>	<u>Current Rate</u>	<u>Change/ % increase</u>
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<u>Class C (gvw > 26,000lbs.)</u>	<u>Heavy Tow</u>
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Tow \$800	New	\$880 =100%
Additional Class C truck To assist with incident	New	\$600
Winching \$75 per hookup		\$75 =100%
Wait time/ \$25 per 15 min. tow truck and driver after 1 st hour	\$35	\$100hr. =185%
Air Bag /\$100 per bag/per hr.	New	\$100
Haul Trailers \$500	New	\$500
Fork Lift \$125hr.		\$125
Slide Truck/ \$500 Rollback /additional truck		\$500
Clean up \$50 hr. (cargo/load) After first hr. on scene	\$35	\$15 =43%
Additional labor/ \$50hr. manpower to <u>assist</u> primary driver		\$50
Specialized equipment	rental cost plus 35%	

Values

Consumer Price Index (CPI) value= 8%

Fuel surcharge value= 10%

Metropolitan Cities Comparisons

Towing Rates

<u>Rank/ City</u>	<u>Population</u>	<u>Class A</u>	<u>Class B</u>	<u>Class C</u>
4. Austin/Travis	1,716,289	\$150/\$130	\$400	\$800
3. San Antonio/ Bexar Co. SO & centralized system/ zone companies	2,142,508	\$120/\$60	\$240	\$145hr/ \$126/ 2hr. min
2. Houston/Harris	5,946,809	\$143.50		\$218hr/3hr min
1. Dallas /Ft Worth	6,471,773	\$95/\$135	\$150	\$350/\$216hr

Metropolitan Cities Less than a million in Population

5 El Paso (County)	800,647	\$70	\$350	\$350
6 McAllen-Edinburg Rio Grande Valley	774,769	\$100	\$115/1hr	\$115/1hr min

Non Metropolitan Class A ClassB Class C

Local Counties by Polulation

Williamson Co	422,679	\$110	\$400/\$500	\$800
Hays Co.	157,107	\$185	\$400	\$600
Burnet Co	42,750	non-regulated open to company pricing		

Lewis CLARK

CLARK AUTO Care
926-1949

Dustin Clark

Clark Towing 252-2003

Pilly Davenport

Austin Towing Association
512-266-8620

Rodney Hall

AUSTEX TOWING
512 836 7443

Rob Onmond

Texas Towing
512-288-8626

Jackie Milham

Big A Towing
813-7899

Steve HARPER

HARPER'S TOWING
443-1000

DENVER W. KOKEL

DENVER'S TOWING
512-9902114

JAMES KOKEL

LOVE STAR TOWING
(512) 836-0368

DEBBIE BYRNS

MACK'S WRECKER
512-804-1971