

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	22135	Agenda Number	30.
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Meeting Date:	2/28/2013	Department:	Transportation
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Subject

Approve an ordinance amending City Code Section 13-2-13 to provide authority for a police officer to impound a ground transportation service vehicle operated in violation of City Code 13-2-3 (Operating Authority or Taxicab Franchise Required); and declaring an emergency.

Amount and Source of Funding

Fiscal Note

There is no unanticipated fiscal impact. A fiscal note is not required.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Robert Spillar 974-2488, Gordon Derr 974-7228, Carlton Thomas 974-7020, Gilda Powers 974-7092.
Boards and Commission Action:	Recommended by the Urban Transportation Commission on February 12, 2012.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

Austin Transportation Department staff has vetted this process with taxicab, limousine, charter, and shuttle vehicle stakeholders for a period of one year, and has received favorable input and support from the Austin Police Department.

This particular ordinance will allow for the initiation of the impoundment following the procedures set forth by Texas State laws. A vehicle impoundment process will be initiated in instances where sufficient probable cause exists. The vehicle owner will need to follow the steps specified by State law to retrieve the vehicle.

Other cities in the region, including the City of San Antonio, Texas have served as a model, having a longstanding and successful implementation and enforcement of unpermitted vehicles for hire.

The ordinance provides that it will take effect immediately. This is because of plans announced by some unpermitted operators to violate the City Code requirements during South by Southwest.

