

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council

Item ID

67250

Agenda Number

16.

Meeting Date:

2/2/2017

Department:

Austin Police Department

Subject

Approve an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 13-3 relating to escort vehicles and processions.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding beyond the Austin Police Department's FY 2016-2017 budget is not required.

Fiscal Note

A fiscal note is not required for this item.

Purchasing Language:

Prior Council Action:

For More Information:

Brian Manley, Interim Chief of Police, Austin Police Department 512-974-5030

Council Committee,
Boards and
Commission Action:

MBE / WBE:

Related Items:

Additional Backup Information

The Police Department recommends that Council amend Chapter 13 of the City Code relating to escort vehicles and processions. This recommendation was catalyzed by the tragic death of Officer Amir in September, 2016. At the time of his death, Officer Amir was working as a funeral procession escort.

The City enacted many of the existing City Code provisions in 1992. These proposed amendments will accomplish several goals:

- Most important, these changes will improve safety for members of the public travelling in processions, members of the public travelling nearby processions, and law enforcement officers escorting processions.
- These amendments also reflect changes to state law that now allow procession escort vehicles to display and use equipment that will improve escort vehicle visibility and audibility. Specifically, the proposed amendments will allow escort vehicles to display red and blue emergency lights, and to have a siren.
- Finally, these changes are designed to address the need for safer and more flexible rules for escort vehicles and processions that comes with increased population and traffic in the City.