



Recommendation for Action

File #: 19-1797, **Agenda Item #:** 13.

6/6/2019

Posting Language

Approve an ordinance amending the Fiscal Year 2018-19 Fee Schedule (Ordinance No. 20180911-002) to increase the maximum authorized fee for Non-Consent Towing Fees (other than Private Property Tows) for vehicles less than 10,000 pounds from \$150 to \$195.

Lead Department

Austin Police Department

Fiscal Note

This item is projected to result in additional revenue of \$23,251 in FY 2018-19 for the General Fund. A fiscal note is attached.

Prior Council Action:

City Council last amended Non-Consent Towing Fees for vehicles less than 10,000 lbs. on June 8, 2006.

For More Information:

Troy Gay, Chief of Staff, Austin Police Department (512) 974-5030

Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action:

APD presented the towing fee study on April 9th to the Urban Transportation Commission. APD presented a revised version of the towing fee study on May 14th to the Urban Transportation Commission. With an 8-0 vote, the Urban Transportation Commission approved the following: "The Urban Transportation Commission supports Austin Police Department's recommendation to increase the tow fee for non-consent, non-private property tows for vehicles with a weight of less than 10,000 pounds from \$150 to \$195 with the stipulation that APD remains neutral about private property tow fee increases."

Additional Backup Information:

Per City of Austin Code of Ordinances section 13-6-141, the towing companies requested a Towing Fee Study be conducted. At the direction of the City Manager, APD conducted the towing fee study to determine the maximum fees that would represent the fair market value of the services of a towing company performing non-consent tows originating in the City. APD used several methodologies to arrive at a recommendation. These include a measure of the consumer price index, living wage rate, and non-consent towing fee market studies of the Austin Metropolitan Area, as well as, the ten largest Texas cities. After review and consideration of the Towing Fee Study results, the Department recommends an increase for non-consent towing fees (other than private property tows)

for vehicles less than 10,000 lbs. from \$150 maximum to \$195 maximum. These types of non-consent tows consist of police impounds and incident management tows (clearing roadways after a crash). The recommended change will not affect the maximum fee tow companies can charge for private property impound tows. APD takes no position as to whether the maximum fee for non-consent private property tows should be increased. The recommended change to non-consent tows for non-private property impound tows represents the fair market value of the services of a towing company performing non-consent tows originating in the City.