

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE May 31, 2019

Honorable Members of the Government Performance & Financial Management
Committee: Jennifer S. Gates (Chair), Scott Griggs (Vice Chair), Sandy Greyson,
TO Lee M. Kleinman, Philip T. Kingston, Tennell Atkins, Kevin Felder

SUBJECT **An Ordinance Amending Chapter 15D – Emergency Vehicles**

On June 12, the City Council will consider amending Chapter 15D of the City Code to revise and expand the definition of “Emergency Wrecker Service” to include City-owned vehicles. We recommend the City Council approve the agenda item making this change.

Following the completion of the fleet efficiency study, we examined many aspects of our fleet operation, including towing disabled City-owned vehicles, and determined that a change would improve the efficiency of our operations and reduce risk.

Currently, City-owned vehicles that are inoperable for mechanical reasons are classified as requiring non-emergency wrecker service. Two towing companies provide non-emergency wrecker service citywide. Wait times for service can sometimes exceed two hours. Currently, emergency wrecker service is used for removal of wrecked, disabled, and illegally parked vehicles on public streets or property that present a public health or safety hazard. Approximately 32 companies provide emergency wrecker service citywide with a 30-minute response time.

Expanding the definition of emergency wrecker service to include City-owned vehicles will enable faster retrieval of City-owned vehicles that are blocking alleys and driveways, or vehicles disabled in or along the right-of-way that may pose a hazard to other motorists. Expedient retrieval of these vehicles will reduce the risk of roadway injuries and vehicle damage, reduce overtime costs, and allow public safety and other staff to return to work faster. We estimate the cost of this change will be approximately \$150,000 per year.

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If you need further information or have additional questions, please contact Donzell Gipson at 214-671-5131.



M. Elizabeth Reich
Chief Financial Officer

c: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
Chris Caso, City Attorney (Interim)
Mark Swann, City Auditor
Billierae Johnson, City Secretary
Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
Kimberly Bizer Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager

Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
Nadia Chandler Hardy, Assistant City Manager & Chief of Resilience
Michael Mendoza, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
Laila Aleqresh, Chief Innovation Officer
Directors and Assistant Directors