

AGENDA ITEM NO. 4 (S)

**CITY OF SAN ANTONIO
INTERDEPARTMENTAL MEMORANDUM
POLICE DEPARTMENT**

TO: Mayor and City Council

FROM: Albert A. Ortiz, Chief of Police

SUBJECT: Police Department Revenue Fee Adjustments

DATE: September 15, 2005

SUMMARY AND RECOMMENDATIONS

An Ordinance establishing and amending various fees for police transportation, traffic and public safety services, resulting in \$1,723,150 in additional revenue to the General Fund and amending the corresponding sections of the City Code to reflect such changes.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Ground Transportation: The San Antonio Police Department Ground Transportation Unit is tasked with overseeing all City of San Antonio vehicles for hire operations and permitting. This includes the monitoring of all vehicles for hire to insure compliance with applicable local and state regulations and the issuing of permits for the vehicles and drivers. This comprises 736 taxicabs, 100 limousines, 42 charter vehicles, 8 tour vehicles, as well as temporary permits for special events. Fees collected provide for the expenses incurred in the Unit's activities. The proposed increases will generate additional revenues to offset administrative costs of monitoring vehicles for hire and their drivers. The proposed amendment will increase the rates as follows:

Lost Permit Fee: Initial vehicle for hire driver's permits are issued for two years. If the permit is lost, a duplicate must be issued. This action will establish a \$15 fee for replacement of a lost taxi permit. This increase would generate an additional \$900 in revenue.

Limousine Supplemental Permit Fee: When business/demand dictates, limo companies can put more vehicles in service with a supplemental permit. This action would increase the Limousine Supplemental Fee from \$25 to \$50. This increase would generate \$11,850 in additional revenue.

Second or More "Passed Pending Repair" inspection: Ground Transportation Inspectors conduct a semi-annual inspection of vehicles for hire. If a taxicab does not pass the first inspection, it is allowed to return to service under a "passed pending repair" (PPR) status. At times, certain vehicles/operators return two or more times to resolve the problems. There is currently no charge for multiple checks/inspections. This action will establish a \$25 fee for the PPR Re-inspection. The proposed increase would generate an additional \$1,850 in revenue.

Late Permit Fee: Taxi permit holders are allowed to pay on a quarterly basis to defray the costs over the life of the permit. Currently there is no fee charged when the permit fees are late. This action will create a Late Permit Payment Fee of \$25 for permit holders who pay their permit fees late. The proposed increase would generate an additional \$450 in revenue.

Traffic Unit: The San Antonio Police Department Traffic Unit is responsible for the DWI enforcement, traffic enforcement on the expressway system and major arterial streets and traffic control during special events.

Parade/Run Permit: When someone requests a street closure for a parade or block party they come in to the Police Department and get the paperwork started which involves coordinating with different departments, assigning officers and setting up security. This involves anywhere from 6 hours to 30 hours of work depending upon the size (category) of the event. The Department is proposing to adjust the Parade/Special Event Coordination Fee by eliminating the \$25 flat rate and implementing a tiered system: \$50 for a Category 1 event (1 to 10 officers required), \$100 for a Category 2 event (11 to 25 officers required), \$150 for a Category 3 event (26 to 75 officers required) and \$200 for a Category 4 event (76+ officers required). In addition, the Department would be able to recover all on-duty costs associated with Run-Walk events. The proposed changes are projected to generate an additional \$27,100 in revenue. This is classified as a User Driven Revenue.

Vehicle Storage Unit: The San Antonio Police Department Vehicle Storage Unit is responsible for the impounding and releasing or auctioning of all impounded, wrecked, abandoned, recovered stolen and prisoner's vehicles coming into custody of the Police Department.

Uninsured motorist vehicle impounding policy: State law allows the impoundment of vehicles that are operated without proof of liability insurance. It is estimated that the uninsured motorist rate in Texas is 30%. The average number of motorists ticketed per year in San Antonio over the last 3 years is approximately 59,000 per year. This new policy would allow for the impoundment of vehicles, operated on San Antonio streets, which are operated without proof of insurance. No new fees are associated with this action. Revenues generated will come from the standard fees charged on impounded vehicles including the \$20 Impoundment Fee and the \$15 per day storage fee. It is estimated that this new policy will generate \$1,681,008 in additional revenues.

POLICY ANALYSIS

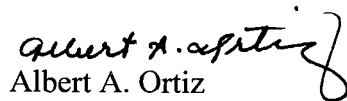
This ordinance conforms to City policy of generating increased revenues to offset the costs of City operations.

FISCAL IMPACT

The proposed new fees will generate approximately \$1,723,158 in revenue in FY 2005-06.

SUPPLEMENTAL COMMENTS

The Ethics Disclosure form is not required.


Albert A. Ortiz
Chief of Police


for J. Rolando Bono
City Manager