



CITY OF SANTA BARBARA

COUNCIL AGENDA REPORT

AGENDA DATE: October 8, 2013

TO: Mayor and Councilmembers

FROM: Administrative Services, Police Department

SUBJECT: Recommendation By The Fire And Police Commission To Modify The City's Tow Service Rules And Regulations

RECOMMENDATION:

That Council adopt, by reading of title only, A Resolution of the Council of the City of Santa Barbara Approving Changes Made to the Tow Rules and Regulations by the Fire and Police Commission Pursuant to Santa Barbara Municipal Code Chapter 5.30.

DISCUSSION:

When towing vehicles in the City of Santa Barbara the Police Department utilizes approved local tow service operators. This process is defined in Santa Barbara Municipal Code 5.30.050 and is governed by the Board of Fire and Police Commissioners (Board) Tow Rotation List Rules and Regulations.

On August 22, 2013, the Board approved changes to tow rotation information in the Tow Rules and Regulations. These changes were the result of a collaborative effort between the Santa Barbara Police Department and the tow service operators.

The changes were in the following areas:

- Minimum requirements established, for equipment, facilities, and qualifications of tow truck drivers
- Protocol of annual inspections by the California Highway Patrol of the tow trucks to enhance safety
- Requires that Disciplinary actions clearly defined
- Fees be waived by a tow company for tows determined to be a mistake by the SBPD (a very rare occurrence)
- Roles and responsibilities of the tow compliance officer clarified

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- Established criteria for vehicles donated to Fire and Police Departments
for training purposes

Minor edits and corrections were also made during this process.

PREPARED BY: Kenneth Kushner, Police Sergeant

SUBMITTED BY: Camerino Sanchez, Chief of Police

APPROVED BY: City Administrator's Office