



Department Source: Public Works

To: City Council

From: City Manager & Staff

Council Meeting Date: October 21, 2019

Re: Amending Chapter 14 of the City Code related to the Impoundment and Immobilization of Vehicles issued a Warrant for Failure to Appear for Parking Citations

Executive Summary

Amending Chapter 14 of the City Code to include language for how to proceed with the impoundment and immobilization of vehicles that have been issued warrants based on failure to appear for unpaid parking citations; and how notice of impoundment and hearings will be conducted.

Discussion

With the changes made by the Missouri Supreme Court in regards to requiring court dates to be set for each issued parking citation, it has become necessary for the issuance of summonses to vehicle owners who have missed the court date associated with their citation. Once the vehicle owner, or a party with a valid interest in the vehicle, has failed to appear, a warrant for failure to appear may then be issued to the registered owner of the vehicle.

In an effort to more quickly clear these warrants and aid the Municipal Court, Prosecutor's Office, and Columbia Police Department; it is necessary for Chapter 14 of the City Code, related to the impoundment and immobilization of vehicles, be changed to reflect this new procedure and allow for Parking Enforcement to carry out the impoundment or immobilization of vehicles that have had warrants issued to the registered owner.

While the amendment will include language regarding the impoundment of the vehicle, the emphasis will be to utilize immobilization devices so that there is no increased cost to the vehicle owner associated with towing the vehicle. The additional benefit to having Parking Enforcement aid with these warrants through immobilization, is to help ensure compliance and the enforcement of the issued warrant, but while also helping to avoid the possibility of arrests associated with the issuance of these warrants.

Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: N/A

Long-Term Impact: N/A

Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

[Strategic Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary



City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201

[Comprehensive Plan Impacts:](#)

Primary Impact: Not Applicable, Secondary Impact: Secondary, Tertiary Impact: Tertiary

Legislative History

None

Suggested Council Action

Pass the ordinance amending Chapter 14 of the City Code related to the impoundment and immobilization of vehicles issued a warrant for failure to appear for parking citations.