



SHEILA DIXON
Mayor

BALTIMORE POLICE DEPARTMENT



FREDERICK H. BEALEFELD, III
Police Commissioner

June 1, 2009

TO: The Honorable President and Members
of the Baltimore City Council
Room 400 City Hall
Attn. Karen Randle

FROM: James H. Green, ^{JHG} Legal Affairs Section
Baltimore Police Department

RE: City Council Bill No. 09-0320-Trespass Towing-Fees

The Baltimore Police Department (BPD) has reviewed City Council Bill No. 09-0320-Trespass Towing-Fees which sets maximum towing, storage, and related charges that may be imposed on the owners and operators of certain towed vehicles. The proposed legislation also requires that towers provide certain information on their schedule of charges and increases the penalties for violating these provisions.

The sponsor has provided a review of trespass towing rates in surrounding jurisdictions "Trespass Towing Fees in Maryland Counties" which include legislation from Baltimore, Montgomery, Prince George's, Howard, and Anne Arundel Counties. This information shows the maximum allowable rates in these jurisdictions for trespass towing and that this legislation attempts to bring Baltimore City's fees in line by placing a cap on these rates. This legislation recognizes the importance of providing a schedule of charges at the time of application so that all towing and storage charges are delineated and this information made know to the Trespass Towing Board and the citizens.

In the Department of Transportation's letter dated May 26, 2009, Director Foxx requests an opportunity to put forth a comprehensive recommendation in this area. The BPD joins this request and will meet with Transportation to discuss these issues. The BPD stands willing to assist in the City's collective efforts in this area and will continue to work to address these issues to ensure the best and fairest services for our citizens. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this legislation.

cc: Frederick H. Bealefeld III, Police Commissioner, BPD
Angela Gibson, Mayor's Legislative Liaison

Comments

c/o 242 W. 29th Street • Baltimore, Maryland 21211

