

*Andrew Kleine*

<b>FROM</b>	NAME & TITLE	Andrew W. Kleine, Chief
	AGENCY NAME & ADDRESS	Bureau of the Budget and Management Research Room 469, City Hall (396-4948)
	SUBJECT	City Council Bill # 08-0107

CITY of  
BALTIMORE  
**MEMO**



**TO**

DATE:  
May 23, 2008

The Honorable President and  
Members of the City Council  
Room 400, City Hall

Attention: Karen Randle

City Council Bill # 08-0107 is a resolution by the Mayor and City Council concerning accommodating new technology in the immobilization of vehicles by increasing the booting fee along with modifying other limiting references. The Bill proposes to increase the booting fee from \$24 to \$100, which is necessitated by the upcoming deployment of the SmartBoot system, a patented, self-release boot designed and manufactured exclusively by PayLock.

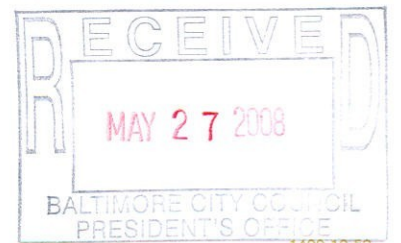
The deployment of the SmartBoot system will complement the currently deployed License Plate Recognition (LPR) program to create a comprehensive scofflaw identification and immobilization program that will significantly improve the City's Parking Enforcement operations. LPR systems electronically read license plates and check a central database to determine if a vehicle should be booted, expediting the enforcement process and enabling officers to cover more territory and boot more parking scofflaws.

The SmartBoot system adds further efficiencies by providing 24/7 automated fine payment and boot release. With SmartBoot, an enforcement crew that is currently assigned to release boots can be redeployed to scofflaw identification using the LPR technology.

The Parking Fines Unit in the Bureau of Revenue Collections works with the Department of Transportation to administer the City's boot and tow activity. SmartBoot shifts the boot-related call volume to PayLock, allowing for shorter wait times for other customers of the City's Collections Call Center. In addition, PayLock's bootview software system will increase efficiency by allowing for greater communication between the Parking Fines Unit and the Department of Transportation.

The proposed \$100 booting fee will cover the \$100 per boot cost the City will be required to pay to PayLock for its services; however, the availability of the Smartboot will enable the City to improve the parking enforcement operations by identify a higher number of scofflaws, improve customer service in our call center, and reduce maintenance cost for boots replacement.

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Assuming SmartBoot operations are initiated at the beginning of FY 2009, we expect net revenue to increase by \$384,000.

The Department of Finance supports the passage of City Council Bill #08-0107.

CC: Edward J. Gallagher  
Angela Gibson

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