




## Interoffice Memorandum

September 15, 2022

TO: Mayor Jerry L. Demings  
— AND —  
County Commissioners

FROM: Byron W. Brooks   
County Administrator, County Administration

CONTACT PERSON: Lucas Daniel Boyce  
Assistant to the County Administrator, County Administration  
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SUBJECT: September 27 – Work Session Item  
Review of Chapter 35, Towing Rates

In July 2021, towing industry representatives contacted County staff to propose changes to the County's towing ordinance, located in Chapter 35 of the Orange County Code. The industry stated that over the past several years they have experienced operational expenses increases for items such as; insurance premiums, trucks and equipment, staffing and training, and requested Orange County consider changes to its towing ordinance rate structure to adjust to those cost increases.

The County's ordinance was established in 1998 in order to protect its citizens from unscrupulous business practices. Specific rates were adopted for different classes of vehicles, along with strict process standards for towing and retrieval of vehicles by the owner. The ordinance has undergone several reviews for rate adjustment, the most recent rate update was in 2014 where there were small increases for certain nonconsensual tows and wrecker (tow truck) wait time on scene longer than 30 minutes.

On September 27, 2022, staff will present a work session that provides background, a comparative analysis of rates in other Florida jurisdictions, along with consumer price index calculations, information on industry cost increases, and requested changes to rates and fees in chapter 35.

This item is for your information. If there is a consensus among the Board to adjust the current rates in the ordinance, a public hearing will be scheduled for a future date.

C: Jeffrey Newton, County Attorney  
Chris Testerman, AICP, Deputy County Administrator  
Jon Weiss, Director, Planning Environmental Development Services  
Alan Marshall, Assistant to the Director, Planning Environmental Development Services  
Scott D. Shevenell, Attorney, County Attorney's Office