



CITY OF DURHAM | NORTH CAROLINA

**Date:** November 21, 2012

**To:** Thomas J. Bonfield, City Manager  
**From:** Jose L. Lopez, Sr., Chief of Police  
**Subject:** Request to amend Article IV Chapter 50, Sections 390 and 391 of the Durham City Code and related ordinance setting schedule of nonconsensual towing fees for police initiated and other tows

**Executive Summary:**

Every year, the Police Department as well as the City of Durham receives numerous complaints regarding the fees assessed during private property tows and nonconsensual tows. The purpose of this agenda item and proposed ordinance amendment is to amend Article IV, Chapter 50 Section 390 and 391 of the Durham City Code and related ordinance setting schedule of nonconsensual towing fees for police initiated tows and other tows.

**Recommendation:**

The Administration recommends the City Council adopt the amendment to Article IV Chapter 50, Sections 390 and 391 of the Durham City Code and related ordinance setting schedule of nonconsensual towing fees for police initiated and other tows.

**Background:**

For several years, the Durham Police Department has worked with members of the Durham City Council and tow company professionals to address citizen concerns regarding non consensual and private property tows. In order to best address the citizen concerns, a change in the current city ordinance is necessary.

**Issues and Analysis:**

It is necessary that the fees and reporting methods associated relating to nonconsensual and private property tows be brought to current standards.

**Alternatives:**

The alternative is to continue using fee schedules and reporting methods that are outdated and inconsistent with current standards.

**Financial Impact:**

The City of Durham will experience no financial impact resulting from this amendment.