

Memorandum



CITY OF DALLAS

DATE January 7, 2022

TO Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council

SUBJECT **DPD Fleet Budget Amendment – Follow-Up to January 3 Environment and Sustainability Committee Meeting**

During the January 3 Environment and Sustainability Committee meeting, councilmembers asked questions about public safety fleet electrification. Staff is deeply committed to advancing the goals of CECAP and building an environmentally sustainable fleet operation; however, we do not have current plans to purchase electric public safety vehicles. Working with the National Renewable Energy Laboratory, we are studying alternative fuel vehicles for future fleet purchases and planning implementation as quickly as possible without sacrificing the high service levels we expect from our public safety fleet day-in and day-out.

Specifically, the Committee discussed a FY 2021-22 budget amendment directing staff to move funds from Dallas Police Department (DPD) overtime to DPD fleet purchases (amendment #4, sponsored by Councilmember Bazaldua). This amendment, adopted in the FY 2021-22 budget on second reading on September 22, received 8 straw votes in support on September 1 (recorded [here](#), with discussion beginning at the 6:30:40 mark, around 9:56 p.m.).

The motion read:

4 Council Member Lead: Bazaldua		City Council Member Priority		2
Council Member Co-Sponsor(S): Moreno, Blackmon, Thomas				
Source of Funds		Amount	Use of Funds	Amount
DPD overtime (General Fund)		3,400,000	Additional marked squad cars for DPD	2,000,000
			Light and blight remediation initiative	1,400,000
Total Source of Funds		3,400,000	Total Use of Funds	3,400,000
City Council Action (yes/no/withdrawn)		Yes	Difference	0

The motion was silent on electrification, although Councilmember Moreno broached the topic of electric/hybrid vehicles during the discussion. In response, Donzell Gipson, Director of Equipment and Fleet Management, and I briefly discussed the operational challenges of early adoption electrification for a public safety fleet, the lack of a suitable hybrid sedan option, and officer preference for internal combustion vehicles, beginning at 10:12 p.m. at the 6:48:17 mark. A lengthy discussion on the source of funds – DPD overtime – lasted nearly an hour. The City Council did not amend the motion with direction on electrification or any other topic, and it received 8 straw votes in support around 10:46 p.m.

Please let me know if you have additional questions.

M. Elizabeth Reich
 M. Elizabeth Reich
 Chief Financial Officer

- c: T.C. Broadnax, City Manager
- Chris Caso, City Attorney
- Mark Swann, City Auditor
- Billierae Johnson, City Secretary
- Preston Robinson, Administrative Judge
- Kimberly Bizar Tolbert, Chief of Staff to the City Manager
- Jon Fortune, Assistant City Manager
- Majed A. Al-Ghafry, Assistant City Manager
- Joey Zapata, Assistant City Manager
- Dr. Eric A. Johnson, Chief of Economic Development and Neighborhood Services
- M. Elizabeth (Liz) Cedillo-Pereira, Chief of Equity and Inclusion
- Directors and Assistant Directors