



CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE ORDINANCE

MEETING DATE: 08/19/2025

PRESENTER: Ryan Simpson, Assistant Director of Police

TITLE: Ordinance amending Chapter 25 “Traffic”, Article V “Towing”, Section 25-60, “Authority to Remove; Procedure; Fees,”, Subsection (c) of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Grand Prairie, Texas to Increase the Towing and Storage Fees at the Police Department’s Vehicle Impound Facility; Containing Savings and Severability Clauses; Repealing All Ordinances in Conflict Herewith; and Providing an Effective Date

REVIEWING COMMITTEE: (Reviewed by the Public Safety, Health, and Environment Committee on 08/11/2025)

PURPOSE OF REQUEST:

The City of Grand Prairie Police Department has historically operated its own vehicle impound facility. Towing services have historically been contracted to a third-party vendor. The City charges users of towing and impound facility services applicable fees to cover its operating and contracting costs. City Council last approved increases to these fees in September 2019.

Since September 2019, operating and contracting costs have gradually increased. Staff is recommending fee increases to cover the increases in these costs. The proposed new fees are in compliance with maximum fee amounts established in State law, and are comparable with our surrounding cities.

The proposed fees for regular and heavy-duty tows are \$46 higher than what is proposed to be charged by our third-party towing vendor. The additional \$46 covers vehicle impound facility operating costs. Staff also recommends increasing the daily storage fees. This increase will also cover vehicle impound facility operating costs.

PROPOSED FEE CHANGES:

	<i><u>Current Fee</u></i>	<i><u>Proposed Fee</u></i>	<i><u>State Law Max.</u></i>
Regular Tows	171.00	221.00	272.00
Heavy Duty Tows	246.00	346.00	380.00
Daily Storage Fee	20.00	22.85	22.85
Daily Storage Fee (<i>over-sized vehicle</i>)	35.00	39.99	39.99

FINANCIAL CONSIDERATION:

Budgeted?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Fund Name:	General Fund
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BODY

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, AMENDING CHAPTER 25, "TRAFFIC", ARTICLE V, "TOWING", SECTION 25-60 "AUTHORITY TO REMOVE; PROCEDURE; FEES," SUBSECTION (C) OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, TO INCREASE THE TOWING AND STORAGE FEES CHARGED AT THE POLICE DEPARTMENT'S VEHICLE IMPOUND FACILITY; CONTAINING SAVINGS AND SEVERABILITY CLAUSES; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES IN CONFLICT HEREWITH; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE

WHEREAS, the City of Grand Prairie operates a vehicle impound facility, and charges applicable fees of an amount sufficient to recoup operating and contracting costs, in accordance with applicable State law; and

WHEREAS, City of Grand Prairie staff routinely evaluate its vehicle impound facility's operating and contracting costs, and make recommendations for any necessary fee adjustments to City Council; and

WHEREAS, the costs incurred by the City have increased since the fees were last amended in 2011.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, THAT:

SECTION 1. Chapter 25, "Traffic," Article V, "Towing," Section 25-60 "Authority to remove; procedure; fees," Subsections (c) of the Code of Ordinances, is hereby amended to read as follows:

(c) *Redemption; fees.* A vehicle removed and towed pursuant to the provisions of this section shall be kept at the place designated by the chief of police until the owner or other person entitled to possession pays all costs of towing, impoundment and storage. The chief of police shall charge fees for towing and storage of vehicles at city pound locations in accordance with the following regulations:

- (1) For vehicles or equipment twenty (20) feet or less in length and seven (7) feet or less in width, the storage fee is twenty-two dollars and eighty-five cents (\$22.85) for each day or portion of a day.
- (2) For vehicles or equipment more than twenty-five (25) feet in length, the storage fee is thirty-nine dollars and ninety-nine cents (\$39.99) for each day or portion of a day.
- (3) Storage fees on stolen vehicles shall be charged as outlined in subsections (c)(1) and (2) of this section, commencing on the day following notice to the owner of the vehicle or his agent that he may claim the vehicle.
- (4) Storage fees on vehicles owned by arrested persons shall be charged as outlined in subsections (c)(1) and (2) of this section, commencing on the date of impoundment.
- (5) Storage fees shall not be collected when a vehicle is not involved in an accident but is taken into protective custody and the driver is incapacitated due to physical injury or other illness to the extent he is unable to care for his vehicle.

- (6) Storage fees on vehicles involved in motor vehicle accidents shall be charged as outlined in subsections (c)(1) and (2) of this section, commencing on the date of impoundment.
- (7) A service fee of fifty dollars (\$50.00), in addition to applicable towage, impoundment and storage fees, shall be charged when a vehicle has been in the automobile pound for five (5) days unless an administrative hold has been placed on the vehicle. The period of any administrative hold shall not be included in the computation of the five-day period required before a service fee may be imposed.
- (8) An impoundment fee of twenty dollars (\$20.00), in addition to applicable towage and storage fees, shall be charged for a vehicle that has been removed and towed to a city pound location.
- (9) Towing fees shall be at the rate of two hundred twenty-one dollars (\$221.00) per vehicle for regular duty tow, and three hundred forty-six dollars (\$346.00) per hour for heavy-duty tow. Additional fees may be charged when specialized equipment is used.

SECTION 2. That Chapter 25, “Traffic”, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Grand Prairie, Texas, as amended, shall be and remain in full force and effect save and except as amended by this Ordinance.

SECTION 3. That the terms and provisions of this Ordinance are severable and are governed by Section 1-4 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Grand Prairie, Texas.

SECTION 4. All ordinances or parts of ordinances not consistent or conflicting with the provisions of this Ordinance are hereby repealed. Provided that such repeal shall be only to the extent of such inconsistency and in all other respects this Ordinance shall be cumulative of other ordinances regulating and governing the subject matter covered in this Ordinance.

SECTION 5. That this Ordinance shall be and become effective on September 1, 2025.

PASSED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TEXAS, ON THIS THE 19TH DAY OF AUGUST 2025.