

MADISON HEIGHTS POLICE DEPARTMENT

280 W. THIRTEEN MILE ROAD, MADISON HEIGHTS, MI 48071

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BRENT LEMERISE

Chief of Police

JORDAN RIECK

Deputy Chief of Police

DATE: January 30, 2026

TO: Madison Heights City Council
Melissa Marsh, City Manager

FROM: Brent LeMerise, Chief of Police

RE: Renewal of Towing Contract with Service Towing

The towing contract between the City and Service Towing officially expires on March 31, 2026. I met with the City Manager and legal counsel to discuss the potential for renewal of contract, and we are in agreement that entering into a new contract with Service Towing would be in the City's best interest.

Service Towing has been the City of Madison Heights contracted towing company for over 30 years now for good reason. Amongst many positive qualities, they are constantly available and flexible with special requests. The owner and his family are always just a phone call away and on the ready to help. When dispatched to accident scenes, they respond promptly and efficiently clear the roadway to ensure safe travel for all motorists in Madison Heights. Their costs are fair and consistent with area towing charges. Please see the attached local towing fee chart for comparison.

Service Towing has continued to improve their robust fleet, which now has 40 vehicles capable of various towing services, and an additional 30 pieces of equipment, including a sweeper designed to clean large oil spills.

If they continue towing services for the City, they plan on modernizing the impound lot by building an electric vehicle containment area on the impound lot, due to their susceptibility to catching fire and difficulty to extinguish. They will continue to waive fuel surcharges unlike several other surrounding agencies despite the rise in fuel costs. Inflation perpetually impacts the economy, just as it does the cost of towing services to those paying the bill. Signing a reasonable long-term contract to mitigate those inflationary impacts would be beneficial.

It is my recommendation the City renew a ten-year contract with Service Towing.

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Current Local Towing Fee Chart

City	Standard Towing Fee	Additional Flatbed fee	Daily Storage Fee	Admin Fee	Contract Yr.
Madison Heights	\$125	\$60	\$25/day (1st day free)	\$50	2016
Royal Oak	\$135	\$50	\$25/day (1st day free)	\$50	2025
Berkley	\$125	\$35	\$25	\$25	Due in 2028
Clawson	\$125	None	\$25	\$100	Due in 2028
Troy	\$125	None	\$30	\$30	Due in 2028
MSP	\$195	\$45	None	None	No contract
Hazel Park	\$150	\$45	\$25	\$75	
Warren	\$195	None	\$30	\$65	2025
Pleasant Ridge	\$125	None	\$25	\$50	