



**OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL**  
**2026 TOWING RATE COMMISSION**  
**Approved Meeting Minutes**  
**May 21, 2026**

Meeting Title	2026 Towing Rate Commission
Purpose	Regular Meeting
Date and Time	May 21, 2026, at 1:00 pm
Location	Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, 2 Woodward Avenue, Office of the Auditor General Conference Room Suite 216, Detroit, MI 48226

**1. Call To Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson, Laura Goodspeed, Auditor General at 1:04 pm.

**2. Roll Call**

**Chairperson Goodspeed** asked **Ms. Kilbourn** to call the roll. Roll was called.

First Name	Last Name	TRC Position	Title	Representing	Present
Laura	Goodspeed	Commissioner/Chairperson	Auditor General	Office of the Auditor General (OAG)	Yes
Andrew	Anyanwu	Commissioner/Designee	General Manager, Operations	Buildings, Safety, Engineering, and Environmental Department (BSEED)	Yes
Jason	Adams	Commissioner/Designee	Captain	Detroit Police Department (DPD)	Yes
	<b>OPEN</b>	Commissioner/Appointee	Public Representative	Mayor's Office	NA
	<b>OPEN</b>	Commissioner/Appointee	Towing Industry Representative	City Council	NA

- **Jill Kilbourn, Auditor IV, Office of The Auditor General** announced Madam Chair, the Towing Rate Commission (TRC) does have a quorum.

**3. Approval of TRC Agenda**

- **Chairperson Goodspeed** provided the agenda and asked for a motion to approve.
- **Commissioner Anyanwu** motioned to approve the May 21, 2026 Agenda.
- **Commissioner Captain Adams** seconded.
- The agenda was approved.



#### 4. Approval of TRC 4/30/2026 Meeting Minutes

- **Chairperson Goodspeed** provided Minutes from the TRC Meeting held April 30, 2026.
- **Commissioner Captain Adams** motioned to approve April 30, 2026 minutes.
- The minutes were approved.

#### 5. Chair Remarks

- **Chairperson Goodspeed** recognized the members of the Office of the Auditor General who are at the meeting; Jill Kilbourn and Kevin Nosotti.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** went through the background of the Tow Rate Commission by reading sections of the Detroit City Charter.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** stated there are currently three seated members of the Tow Rate Commission:
  - Chairperson Laura Goodspeed
  - Captain Jason Adams, representing the Detroit Police Department
  - Andrew Anyanwu, representing the Buildings, Safety Engineering and Environmental Department.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** indicated that the City Council is close to appointing their representative to the Commission.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** detailed the duties of the TRC; to review the administrative towing, service and storage fees for police authorized towing at least once every two years and submitting its recommendation to the City Council by October 1<sup>st</sup> of the year of review.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** stated that the TRC is subject to the Open Meetings Act. She discussed the requirements of the Open Meetings Act.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** indicated that the public may request to make a presentation to TRC. Request must be made in writing to the commission at least 10 days prior to the next scheduled meeting. The chair will review the request to determine the nature and appropriateness of the request before presenting the request to the remaining commissioners. Then the full commission will vote to approve or deny the request.

#### 6. Public Comment

- **Ms. Kilbourn** indicated there were no hands raised for public comment.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** closed public comment.

#### 7. Unfinished Business



- **Chairperson Goodspeed** indicated there is no old business as there was not a quorum to conduct business at the April 30, 2026 meeting.

## 8. New Business

### A. Meeting Schedule

- **Chairperson Goodspeed** stated she would like to set the cadence for the regular TRC meetings to be the fourth Thursday of each month from 1pm to 3 pm in the Office of the Auditor General, Coleman Young Municipal Center, Suite 216. This would include the following dates:
  - **June 25, 2026**
  - **July 23, 2026**
  - **August 27, 2026, and**
  - **September 24, 2026.**
  - **And additional meetings as needed.**
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** recognized member of the public Peggy Goodwin who is set to be named as the City Council representative to the Tow Rate Commission to comment on the June meeting date.
- **Ms. Goodwin** indicated the June 25, 2026 date does not work for her schedule.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** indicated that the June meeting would be changed to June 18, 2026 if that was okay with the other commissioners.
- **Commissioner Anyanwu** made a motion to approve the meeting dates.
- **Commissioner Captain Adams** seconded the motion.
- The calendar was approved.

### B. Presentations

- **Chairperson Goodspeed** went over the current tow rates previously approved by City Council. [2024 PAT Tow Rates.pdf](#)
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** invited **Peggy Goodwin** to make a presentation on behalf of the Detroit Towers Association. (attached) [Detroit Towing Authority Tow Rate Commission Presentation May 21, 2026.pdf](#)
- There was discussion of points raised in the presentation.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** asked **Ms. Goodwin** about PAT's being mandated to be onsite for 1-3 days for the downtown detail. **Ms. Goodwin** indicated that the Police can be mandated to be downtown for special events. **Chairperson**



**Goodspeed** asked if this was a new practice or if had been ongoing long-term. **Ms. Goodwin** answered that it was not new and that it is handled through GovTow.

- **Chairperson Goodspeed** asked a question concerning tows being mischaracterized in GovTow. **Chairperson Goodspeed** indicated this was an issue during the 2024 Tow Rate Commission. She indicated the Detroit Towing Association and DPD were to work out these issues after 2024 TRC. **Chairperson Goodspeed** asked if that happened. **Ms. Goodwin** indicated it is an ongoing issue. A tower can tow and store a vehicle for 1-3 days and if there is an error and that tower should not have that vehicle the tower will not get paid for the storage. **Chairperson Goodspeed** asked if there are statistics or metrics on this. **Ms. Goodwin** indicated she could get them.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** asked **Ms. Goodwin** to provide metrics and statistics to support the statement in the presentation that the tow rotation is not consistent or balanced. **Ms. Goodwin** agreed.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** asked for the context of the statement in the presentation that the Detroit Police Chief Financial Officer stated that the Police are not a May 2025 Board of Police Commissioners (BOPC) Meeting that DPD is not a revenue generating organization. **Ms. Goodwin** indicated that the Police Chief Financial Officer was presenting the DPD budget and said they are not a revenue generating organization. But we know they generate revenue from fines and fees, etc. However, the towers are referring to the generation of revenue through towing. **Chairperson Goodspeed** explained that the DPD's expenditures are higher than revenues and DPD is a service organization that is not meant to bring profit to the City.
- **Commissioner Anyanwu** asked **Ms. Goodwin** about the slide showing the average number of Police Authorized Tows. He asked if there was similar data for the towing by DPD tow trucks. He asked if there is a similar trend. **Chairperson Goodspeed** directed this question to **Commissioner Captain Adams**.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** asked Commissioner Captain Adams if he was presenting today. She indicated during the previous TRC he presented statistics including total hooks.
- **Commissioner Captain Adams** indicated he would not be presenting but that he anticipates presenting and possibly having separate meetings on tow data, rotation and operational overview.
- **Commissioner Captain Adams** said he would give some clarity to the points **Ms. Goodwin** brought up.
  - Special Tow Details are a long-standing operational need of the Detroit Police Department. It is a requirement of the current contract, and it



was a requirement of the prior contract. All five of our current contractors have the same language, and verbatim from the contract it reads: *Detail Tows include any instance where a tow truck will be required to be on scene or on standby, and a minimum of 3 vehicles are expected to be towed. This includes raids, blitzes, events or special deployment activities. The command requesting the detail tow will file the appropriate request with the appropriate DPD entity. A rotation specific to the detail will then be constructed. The contractor will be notified, and a control number given directly to the contractor.*

- **Commissioner Captain Adams** continued to explain that it is requirement and that for detail tows in a precinct they will use the tower in that precinct or the nearest one first. For downtown we run a rotation. Each week we go to a different tower and just keep rotating through them so that it's fair and equitable.
- **Commissioner Captain Adams** indicated that GovTow has programmed rotations for each type of tow and he cannot manipulate or change these without going through the vendor. He stated there are sometimes errors or mistakes and when that happens, he contacts the vendor and resets the rotations.
- In relation to the special tow detail, **Chairperson Goodspeed** indicated she wanted to be mindful of the purpose of the TRC, she doesn't want to discuss anything that is specific to the contracts. Unless, we are talking about adding a rate or fee related to it. **Ms. Goodwin** indicated it is really an issue of time served. The towers want to support the Police but are looking to be compensated . Nobody works for free.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** asked for the effective dates for the current contracts. **Commissioner Captain Adams** indicated they were signed in August of 2025 and go through 2028.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** indicated for the next meeting she would be asking for updated proposed rates, including administrative fees from the PATs and DPD.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** indicated she would reach out to BOPC as they did last time for any proposed changes to the bonding and insurance rates..
- **Commissioner Anyanwu** asked if a fee was added would an amended to the contract be required. **Chairperson Goodspeed** asked if it is a part of the contract. She said the towers have the right to propose an additional fee.
- **Commissioner Captain Adams** then gave an overview of Police tow operations. He indicated he is the department's tow monitor. He oversees the contractors for compliance to contract and ordinance. He oversees DPD's Police Towing and Impound Unit, as well as all towing in the City, including



private towers that could be in violation of law and ordinance. He oversees the rotations, the GovTow system, the billing for the towers and confirmation of the service for the City's Accounts Payable to then pay the contractors. He oversees the five contractors: Bobby's Towing, 7D's towing, Troy's Towing, Wayne's Towing and BBK. DPD oversees over 31,000 Police Authorized Tows a year. Towing is an essential part of public safety. It does not exist as a profit organization. It is an understated primary part of public safety and as Ms. Goodwin stated they are a part of the first responders. Police towing an impound unit with or without our own tow trucks would have a big job to do, to be able to coordinate all the needs from our officers and other entities in the department to fulfill those functions and requirements.

- **Chairperson Goodspeed** brought up the issue that the Municipal Parking Department rates and or weight categories are different than Police Authorized Tows. **Commissioner Captain Adams** indicated the rates are the same, but the weights may be different if MPD is not towing under the authority of PAT but rather the parking ordinance.
- **Chairperson Goodspeed** indicated she would reach out the BOPC related to the bonding and insurance portion of PAT that is part of their responsibility. We may need to make a presentation there.

## 9. Public Comment

- **Chairperson Goodspeed** reopened public comment to allow members of the public who came in after public comment was closed to comment.
- There was one public commenter.

## 10. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned by the call of **Chairperson Goodspeed** at 2:06 pm. The next meeting will be held on June 18, 2026, in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Office of the Auditor General Conference Room, Suite 216 at 1:00 pm.

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Meeting Minutes Recorded and Submitted by: Jill R. Kilbourn, Auditor IV, Office of the Auditor General.

Corrections: None

Approved Date: June 18, 2026 Without Corrections

OFFICE OF THE  
AUDITOR GENERAL

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*Executive Policy Manager*  
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**Ian Tomashik**  
**Ashley A. Wilson**

TO: The Honorable Detroit City Council

FROM: David Whitaker, Director  
Legislative Policy Division Staff

DATE: September 23, 2024

RE: **RESOLUTION TO SET THE ADMINISTRATIVE, TOWING, SERVICE, AND STORAGE FEES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE TOW RATE COMMISSION**

Council Member Gabriela Santiago-Romero requested that the Legislative Policy Division (LPD) draft a resolution to set the administrative, towing, service, and storage fees in accordance with the recommendation of the Towing Rate Commission.

Please contact us if we can be of any further assistance.

**BY COUNCIL MEMBER GABRIELA SANTIAGO-ROMERO**

**RESOLUTION TO SET THE ADMINISTRATIVE, TOWING, SERVICE, AND STORAGE FEES IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE TOW RATE COMMISSION**

**WHEREAS,** Section 26-2-91 provides for the establishment of a Towing Rate Commission, which must meet at least once every 2 years and submit a recommendation to City Council to set the administrative, towing, service, and storage fees for police-authorized towing; and

**WHEREAS,** The Towing Rate Commission consists of the Auditor General, the Director of Buildings, Safety, Engineering, and Environmental Department or designate representative, the Chief of Police or designated representative, a representative of the public appointed by the Mayor, and a representative of the towing industry appointed by City Council; and

**WHEREAS,** The Towing Rate Commission has met and has conducted benchmark studies of towing fee in Michigan and across the nation, analyzed trends and changes in consumer price indices, reviewed Detroit Police Department Towing and Impound Unit financials and operations, reviewed towing industry guidelines, and reviewed data, proposed fees, and other input from police towers; and

**WHEREAS,** On September 16, 2024, the Auditor General presented the findings and recommendations of the Towing Commission to the Public Health & Safety Standing Committee of the Detroit City Council, which are as follows:

**MOTORIZED VEHICLES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES**

<b>Tow Classification</b>	<b>Current Fees</b>	<b>Current Weight Guidelines</b>	<b>2024 Proposed Fees</b>	<b>Proposed weight guidelines</b>
Light Duty	\$125.00	10,000 lbs and less	\$225.00	10,000 lbs and less
Light Duty Second Truck	\$75.00	10,000 lbs and less	\$175.00	10,000 lbs and less
Medium Duty	\$175.00	10,001 lbs to 60,000 lbs	\$425.00	10,001 lbs to 26,000 lbs
Medium Duty Second Truck	None	10,001 lbs to 60,000 lbs	\$350.00	10,001 lbs to 26,000 lbs
Heavy-Duty	\$300.00	60,000 lbs and greater	\$700.00	26,001 lbs and greater
Heavy-Duty Second Truck	\$150.00	60,000 lbs and greater / 6 hour cap	\$500.00	26,001 lbs and greater

**BOATS, TRAILERS, AND CAMPERS**

<b>Tow Classification</b>	<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Current Weight Guideline</b>	<b>2024 Proposed Fee</b>	<b>Proposed Weight Guideline</b>
Heavy-Duty	\$100.00	None/Flat Fee	\$700.00	None/Flat Fee

**ATTACHMENT: 2024 TOWING RATE COMMISSION  
RECOMMENDED TOWING AND OTHER FEES SCHEDULE**



OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

2024 TOWING RATE COMMISSION  
Recommended Towing and Other Fees Schedule

MOTORIZED VEHICLES AND RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

Tow Classification <sup>(A)</sup>	Current Fees	Current Weight Guidelines	2024 TRC Proposed Fees	Proposed Weight Guidelines
Light Duty	\$ 125.00	10,000 lbs and less	\$ 225.00	10,000 lbs and less
Light Duty Second Truck	\$ 75.00	10,000 lbs and less	\$ 175.00	10,000 lbs and less
Medium Duty	\$ 175.00	10,001 lbs to 60,000 lbs	\$ 425.00	10,001 lbs to 26,000 lbs
Medium Duty Second Truck	None	10,001 lbs to 60,000 lbs	\$ 350.00	10,001 lbs to 26,000 lbs
Heavy-Duty	\$ 300.00	60,000 lbs and greater	\$ 700.00	26,001 lbs and greater
Heavy-Duty Second Truck	\$ 150.00	60,000 lbs and greater/ 6 hour cap	\$ 500.00	26,001 lbs and greater

Note (A): Light Duty tows include motorized vehicles, SUVs, minivans, passenger trucks, and recreational vehicles. Medium and Heavy-Duty tows are usually commercial vehicles.

BOATS, TRAILERS, AND CAMPERS

Tow Classification <sup>(A)</sup>	Current Fee	Current Weight Guideline	2024 TRC Proposed Fee	Proposed Weight Guideline
Heavy-Duty	\$ 100.00	None/Flat Fee	\$ 700.00	None/Flat Fee

Note (A): Based on past and average tows, it was determined that boats, trailers, and campers typically require a Heavy-Duty tow.

MISCELLANEOUS TOWS

Tow Classification <sup>(A)</sup>	Current Fee	Current Weight Guideline	2024 TRC Proposed Fee	Proposed Weight Guideline
Light Duty	\$ 100.00	None/Flat Fee	\$ 200.00	None/Flat Fee

Note (A): The Miscellaneous category includes motorcycles, on and off-road all-terrain vehicles (ATVs), jet skis, scooters, mini-bikes, 4-wheelers, lawn equipment, paddle/non-engine rowboats, etc.



**OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL**

**2024 TOWING RATE COMMISSION  
Recommended Towing and Other Fees Schedule**

**OUT-OF-TOWN-RETRIEVALS**

<b>Classification</b>	<b>Current Fee Per Mile</b>	<b>2024 TRC Proposed Fee Per Mile</b>
Light/Medium Duty	\$4.00	\$6.00
Heavy-Duty	\$6.95	\$8.89

- Notes: (A) Per the Police Authorized Towing contracts, the mileage for "Out-of-Town Retrievals" is to be calculated from the point at which the tow truck exits the City of Detroit city limits to retrieve the vehicle, to the point at which the tow truck and towed vehicle re-enters the City of Detroit city limits using the most reasonably efficient route:*
- (B) The charges are "in addition" to the towing fees associated with the category and classification of the item being towed.*

**STORAGE FEES**

<b>Category</b>	<b>Storage</b>	<b>Current Daily Fee</b>	<b>2024 TRC Proposed Daily Fee</b>
<b>Motorized Vehicles and Recreational Vehicles</b>	Light Duty	\$ 15.00	\$ 30.00
	Medium Duty	\$ 20.00	\$ 40.00
	Heavy-Duty	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
<b>Boats, Trailers, and Campers</b>	Heavy-Duty	\$ 25.00	\$ 50.00
<b>Motorcycles</b>	Light Duty	\$ 15.00	\$ 30.00

- Notes: (A) According to the Detroit Police Department Manual, storage fees are waived if a complainant's vehicle is towed, transported, and held at the Department's approved evidence lot for the purpose of collecting and processing evidence, if the crimes are either homicide, criminal sexual conduct, robbery, or carjacking.*
- (B) The Detroit Police Department does not assess fees when a vehicle was stolen and recovered in the City of Detroit. Exceptions include situations where the vehicle is being picked up by a corporate or business entity, such as an insurance company, or where the individual has insurance that includes payment of towing and storage fees.*



**OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL**

**2024 TOWING RATE COMMISSION**  
**Recommended Towing and Other Fees Schedule**

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**ADMINISTRATIVE FEE**

<b>Current Fee</b>	<b>Proposed Fee</b>
<b>\$75.00</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>

*Note: Under Section 46-2-114. Administrative fees:*

- (a) An administrative fee shall be charged to, and paid by, the owner of each vehicle towed by a private tow company in a non-consensual tow, other than a Department authorized tower, from a location inside the City.*
- (b) The Police Department shall establish the administrative fee for non-consensual tows in accordance with Section 9-507 of the Charter subject to approval by the City Council through adoption of a resolution.*

# DETROIT TOWING ASSOCIATION

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN TOWING AUTHORITY



Thank You

Detroit City Council & Tow Rate  
Commission

For the Justified and Thoroughly  
Researched

2025 Tow Rate Increase

Detroit Police Authorized Towing



DETROIT TOWING  
ASSOCIATION

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN TOWING AUTHORITY

About Police Authorized Towers

First Responders Who Proudly Work Side by Side with Detroit Police

Legacy Businesses (Decades of Investment)

Fewer Than 10% of Small Businesses Achieve 30 years. Fewer than 20% make it to 20 years.

Family & Minority Owned

Experts in Towing

Zoning Compliant

Safety First

Long-term City Supporters of many non-profit organizations serving people in need.



# DETROIT TOWING ASSOCIATION

## SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN TOWING AUTHORITY



# Police Authorized Towers: Economic Impact



# DETROIT TOWING ASSOCIATION

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN TOWING AUTHORITY



<u>Budget Item</u>	<u>Total Annual</u>
Annual Wages	\$5,128,912
Annual Employee Income Tax Detroit	\$91,207
Annual Drainage Fee	\$181,517
Vendor Payments: Detroit (Fuel, Supplies, Bldg. Maintenance and Security, Truck Maintenance and Repair, Marketing)	\$701,500
Annual Property Taxes	\$45,006
<b><u>Other</u></b>	<b><u>Other</u></b>
Total Employees	112
Real Estate: Total Acreage	25
Legacy Businesses	30+ years
Training	Year-round
Zoning Compliance	100%
Community Impact	Support Several Detroit Non-Profits including Food Drives, Children's Hospital, After-school programs, Veterans and Detroit Public Safety Foundation.



# Police Authorized Towers: Progress

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Thank you for listening! We believe the invoicing process and communication has improved.



# Police Authorized Towers: Issues & Questions

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DETROIT TOWING  
ASSOCIATION

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN TOWING AUTHORITY

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**PAT's are mandated to be on site for 1-3 days at Downtown Detail.** The issue is not the time commitment it is that towers often receive no work or compensation despite allocating a truck and truck operator. A Detroit Police Staff Tower would surely be paid their hourly rate. We ask to be paid for our time if no tow materializes.

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**There are mischaracterized tows in GovTow.** An example is vehicles approved for tow to PAT's Yard only to be picked up by Police 1-3 days later and moved to a DPD yard. The PAT receives no storage compensation for these errors in GovTow.

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**Another example is boats that are characterized as "Parking Violations."** PATs have to tow these boats to their yard and dispose of them. They are dispatched by the City to tow them but receive no compensation for towing or disposal.

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**PAT's no longer tow quality cars to their yards where it would be saleable in an auction,** or the owner will require a second tow when they retrieve it.

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PAT's mainly receive accident cars in very bad condition resulting in both auction revenue and second tow revenue being greatly reduced.

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**PAT auctions historically had 40-100 cars; now 10-20 cars.**

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## DETROIT TOWING ASSOCIATION

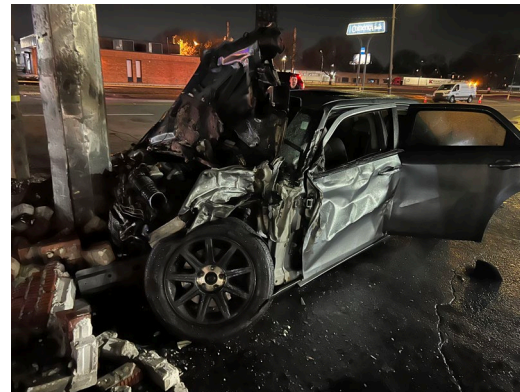
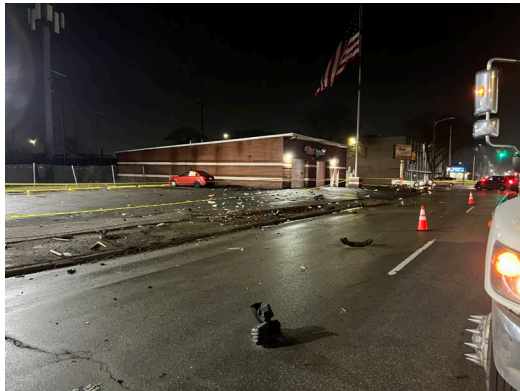
SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN TOWING AUTHORITY

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**The Tow Rotation is not consistent or balanced.** In the past, PAT's say they would receive 1-2 tows per hour. Currently they receive requests infrequently and often several at once late in the day or overnight. It is very hard to staff when the schedule is this erratic and towing is city-wide across 142 square miles.

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**Given the PAT's longevity in business, expertise, real estate and investment in Detroit, they should be the primary Towing in Police & City Towing.**



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**A suggestion for efficiency is to call one heavy duty tower to tow a tractor and trailer together instead of the current practice to call two heavy duty towers to tow the tractor and trailer separately.**

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**Detroit Police Chief Financial Officer Nevrus Nazarko stated when presenting at the May 29, 2025 Board of Police Commissioners Meeting that Detroit Police are not a revenue generating organization.** We know there are revenues generated such as forfeitures and fines as a normal course of police work however, we are referring to utilizing the experts in towing who are contracted by the City.

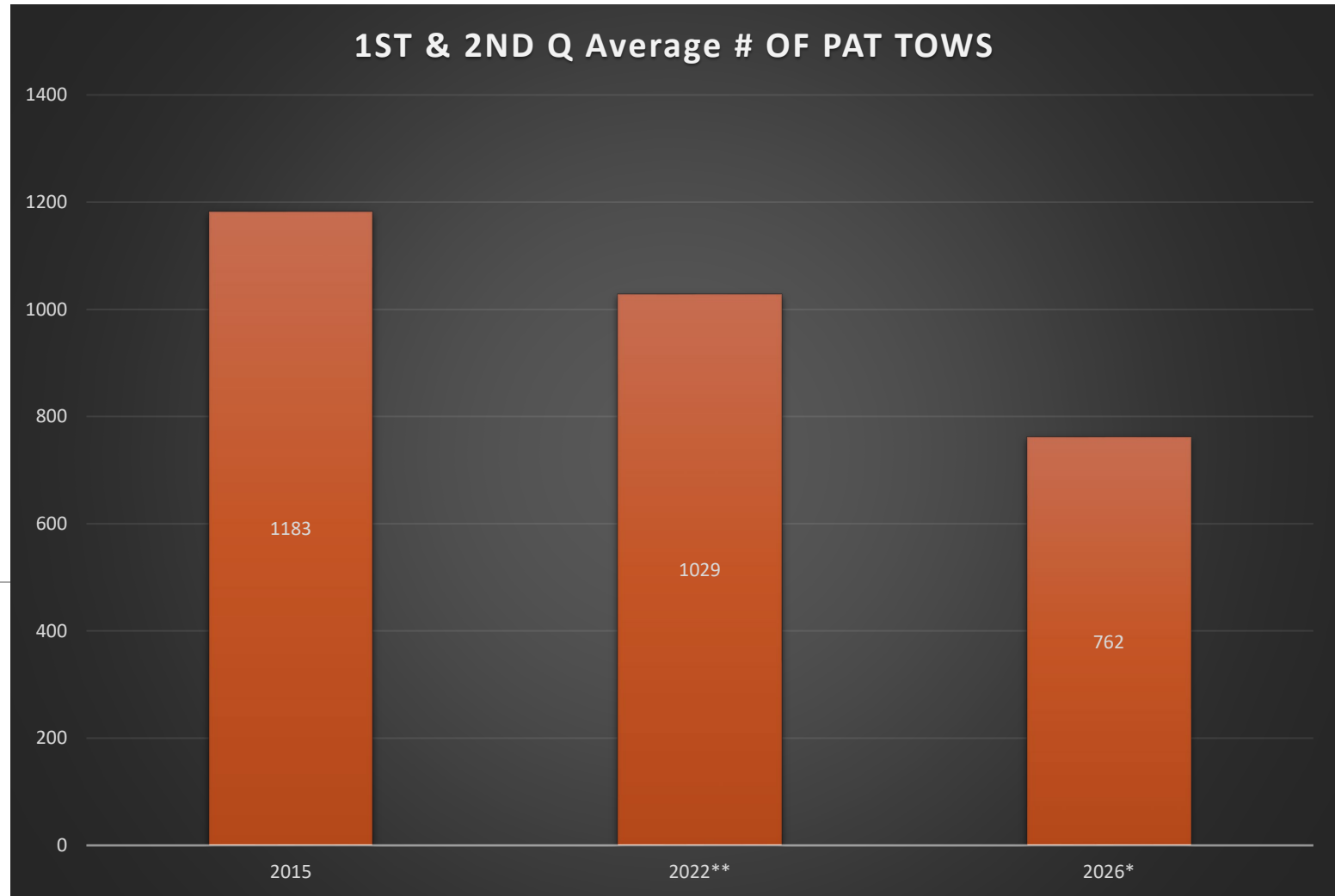


DETROIT TOWING  
ASSOCIATION

SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN TOWING AUTHORITY



## Detroit Police Authorized Towing: Average # of Police Tows 1<sup>st</sup> & 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarters 2017, 2022 and 1<sup>st</sup> Q 2026



\*Diesel Fuel is currently \$6.00 per gallon. \*\*After DPD entered police towing.