



COMMISSIONERS COURT
COMMUNICATION

REFERENCE NUMBER _____
PAGE 1 OF 10
DATE: 04/18/2023

**SUBJECT: APPROVAL OF INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN
TARRANT COUNTY AND THE NORTH TEXAS TOLLWAY
AUTHORITY RELATED TO AUTOMOBILE REGISTRATIONS AND
OUTSTANDING TOLL FEES**

COMMISSIONERS COURT ACTION REQUESTED

It is requested that the Commissioners Court approve the Interlocal Agreement (ILA) between Tarrant County and the North Texas Tollway Authority (NTTA) to withhold automobile registrations to vehicle owners in Tarrant County that have outstanding fees.

BACKGROUND

On November 5, 2013 through Court Order # 116552, the Commissioners Court approved an ILA with NTTA to allow the Tax Assessor-Collector to enforce vehicle registration blocks for unpaid tolls placed at the TxDMV level. The term of the contract was for a twelve (12) month period. The County received \$5.24 from NTTA for each successfully blocked registration. In 2013, 696 registrations were blocked for a total of \$3,647.04 in revenue received by the County.

On May 4, 2021 through Court Order #135402, the Commissioners Court approved the current agreement for a term of two (2) years. The County received \$5.24 from NTTA for each successfully blocked registration. During the two (2) year period, 54,179 registrations were blocked for a total of \$283,897.96 in revenue received by the County.

NTTA contracts with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles to include a notice of delinquent NTTA fines with registration renewals sent to vehicle owners. Pursuant to Senate Bill 1792, the County has the option to deny a registration for habitual violators. The NTTA defines habitual violators as accruing 100+ unpaid tolls in a 12-month period and failing to pay these tolls after 2 notices of non-payment.

Several toll enforcement remedy tools are in place including, ZipCash, Habitual Violator Notice Letters, Vehicle Registration Blocks, DPS citation, Justice of the Peace Court enforcement and third-party collections. The Tax Office has determined that typically only eight percent (8%) of violators do not pay after all enforcement efforts have been exhausted. Once the Tax Office receives proof of payment from NTTA, the Tax Office will process the renewal.

If approved, this agreement will be in full force and effect until terminated by either Party at any time upon 30 days' prior written notice to the other party.

The Criminal District Attorney's office has reviewed this contract and approved as to form.

SUBMITTED BY:	Tax Office	PREPARED BY: APPROVED BY:	Wendy Burgess
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FISCAL IMPACT

The County will receive \$5.24 from NTTA for each registration renewal blocked by the Tax Office. An itemized invoice is sent to NTTA within ten (10) days of each month indicating the total amount owed to Tarrant County for registrations successfully blocked during the preceding thirty (30) days. The fees collected goes to the Tarrant County General Fund.