



CITY COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM

TO: Mayor & City Council **DATE:** April 5, 2013

FROM: John McDonough, City Manager

AGENDA ITEM: Consideration of an Ordinance Amending Chapter 58 of the City of Sandy Springs Code of Ordinances by Regulating Vehicle Immobilization; and for Other Purposes

MEETING DATE: For Submission onto the April 16, 2013, City Council Regular Meeting Agenda

BACKGROUND INFORMATION: (Attach additional pages if necessary)

See attached:

Memorandum
Ordinance

APPROVAL BY CITY MANAGER:  APPROVED

PLACED ON AGENDA FOR: 4/16/2013

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL REQUIRED: () YES () NO

CITY ATTORNEY APPROVAL: 

REMARKS:



MEMORANDUM

Date: April 4, 2013

To: Mayor and City Council for the City of Sandy Springs

From: Terry Sult
Director of Public Safety

Subject: Amendment of Vehicle Immobilization (Booting) Ordinance

Background:

The current Vehicle Immobilization Ordinance, Article IV of Chapter 58 of the City Code, "Traffic and Vehicles," was approved on November 6, 2012. Since its implementation, two provisions have come to the attention of the Sandy Springs Police Department as requiring clarification and standardization.

First, the current background check requirement for all permit applications does not provide flexibility to the police department. The suggested amendment simplifies the language of Section 58-89(C) and will allow the SSPD greater flexibility to administer appropriate background investigations for applicants.

Second, the current size and language requirements for signs can result in oversized signs. Standardizing the size of the signs, along with normalizing the typeface/font layout of Section 58-96(B)-(E) will foster better aesthetics and provide a better delivery system of more useful information to citizens and those parking in the area.

Recommendation:

I recommend amending the current language of the Immobilization Ordinance, specifically Sections 58-89(C) and 58-96(B)-(E), to allow for more appropriate background checks for permit applicants and to provide normal-sized signs that better display important information to the public.

Discussion:

Attached hereto is a copy of the following documents:

1. An Ordinance to Amend Regulating of Vehicle Immobilization

STATE OF GEORGIA
COUNTY OF FULTON

**AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 58 OF THE CITY OF SANDY SPRINGS
CODE OF ORDINANCES BY REGULATING VEHICLE IMMOBILIZATION; AND
FOR OTHER PURPOSES.**

WHEREAS, the City of Sandy Springs (“City”) has heretofore adopted an ordinance for Traffic and Vehicles, codified as Chapter 58 of the City of Sandy Springs Code of Ordinances (the “Code”); and

WHEREAS, the City has heretofore adopted an amendment adding Article IV, Vehicle Immobilization Service to Chapter 58 of the Code; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council desire to clarify and amend certain portions of Article IV of Chapter 58 of the Code to alleviate confusion and bring further standardization to the Code;

THEREFORE, the Mayor and City Council of the City of Sandy Springs hereby ordain as follows:

Section 1:

That Section 58-89(C) of Chapter 58 (Traffic and Vehicles) of the Sandy Springs Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 58-89.

...

- C. A permit will be valid for a period of one (1) year and shall be renewed on or before its expiration. Persons applying for the permit or renewal shall make themselves available for photographing, fingerprinting, and/or such other investigation as may be required by the police department...”

Section 2:

That Section 58-96(B), (D) and (E) of Chapter 58 (Traffic and Vehicles) of the Sandy Springs Code of Ordinances is hereby amended to read as follows:

“Sec. 58-96.

...

- B. Such signs shall be a minimum of eighteen (18) inches high by twelve (12) inches wide.

...

- D. Such signs shall include the following language:

WARNING

Unauthorized vehicles may be impounded (booted) at owner’s risk and expense

Cost of Impound: \$75-\$50. Boot Removal: Tel: [insert company’s correct telephone number]

Complaints may be made to the Sandy Springs Police Department: Tel: 770-551-6900

This lot is owned or operated by [insert company name and telephone number]

- E. Such signs shall use the typeface/font: Impact. Layout design, including point size for type, shall be substantially identical to example signs which are on file with the City Clerk or Public Works Director. Sizing specifications are also included for signage measuring eighteen (18) inches high by twenty four (24) inches wide should a larger sign be desired. ...”

Section 3:

All ordinances or parts of ordinances in conflict herewith are hereby expressly repealed.

ORDINANCE NO. 2013-XX-XX

Section 4:

It is the intention of the governing body, and it is hereby ordained that the provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made part of the Code Ordinances, City of Sandy Springs, Georgia and the sections of this Ordinance may be amended to accomplish such intention.

APPROVED AND ADOPTED this the _____ day of _____, 2013.

Approved:

Eva Galambos, Mayor

Attest:

Michael Casey, City Clerk

(Seal)

Approved as to Form:

Wendell K. Willard, City Attorney