

**County of Milwaukee**  
**Interoffice Communication**

**DATE:** 6/25/2021  
**TO:** Marcelia Nicholson, Chairwoman, County Board of Supervisors  
**FROM:** Donna Brown-Martin, Director, Department of Transportation  
**SUBJECT:** Requesting Authorization for One-Year Extensions of Freeway Towing Contracts with Existing Vendors from January 1, 2022 to December 31, 2022

POLICY

Per Wisconsin Statute 59.52(31) approval of the County Board is required to enter into a multiple year contract with an aggregate contract value of greater than \$300,000.

BACKGROUND

In August of 2016, the Milwaukee County Board of Supervisors authorized five-year contracts between the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation (MCDOT) and five towing vendors (towers) selected via a competitive Request for Proposals (RFP) process. The contracts will expire on December 31, 2021.

Prior to the COVID-19 pandemic, MCDOT planned to issue a new RFP and select towers prior to the December 31, 2021 contract expiration. Because the pandemic resulted in a revenue decrease for towers and not knowing the pandemic's duration, MCDOT decided to delay issuance of a new RFP until the end of 2022. Therefore, contract extensions will be required for all towers.

The freeway towing program is administered on behalf of the Sheriff's Office, by ordinance, through the Milwaukee County Department of Transportation Director's Office (MCDOT). Removal of vehicular hazards to freeway travel is at the sole discretion of the Milwaukee County Sheriff's Office pursuant to the authority granted in Wisconsin Statutes 349.13(4) and the Milwaukee County Code of Ordinances – Appendix C Traffic Laws.

FISCAL EFFECT

Authorization of contract extensions will have no fiscal effect.

RECOMMENDATION

The Department of Transportation requests authorization of contract extensions.

Prepared by:  
Julie Esch, Deputy Director

Approved by:

*Julie Esch, Deputy Director*

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Donna Brown-Martin  
Director, Department of Transportation

cc: Kelly Bablitch, Chief of Staff, County Board of Supervisors  
Janelle Jensen, Legislative Services Division Manager