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DEPARTMENT OF  
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
BUDGET AND POLICY REVIEW

CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA  
June 2, 1999

CITY HALL  
ROOM 100  
915 I STREET  
SACRAMENTO, CA  
95814-2684

PH 916-264-5845  
FAX 916-264-5755  
TDD (ONLY) 916-264-7227

City Council  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT: DUI Cost Recovery**

**LOCATION/COUNCIL DISTRICT: Citywide**

**RECOMMENDATION:**

This report is in response to a request by Mayor Serna on May 6, 1999 during the Proposed 1999-00 Budget Overview. This is an informational report, no formal Council action is required.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Michael McGrane, Budget Manager, 264-5847  
Connie Kimoto, Administrative Services Officer, 264-7215

**FOR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF:** June 15, 1999

**SUMMARY:**

This report responds to a request by Mayor Serna to provide information relative to cost recovery efforts associated with driving under the influence (DUI) incidents.

**COMMITTEE / COMMISSION ACTION:**

None.

**BACKGROUND:**

Since 1988, the City bills those arrested for driving under the influence to recover the costs to the City for the incident. The City bills for the police officers' time involved in the arrest and the jail booking fees. Additionally, if the incident is an accident, then the driver is billed for emergency response by the fire department, street clean-up and damage to City property, such as street signs or lights, if applicable.

**FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

- The City currently charges \$89.50 per hour for each police officer involved in the arrest. This cost covers the officers salary and benefits, vehicle costs, other indirect costs such as dispatching and bill processing.
- Additional charges are billed if a fire company or street crew is required at the scene.
- The City charges to recover the County's jail booking fee.
- State law limits DUI recovery to \$1,000 per incident.
- Damages to City property, such as street lights, signs, etc., are also billed and are not subject to the \$1,000 DUI recovery limit.
- The City recovers approximately \$115,000 per year for costs associated with DUI arrests
- Many of these accounts are difficult to collect and collection agency assistance or small claims court action is utilized to affect collections.

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

The City's policy is to fully recover the costs associated with DUI incidents to the extent of the law.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

Not applicable.

**ESBD EFFORTS**

This report does not involve the purchase of goods or services.

Respectfully submitted,



Michael McGrane  
Budget Manager

Approved for Information:



Robert P. Thomas  
City Manager



Ken Nishimoto  
Director of Administrative Services