

BUSINESS IMPACT ESTIMATE

Meeting Date: September 1, 2026

Proposed Ordinance Title/Reference:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING PALM BEACH COUNTY CODE CHAPTER 19, ARTICLE VIII (ORDINANCE NO. 2022-021), PROVIDING FOR DEFINITIONS; PROVIDING FOR OPERATING PERMIT REQUIRED; PROVIDING FOR NEW APPLICATIONS/RENEWALS AND ISSUANCE OF OPERATING PERMIT, FEES; PROVIDING FOR INSPECTION OF STORAGE YARDS AND PUBLIC OFFICES REQUIRED; PROVIDING FOR INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING FOR TOW TRUCK REGISTRATION, TOW TRUCK STANDARDS, DECALS; PROVIDING FOR NON-CONSENT MANIFEST, TOWING INVOICE, OR TOW SHEET; PROVIDING FOR RECORDS REQUIRED; PROVIDING FOR NON-CONSENT TOWING WITH PRIOR EXPRESS INSTRUCTION; PROVIDING FOR NON-CONSENT TOW TRUCK COMPANY REQUIREMENTS; PROVIDING FOR MAXIMUM RATES; PROVIDING FOR TOW TRUCK DRIVER REQUIREMENTS, FAILURE TO COMPLY; PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL REQUIREMENTS FOR PROVIDING IMMOBILIZATION SERVICES; PROVIDING FOR CEASE AND DESIST ORDER; PROVIDING FOR ENFORCEMENT OF PENALTIES: CIVIL AND CRIMINAL; PROVIDING FOR ADMINISTRATIVE ENFORCEMENT, DENIAL, REVOCATION AND SUSPENSION OF OPERATING PERMITS/I.D. BADGES; PROVIDING FOR ADDITIONAL PENALTIES; PROVIDING FOR SCOPE OF ARTICLE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF LAWS IN CONFLICT; PROVIDING FOR SAVINGS CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF LAWS AND ORDINANCES; PROVIDING FOR CAPTIONS; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

Summary of Proposed Ordinance and Statement of Public Purpose to be Served:

Florida Statute Ch 713.89 authorizes Counties to regulate towing, immobilization, and lien procedures related to towing regulations.

A summary of changes in this ordinance includes the following:

Updates to Section 19-184(a) include adding the words, “for compensation” and (e) to read tow truck company and immobilization company having all necessary certificates, licenses and permits at national, state and municipal levels.

Section 19-186 *Inspection of storage yards and public offices required* removes duplicative language of FS 713.78 and incorporate by reference.

Section 19-196 *Non-consent tow truck company requirements* expand the proof of ownership documents accepted including contracts, and credentials establishing the person as an insurance company representative.

Updates to Section 19-190 *Non-consent manifest, towing invoice, or tow sheet* requires the name of the tow truck in addition to address and telephone number of the tow truck company dispatched, as well as state of registration for the vehicle being towed.

All charges must be expressed as a daily rate, including administrative fees, or other fees approved by the BCC resolution must be provided to the consumer and itemized invoices must be available within one business day.

Companies permitted to accept multiple payment options, of which *at least two* of the following payments must be accepted:

1. Cash, cashier’s check, money order or valid traveler’s check Tow Truck registration; tow truck standards; decals
2. Valid bank debit/credit card, which shall include, but not be limited to, Mastercard or Visa, that is in the name of the vehicle vessel owner, authorized driver, lienholder, or insurance company representative.
3. Mobile payment service, digital wallet, or other electronic payment system.

Section 19-192 *Records required* updated to reference section 713.78(18) Florida Statutes and list items in e. Section 19-196(i) to add “in a clearly visible location” to telephone number where customers can reach tow truck company. Documentation authorizing release of vessel/vehicle expanded.

Section 19-198 *Maximum rates* must be posted at the tow truck company place of business.

Section 19-199 *Tow truck driver requirements; failure to comply* changes include (4) language change of pled guilty, was found guilty to the words: *was convicted* (7) removed or *plea of guilty or nolo*

contendere, (8) removed or plea of nolo contendere, (10) removed wherein the driver has been found guilty (g) removed extraneous language

Section 19-201 Additional requirements for providing immobilization services, remove (j).

Section 205 Enforcement and penalties: civil and criminal added (a) *A violation of any provision of this Division may be enforced pursuant to the procedures and civil penalties of the Code Enforcement Citation Ordinance of Palm Beach County, as set forth in Chapter 8.5 of the Palm Beach County Code, and in accordance with F.S. 162.21, (c) changed shall to may.*

Estimate of Direct Economic Impact on Private/For Profit Businesses:

a. Estimate of Direct Business Compliance Costs: None

b. New Charges/Fees on Businesses Impacted:

RATE TYPE	Current	% Change	Proposed	Broward	Miami-Dade
Tow Business Permit	\$600	10%	\$660	\$630	\$516
Towing Vehicle Decal Fee	\$150	66%	\$250	n/a	\$180
Towing Business Late Fee (1-30 days)	\$75	25%	\$100	\$270	\$458
Towing Business Late Fee (31-60 days)	\$100	100%	\$200	\$270	\$458
Tow Business Late Fee (61 days to 1 year)	\$150	100%	\$300	\$270	\$458
Tow Truck Driver ID Badge	\$60	40%	\$100	n/a	n/a
Tow Vehicle Decal Replacement Fee	\$25	100%	\$50	\$36	\$101

c. Estimate of Regulatory Costs: None

Good Faith Estimate of Number of Businesses Likely Impacted: There are currently 190 tow and immobilization businesses that are impacted by the fee changes.

Any Additional Information: