



MEMORANDUM

LEGISLATIVE REFERENCE BUREAU

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To: Ald. Michael J. Murphy
From: Tea Norfolk, Legislative Fiscal Analyst – Lead
Date: November 15, 2019
Subject: Carjacking and Reckless Driving: Driver's License Suspension

This memo is in response to your request for information regarding driver's license suspension. Specifically, the questions asked were as follows:

1. Is the City still funding driver's licenses recovery through a block grant?
2. What is the number 1 reason people lose their license?
3. How many people use the driver's license recovery program?
4. How difficult is the process to recover a license?

Block Grant

The City is currently funding the driver's license recovery program with a block grant in the amount of \$150,000.

Reasons

According to the municipal court, there are two reasons that a driver's license gets suspended:

1. A person does not pay a fine they received as a juvenile.
2. An adult does not pay a fine for a traffic charge. For the purposes of traffic charges, juveniles are considered as adults.

Additionally, please see the attached statistics from the Department of Transportation regarding driver's license revocations and suspensions by reason of conviction.

Number of Users

Difficulty of Recovery Process

In order to reinstate a suspended license, the driver must appear in court. Challenges with the process include lack of transportation, childcare, ability to take time off from work, knowledge of court process, and lack of funds to pay fines.

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Attachment