

City of Alexandria, Virginia

MEMORANDUM

DATE: APRIL 7, 2009
TO: THE HONORABLE MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF CITY COUNCIL
FROM: JAMES K. HARTMANN, CITY MANAGER
SUBJECT: BUDGET MEMO # 84: FISCAL IMPACT OF INCREASING BOOT REMOVAL FEES

This memorandum is in response to Councilman Wilson’s question: What is the fiscal impact of raising the boot removal fees to match Arlington County’s rate (\$52)? What is the fiscal impact of raising the fee to \$75?

In January 2009, the Police Department implemented a special two year program called Operation Bootstrap, an intensive effort to collect unpaid parking tickets. Parking Enforcement and Finance work in collaboration to identify vehicles with multiple unpaid parking tickets. Once these vehicles are located, they are immobilized with a boot or impounded until the owner pays the City fines and boot removal fee.

This program is expected to generate \$60,000 in additional revenue for FY 2009 and \$184,000 in additional revenue for FY 2010. This estimate includes revenue from boot removals as well as parking fines. Because this program is a stepped-up effort, the revenue estimate for FY 2010 is based on 1350 boot removals. Approximately 250 boots are removed in a normal year. The boot removal fee is currently \$20. If boot removal fees were increased to \$52 for the same number of citations, it would result in a total \$70,200 or \$43,200 over what is currently budgeted in FY 2010. If the fee were increased to \$75, a total of \$101,250 would be generated or \$74,250 over what is currently budgeted for FY 2010.

Boot Removal Fee Estimates

	Proposed FY10 Budget (\$20)	Increase to \$52	Increase to \$75
Total Boot Removal Revenue	\$27,000	\$70,200	\$101,250
Revenue over current budget	\$0	\$43,200	\$74,250