



Brian Calhoun, Ph.D.
Councilmember
District 2

COUNCIL AGENDA ITEM – 2. B

DATE: February 6, 2007

TO: Fresno City Council

FROM: Councilmember Brian Calhoun

AGENDA ITEM: Request staff to return to Council with a report and financial status of the Abandoned Vehicle Abatement Program. – Councilmember Calhoun

INTRODUCTION

On March 18, 2003, the City Council was asked to adopt a \$1 DMV (Department of Motor Vehicle) fee which was intended to assist the City and County in cleaning up abandoned vehicles. While I was supportive of the effort to clean up the City, I was not comfortable with how the fee was being administered and I was not clear on how the program itself would run. For that reason, I voted No on the request to charge the additional fee which is shown in the attached minutes.

On January 30th, the Fresno Bee ran a story titled “Cleaning up abandoned cars gets ugly.” (See attached) The story details the program shortfalls in the county and cities participating in the program. It appears that audits being conducted around the state are revealing that although cities and counties are applying for their reimbursements and accumulating surpluses of cash, a restrictive “voluntary” element of the program is prohibiting the funds from being used for the program.

REQUEST

Request staff to return to Council in 60 days with a status report on the City of Fresno’s vehicle abatement program and status of the DMV fees collected for this purpose.

Attachments: **A** - January 30, 2007, Fresno Bee, "Cleaning up abandoned cars gets ugly."

B – Council Minutes of March 18, 2003, Resolution to establish a \$1 DMV Fee.