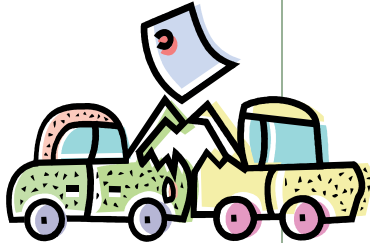


A Focus on Franklin



Police Billing Proposal

Due to the down economy, the City has been making adjustments within the annual budget in an attempt to decrease expenditures and increase revenue.

Police to accident scenes saves insurance companies a lot of money by reducing serious damage, injury, or even death claims; therefore, we believe it is reasonable to ask these companies to share in the costs associated with police response to traffic accidents.

With this in mind, the City is considering a program to bill those who cause traffic accidents. We are fortunate to have three major thoroughfares – I-75, State Route 73, and State Route 123 – running through our City. These highways provide convenient driving access to many amenities in the region for our residents as well as people who do not live in our community. Unfortunately, due to these roadways, the City also has a lot of traffic accidents.

If implemented, the police billing process is pretty simple: regardless of residency, the insurance company of the “at-fault” driver will be billed. If the insurance company of a City resident does not pay, the resident will be exempt from any out-of-pocket cost. If the insurance company of a non-City resident does not pay, that non-resident will be held financially accountable. In other words, if the insurance company does not pay, the fee will be waived for Franklin residents, but not for non-residents.

Police Officers can spend hours working at accident scenes and filling out all the paperwork that is needed. A lot of this detailed information can end up benefiting insurance agencies. When time is spent by our officers on an accident, services to City residents are impacted – for instance, this time could have been used for patrolling our neighborhoods and parks or talking with children about the dangers of drug activity.

CRC has stated that insurance rates will not increase due to this program. According to CRC, the State Insurance Commissioner controls insurance rates. If someone’s premium is adjusted, it would be because that person was “at-fault,” thus deeming the person to be a higher risk – this would occur regardless of this program. CRC has stated that good drivers typically have discounted insurance policies; therefore, if they are cited for causing a traffic accident, the discount may be reduced or cancelled, giving the illusion of a rate increase.

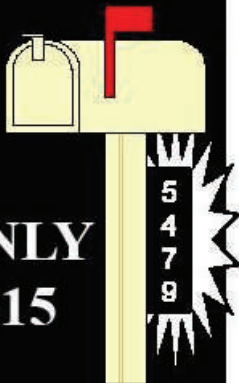
Many cities are now considering billing due to budgetary needs. The City of Franklin, similar to many other cities in our region, already bills for certain fire calls as does JEMS for ambulance calls; therefore, police billing is simply an extension of that approach. Cost Recovery Corporation (CRC), a Dayton-based company that specializes in billing of this nature, has indicated that 56% of insurance companies recognize the value of police billing and voluntarily pay these claims. This makes sense as a quick response time by our po-

Please forward any questions or comments regarding this proposed program to Jim Lukas at jlukas@franklinohio.org or 937-746-9921.

“...if the insurance company does not pay, the fee will be waived for Franklin residents, but not for non-residents.”



**IF WE CAN'T
FIND YOU
WE CAN'T
HELP YOU**



**ONLY
\$15**

All proceeds support the Franklin Fire Explorer program which supports training our youth to become our next generation of Firefighters. Thank you!!



We are looking for Volunteer Firefighters to join our team! Do you have what it takes? Please stop by the station or call us at 746-4542 to learn more.

Are You Ready for Some Free Fun, Food and Entertainment?



Join us on **Saturday, July 18, 2009** from 9:00 a.m. until 12:00 noon for a 14-mile bicycle River Ride along the scenic Great Miami River. The River Ride is hosted by the Miami Conservancy District and the cities of Frank-

lin and Miamisburg. Registration will begin in Miamisburg in the Miami Avenue parking lot at 8:30 a.m. and free T-shirts will be given to the first 125 people who **pre-register** at www.drivelesslivemore.org. Individuals age 12 and older may participate. Starting in downtown Miamisburg, the River

Ride route will continue through historic Franklin, showcasing the murals along Main St., and will include a tour of the Harding Museum! Participants will also have a chance to watch a canoe/kayak race along the Great Miami River. For more information, please contact Chrissy Brown at 937-746-4542.

Does Your Neighborhood Have a Property with High Grass and Weeds?

Many homeowners take care of their grass and weeds before they become a problem. Occasionally, however, property owners do not keep up with the mowing, which is problematic for neighboring homeowners. High grass and weeds is one

of the biggest complaints that we receive; through the end of May, the City issued 251 violation notices regarding this important issue. The City's Ordinance states, with a few exceptions, that grass and

weeds are not allowed to grow over 10 inches tall. Without maintenance, grass and weeds can quickly become a nuisance to a neighborhood. Therefore, please help us address this concern by reporting a grass or weed issue to 888-433-4642.

Save the Date for the Annual Car Show!

www.warrencountykustoms.com



For many years, Warren County Kustoms has coordinated a wonderful car show in the heart of downtown Franklin. This year's event will be on **Saturday, August 8, 2009** starting at 3:00 p.m. In addition to

nearly 800 cars being on display, Soul Express, a band specializing in 1960's and 70's soul music, is scheduled to perform at 7:00 p.m. and again at 8:30 p.m. Come enjoy this event!

Visit our website at www.franklinohio.org