



Municipal Vehicle Registration Fee

DESCRIPTION: Wisconsin State Statute [341.35](#) allows a town, village or county to collect an annual municipal or county vehicle registration fee (wheel tax) in addition to the regular annual registration fee paid for a vehicle by passing a local ordinance. The Village has approximately 7,800 registered vehicles. If the Village implemented a \$30 registration fee would generate approximately \$234,000 annually, less a DMV administrative charge of \$0.03 per vehicle. A municipality receiving a registration fee may only use the funds for transportation related purposes. Milwaukee County and the City of Milwaukee are the only two entities in Milwaukee County that have a registration fee, both in the amount of \$30. A fee may sunset, however most communities have not sunset the fee.

SCHEDULE: Following passage of an ordinance and submission to DMV, the fee could be implemented in approximately 90 days*. The revenue would be utilized to offset a portion of the roadway reconstruction costs required as a part of the Lead Service Line Replacement requirements over the next 15 years.

*The 90-day requirement is usually the one that causes the process to slow down with implementation. DMV prints renewal cards about 60 days ahead (November renewals will print on 9/7/24) and any changes need to be in a test print completed before the actual printing. Depending on how dates fall, 90 days can be very tight. If the DMV receives notice too late to hit the date in the ordinance, we need either an amended ordinance or a letter on letterhead moving the date back to one we can make. Should the Village elect to incorporate this fee, action is recommended as soon as possible to implement the fee as close to January 1, 2025 as possible.

PROS:

- \$234,000 additional revenue to fund other expenses.
- The revenue directly funds the forecasted roadway improvements.
- The benefit of well paved roadways directly benefits vehicle owners.
- The amount of roadway work required for watermain, and LSL replacement is significant and every opportunity the Village has available to assist funding this infrastructure must be strongly considered.

CONS:

- An additional charge for those that register vehicles.