



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Dallas County Commissioner's Court Votes to Lower Vehicle Inspection Fees in Dallas County by \$6

DALLAS – The Dallas County Commissioner's Court took action today towards reducing the vehicle registration fee by \$6. The fee, which has been assessed in Dallas County under the vehicle emissions inspection and maintenance program, allows the County to operate the Clean Air Task Force which cracks down on counterfeit motor vehicle inspections. Additionally, through the North Central Texas Council of Governments, the funding provides operation costs for the Low Income Vehicle Repair Assistance, Retrofit, and Accelerated Retirement Program, a/k/a "Cash for Clunkers", a program designed to help the working poor get into reliable transportation while taking older, non-compliant vehicles off the road.

Dallas County, along with fifteen other urban counties across the State, originally collected the \$6 fee to run the clean air programs. However, the past several years, the State has held on to almost \$30 million of Dallas County's share in order to certify their budget.

Following the vote, Judge Jenkins said, "The State of Texas has been stealing our residents' \$6 clean air fee that was supposed to be sent back to Dallas County to help with air quality programs. The State isn't using the money for the environment; rather, they are keeping it to balance their budget. Governor Abbott vetoed funding for this clean air program in the upcoming biennial budget and has not supported legislation that stops the misappropriation. We must stand up against the State's attempts to overtax urban areas to balance the whole State's budget."

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CONTACT:

Clay Lewis Jenkins

Dallas County Judge

Clay.jenkins@dallascounty.org

[214-653-7949](tel:214-653-7949)