

## CITY OF HOUSTON

## **John Whitmire**

Mayor

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April 24, 2025

The Honorable Tom Craddick – Committee Chair House Committee on Transportation

RE: House Bill 5177

Honorable Chairman Craddick and Members of the House Committee on Transportation,

On behalf of the City of Houston, I appreciate the opportunity to provide and share this written testimony in support of the House Committee Substitute of House Bill 5177 (CSHB 5177). As the Chief of Police, I believe that this bill is a step in the right direction to reimbursing our police officers when responding to life and safety issues on the Harris County Toll Road Authority.

Houston Police Department plays a critical role in ensuring public safety along the Harris County tollways within the City of Houston and associated feeder roads. The services not only address incidents directly on the tollway but also extend to the businesses and communities that rely on the tollway for access and commerce. The tollway generates significant revenue from tolls paid by individuals traveling to these businesses, underscoring the mutual relationship between the tollway's operations and the community's safety needs.

HPD's activities related to servicing the tollway include but are not limited to:

- **Emergency Response:** Responding to calls for service on the tollway's main lanes and feeder roads. These responses maintain safety involving individuals traveling on the tollway.
- Traffic and Accident Management: Assisting individuals involved in minor auto accidents who have moved off the tollway prior to law enforcement arrival, as well as managing traffic disruptions caused by such incidents when traffic is rerouted.
- Suspect Pursuit and Crime Prevention: Utilizing the tollway and its feeder roads to search for suspects involved in crimes, including those targeting businesses accessed via the tollway.
- **Public Safety Assurance:** Providing a visible law enforcement presence to deter criminal activity and ensure the safe and efficient operation of the tollway and its feeder systems.

HPD's engagement in these activities represents a significant commitment of resources, including personnel, vehicles, and time. Even with this widespread response, the Houston Police Department has not been compensated for these services by HCTRA or Harris County. HB 5177 provides resources to our first responders to continue protecting and serving our community.

Respectfully, J. Nor Diag

J. Noe Diaz

Chief, Houston Police Department

	2022			2023		2024						
Call Group	Count of Incident	Count of Responding Officers	Average of Time (Received to Clear)	Count of Incident	Count of Responding Officers	Average of Time (Received to Clear)	Count of Incident	Count of Responding Officers	Average of Time (Received to Clear)	Total Count of Incident	Count of Responding Officers	Average of Time (Received to Clear)
Accident	7,489	9,571	90.63	7,584	9,785	87.06	7,654	10,239	95.92	22,727	29,595	91.20
Chase	133	183	202.12	123	164	225.02	93	132	229.32	349	479	218.82
DWI	39	45	91.92	35	53	79.64	42	47	79.85	116	145	83.80
Traffic	3,451	4,105	38.98	3,337	4,068	36.62	3,175	4,034	42.24	9,963	12,207	39.28
Traffic Stop	4,744	5,792	21.36	5,827	7,530	24.34	4,961	6,404	19.61	15,532	19,726	21.77
Transport	157	193	158.08	168	202	158.10	177	244	147.31	502	639	154.50
Traffic Related Events	16,013	19,889	60.57	17,074	21,802	57.48	16,102	21,100	63.12	49,189	62,791	60.39
Airport	2	2	43.12	3	4	11.13	1	1	15.90	6	7	23.38
Alarm	996	1,319	21.14	1,123	1,599	21.27	1,098	1,546	25.33	3,217	4,464	22.58
Assault	792	1,158	108.10	731	1,035	101.34	706	1,012	131.12	2,229	3,205	113.52
Assignment	3	3	104.03	2	2	115.04	6	7	192.46	11	12	137.18
Assist	12	19	236.79	22	29	278.97	19	26	209.77	53	74	241.84
Auto Theft	738	950	62.10	740	953	59.48	700	901	56.08	2,178	2,804	59.22
Burglary	918	1,151	68.86	897	1,126	66.16	929	1,185	69.63	2,744	3,462	68.22
Disturbance	2,403	3,346	56.40	2,257	3,183	57.21	2,106	3,063	58.41	6,766	9,592	57.34
Emergency	32	42	92.34	28	34	138.83	24	30	126.61	84	106	119.26
Forgery/Fraud	140	172	88.20	136	168	79.59	124	163	82.98	400	503	83.59
Found Property	132	172	71.07	122	163	75.92	100	135	63.52	354	470	70.17
Meet	257	334	131.78	252	344	130.03	269	385	136.62	778	1,063	132.81
Mischief	253	341	71.01	243	314	68.94	220	282	70.09	716	937	70.01
Noise	313	447	20.75	322	410	17.78	289	402	27.69	924	1,259	22.07
Other	869	900	21.49	882	851	26.18	771	777	30.38	2,522	2,528	26.01
Person	325	447	116.57	250	341	98.52	226	318	94.91	801	1,106	103.33
Robbery	174	242	106.10	124	189	107.34	117	169	101.45	415	600	104.96
Self Init	670	830	67.34	806	967	56.12	676	962	65.85	2,152	2,759	63.11
Self Init-Patrol	949	1,266	51.05	817	1,091	56.11	897	1,233	51.58	2,663	3,590	52.91
Shoplifter	12	18	171.57	3	5	206.37	6	7	205.84	21	30	194.59
Silent 9-1-1	430	408	13.41	348	318	25.16	311	282	24.20	1,089	1,008	20.93
Suicide	175	269	130.01	158	235	113.15	145	217	156.92	478	721	133.36
Suspicious	2,060	2,815	38.00	1,861	2,588	38.68	1,887	2,649	42.65	5,808	8,052	39.78
Theft	1,173	1,493	66.34	958	1,217	65.43	645	866	60.65	2,776	3,576	64.14
Welfare	445	641	71.68	514	724	66.69	519	752	67.27	1,478	2,117	68.55
Police Related Events	14,273	18,785	57.78	13,599	17,890	56.21	12,791	17,370	59.88	40,663	54,045	57.95
Grand Total	30,286	38,674	59.25	30,673	39,692	56.91	28,893	38,470	61.68	89,852	116,836	87.17

Patrol Time: Primary and Secondary Officer Response to calls for service (CFS Received to Clear) in hours

Average Hourly Rate: Average hourly rate of ranks (Police Officer, Senior Police Officer and Sergeant)

Estimated Service Cost: Patrol Time at the Average Hourly Rate

Administrative & Operational Overhead: Additional %15 of Estimated Service Cost (Equipment, Vehicles, Fuel, RMS, Investigation Support, JPC, BWC, data retention and Specialty Police Response Teams like SWAT, Warrant Teams, Crime Suppression Teams,)

Estimated Service Cost: Sum of Estimated On Scene Time and Administrative/Operational Overhead

Cost of Readiness – Capital Vehicle Acquisition							
	FY 2022 FY 2023		FY 2024	Total FY 2022 - 2024			
HFD	\$15,122,227	\$6,985,171	\$ 3,320,566	\$ 25,427,964			
HPD	\$14,640,267	\$4,119,887	\$17,711,694	\$ 36,471,847			
Total				\$ 61,899,811			

Cost of Readiness – Capital Equipment Acquisition							
	FY 2022 FY 2023		FY 2024	Total FY 2022 - 2024			
HFD	\$ 526,411	\$ 914,088	\$ 1,896,933	\$ 3,337,431			
HPD	\$ 3,117,145	\$ 728,687	\$ 5,784,771	\$ 9,630,602			
Total				\$ 12,968,033			

Cost of Readiness – Personnel Responding to Incident							
	FY 2022	FY 2023	FY 2024	Total FY 2022 - 2024			
HFD	\$10,026,142	\$2,634,285	\$15,306,824	\$ 27,967,251			
HPD	\$ 4,228,206	\$4,339,504	\$ 4,205,903	\$ 12,773,613			
Total				\$ 40,740,864			