

Towing Task Force Meeting Agenda Items

January 26, 2021, 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

1. Introductions
2. Onboarding Updates
 - a. State Email Addresses
 - b. Onboarding Materials
 - c. Board/Commission Survey
3. Training - Attorney General's Office
4. Elect Chair for Towing Task Force
5. Informal Secretary Position
6. Discuss Goals of Towing Task Force
7. Discuss Meeting Frequency
8. Schedule Next Meeting
9. Public Comment

Towing Task Force Meeting Agenda Items

January 26, 2021, 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM

Call to Order - 12:05 PM

Adjournment - 2:12 PM

Attendance/Roll Call:

Present (Members):

Bailey, Nicole (rep for common interest communities)

Chiriboga-Flor, Andrea (rep for communities disproportionately affected by nonconsensual tows)

Connolly, John (rep for a towing association with experience in consensual towing)

Dittman, Leonard (appointed by Chief of Colorado State Patrol)

Forbes, Trevor (rep for nonconsensual towing carriers)

Hill, Robert (Troy) (rep for an association of motor carriers as consumers of towing services)

Howes, James (rep for insurance companies that insure towing operations)

Lawless, Nichole (rep for communities disproportionately affected by nonconsensual tows)

Peirce, Michael (rep for mobile home owners)

Prunsky, Gregory (rep for local law enforcement agencies)

Rich, Charles (Brandon) (rep for consumers of tow services, private property owners)

Riester, Jefferey (appointed by Attorney General, experience enforcing Consumer Protection Act)

Riley, Nathan (rep for Public Utilities Commission)

Ruscha, JoyAnn (rep for people with disabilities)

Attorney General - Ruth Harper

Public Commenters - Scot Bickell, Kayla Colondres, Troy Porras

1. Introductions

2. Onboarding Updates

a. State Email Addresses

- Members will be issued State email addresses by DORA/OIT

- These emails will be used only to conduct TTF business

b. Onboarding Materials

- DORA Handbook will be circulated to members
- Members will need to sign Compliance Affidavit, once onboarding criteria (State email, onboarding materials, training) has been met

c. Board/Commission Survey

- Members will likely be sent the survey sometime in March 2022
- There should be a description of the survey in the DORA Handbook

3. Training - Attorney General's Office

- Conducted by Attorney General Ruth Harper
- Training covered review of PUC/DORA, TTF, Open Meetings Law, *Ex Parte* Communications, Conflict of Interest, Colorado Open Records Act (CORA), etc.
- Peirce: Question regarding *Ex Parte*, in regards to speaking with legislators, members of the public, etc.
- Kayla Colondres: Discussed concerns about public notice for TTF meetings and public participation

4. Elect Chair for Towing Task Force

- Election of Chair is required by state statute, § 40-10.1-403(3)(b), C.R.S.
- Chair will set times and frequency of TTF meetings, as well as manage the TTF meetings
- Forbes was the only volunteer for the Chair position
- **VOTE HELD: TREVOR FORBES FOR CHAIR?**
- **RESULTS 11 (YES), 1 (NO), 1 (RECUSE), 1 (DID NOT VOTE)**
- Forbes elected as Chair

5. Informal Secretary Position

- Discussed need for an Informal Secretary Position
- Position would help TTF comply with Open Meetings Law, including recording meeting minutes, tracking votes, etc.
- No members volunteered for this position
- Ruscha: Suggested this could maybe be done on a rotating basis, with all members taking turns

5(a). Discussed Public Notices for TTF Meetings

- Riley: Suggested continuing to notice the TTF meetings on the PUC's Towing webpage
- **VOTE HELD: MEETING NOTICES ON PUC WEBSITE?**
RESULTS 13 (YES), 1 (DID NOT VOTE)
- Decision made to continue to post public notice for TTF meetings on the PUC's website

6. Discuss Goals of Towing Task Force

- Connolly: Suggested the TTF may want to explore other areas of the towing industry and regulation, including operations
- Forbes: Suggested the TTF may want to officially notice the State Legislature to give the TTF more time to address certain area of the towing industry
- Ruscha: Suggested including various accessibility options for Towing Task Force meetings, such as sign language and translation services

- Peirce: Suggested TTF may want to explore the causes of tows, towing contracts, and other areas that may be explored by the State Legislature

7. Discuss Meeting Frequency

- Riley: Suggested TTF meetings at least once per month, at least until the first report is due (no earlier than July 1, 2022, but no later than September 1, 2022)

8. Schedule Next Meeting

- After discussion, scheduled next TTF meeting for 02/09, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM

- Dittman: Suggested that TTF meetings be scheduled on a regular rotation, in order to accommodate long term scheduling

- Riley: Clarified § 40-10.1-403(2.5)(c), C.R.S., which states that a member can designate a person to fulfill the member's duties during a meeting, if they are unavailable

9. Public Comment

- Scot Bickell: Expressed concerns over tows for expired vehicle registration, inability for vehicle owners to view tow agreements, etc.

- Kayla Colondres: Expressed concerns about tow signage at private properties, recourse for consumer issues, inability for vehicle owners to view tow agreements, etc., asked about volunteering for TTF (Riley explained TTF appointments and vacancies)

Troy Porras: Suggested TTF reach out to State Legislature and recommend an expansion of their statutory mandate, discussed (pending) legislative action, made comments in response to other public commenters, including

PUC rule explanation (Ruscha - made comment that the TTF probably should not review/consider legislation that is in draft format)