



The County of Galveston

Road and Bridge Department
Seawall Maintenance Department
Bolivar Peninsula Beach Maintenance
Fleet Service Department
Lee Crowder, Road Administrator Office 281-534-4152

Date: April 7, 2025

To: **Commissioner's Court;**
Mark Henry, County Judge
Darrell Apffel, Commissioner, PCT 1
Joe Giusti, Commissioner, PCT 2
Hank Dugie, Commissioner, PCT 3
Dr. Robin Armstrong, Commissioner, PCT 4

From: Lee Crowder
Road Administrator

CC: Rebecca Gilliam
Director, Human Resources

RE: **Request Implementation of Take-Home Policy for Law Enforcement Vehicles**

The primary advantage of implementing a take home policy is to give deputies immediate access to their patrol units and the county increases the life cycle of each unit. The combination of the two advantages will enhancing response times, increase law enforcement presence in the community, deterring crime, and bring the replacement cycle of law enforcement vehicles with in policy.

A take- home policy will improve accountability by assigning deputies to a specific vehicle. This assignment will improve vehicle maintenance and create a higher standard of care per vehicle in the law enforcement fleet. A single deputy operating an assigned vehicle will minimize wear and tear, extending the lifespan of the fleet.

Implementing a take home policy will require an increase of 14 vehicles to the current Sheriff Office's vehicle inventory. Changing from the vehicle serving multiple shifts per day to a take-home vehicle will accumulate less annual mileage allowing the asset to remain in service for a longer period of time.

The current vehicle replacement policy is 5 years and 80,000 miles, this requires the replacement of 41 vehicles annually. Galveston County has averaged only 26 replacement vehicles annually (-15 per year to meet policy) in the last 5 years. Changing the vehicle replacement policy to 6 years and 100,000 miles while implementing the take-home policy to extend the life of these assets; will require approximately 29 vehicle replacements annually (+3 units from current average).

Thank you for your consideration.