

# Metro Board Approved Policy

## Freeway Service Patrol Beat Cap Policy

*Adopted: September 27, 2001*

### Historical Perspective

Since its inception, the FSP program has changed its beat cap policy four times. In July 1991, the Board established the beat cap at four after partner agencies agreed to test this limit in a demonstration program. It reduced the beat cap two years later, from four to two, when the number of contractors participating in the program grew. In April 1996, the Board increased the beat cap to three because there were not enough contractors approved for an award during the FSP procurement process.

The last change came in September 2001, when the Board again reduced the beat cap to two beats. Staff offered four reasons to justify the latest change. First, the lower beat cap would increase the number of FSP contractors in the program. Second, FSP staff had increased its marketing and outreach efforts to ensure that more tow truck contractors would bid on future FSP contracts. Third, the change in procurement method initiated in 1997, from negotiated request for proposal to a low bid, increased the competitive environment. Finally, a two-beat limit makes it easier for us to cover lapses in service, which may occur when an FSP contractor is eliminated or terminated from the program.

## **Freeway Service Patrol Beat Cap Policy**

2-Beat Cap Limit Policy: Contractors will be able to operate two FSP beats at any given time. Any FSP contractor with three contracts will be grandfathered into the program and will be allowed to maintain its three contracts only until one contract expires. From that point forward, that contractor will be guided by this two beat restriction.

Of the 18 contractors currently providing FSP in Los Angeles County, seven have three beats and eight have two beats. See Attachment A for FSP contract profiles.

New to the FSP Contractor Policy: A new contractor is defined as a contractor who has never been awarded an FSP contract in the Los Angeles County Metro Freeway Service Patrol program. Should a new FSP contractor be successful in competing for an FSP beat, it will be restricted to being awarded only one beat. The intent of this limit policy is to provide the new contractor with operational experience (equipment installation, inspections, driver training, dispatch communication, etc.) without significantly impacting the total FSP fleet operation. A new contractor will be required to successfully operate (FSP field experience) an FSP beat for a minimum of 6 months before becoming eligible to bid on a second beat.

**Attachment A**  
**Metro Freeway Service Patrol**  
**Contractor Profile**  
**Beat Cap Policy**

Contractor	Location	Contracted Beats	Hourly Rate by Beat	Number of FSP Trucks	Year Started with FSP Program	No. of Years in FSP Program
AFT Services	Los Angeles	7, 31	\$36.90, \$36.49	10	Aug-97	4
Al's Towing	Alhambra	3, 4, 8	\$37.32, \$37.29, \$37.16	15	Mar-94	7
Bob & Dave's	Whittier	12, 16, 38	\$36.75, \$36.25, \$40.00	13	Jul-92	9
California Coach	Walnut	11, 13, 37	\$37.75, \$37.25, \$37.75	15	Sep-93	8
City Terrace	Los Angeles	25	\$37.90	5	Apr-91	10
Classic Club	Van Nuys	5, 27, 29	\$39.85, \$39.85, \$41.49	16	Apr-96	5
Dale's Toe	Whittier	19, 20	\$36.25, \$37.01	10	Apr-91	10
Frank Scotto Towing	Torrance	1, 30	\$43.50, \$42.94	11	Apr-94	7
Girard & Peterson	Burbank	10, 22, 35	\$39.10, \$34.99, \$35.35	12	Jan-93	8
J&M Towing	Alhambra	18, 40	\$39.00, \$37.49	10	Sep-93	8
Just For You Towing	Inglewood	9, 43	\$41.01, \$41.02	10	Apr-91	10
Kenny's Auto Service	Bellflower	14, 15, 26	\$36.64, \$36.64, \$36.64	12	Mar-94	7
LA's Bestway	Los Angeles	6, 39	\$39.00, \$39.00	8	Sep-93	8
Navarro's Towing	Monterey Park	23	\$37.25	4	Oct-00	1
South Coast Towing	Los Angeles	2	\$38.48	5	May-00	1
TG Towing	Canyon Country	33, 34	\$40.99, \$39.99	10	Apr-91	10
US Tow	Los Angeles	17, 24, 41	\$37.90, \$44.00, \$44.00	13	Sep-93	8
Walnut Valley Towing	Walnut	21, 28	\$35.79, \$36.16	10	Apr-91	10

Total No. of FSP Trucks (Including Backup Trucks): 189  
 No. of FSP Contractors: 18  
 Contractors w/1 Beat: 3  
 Contractors w/2 Beats: 8  
 Contractors w/3 Beats: 7  
 No. of Beats: 40  
 Average Hourly Rate: \$38.50  
 High Hourly Rate: \$44.00  
 Low Hourly Rate: \$34.99