

# AUTOMOTIVE BUSINESS LICENSES ISSUED

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- Auto Repair Facility
  - Both body shops and mechanics
- Mobile Auto Repair Business
- Motor Vehicle Dealer
- Retail Supply Dealer
  - Sellers of auto parts and accessories, such as O'Reilly or Wal-Mart
  - Convenience stores are excluded
- Used Parts and Used Accessory Dealer
- Automotive Parts Rebuilder

# AUTOMOTIVE BUSINESS LICENSES ISSUED

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- License requirements are found in Chapter 8 of the Code of Ordinances
- Some business fall under state regulation also

# AUTO REPAIR FACILITY OVERSIGHT

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- Section 8-16 defines an auto repair facility as follows:
  - Any person who engages in, conducts or carries on the public business of repairing motor vehicles or motor vehicle trailers, or both. This term includes a mobile automotive repair business.

# AUTO REPAIR FACILITY OVERSIGHT

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- The following businesses are included:
  - Mechanics, including those attached to franchise car dealerships
  - Body shops
  - Tire shops
  - Oil change facilities
  - Window tint facilities
  - Installers of stereos or other accessories
- Inspection stations are not included, as they are overseen by the state
  - Unless the service includes repairs such as oil changes

# AUTO REPAIR FACILITY OVERSIGHT

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- Some businesses will require more than one license.
- For example, tire shops also need a Retail Supply Dealer license as they sell tires in addition to installing them. If they sell used tires, then they need a Used Parts and Used Accessory Dealer license.

# COMMON AUTO REPAIR FACILITY VIOLATIONS

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- No ARF license (Sec. 8-51)
- Facility requirements such as parts on the ground, high weeds, no all-weather surface, and oil on the ground (Sec. 8-30)
- Keeping cars for more than 30 days without surrounding the shop with a solid fence (Sec. 8-30)
- Failure to keep records as required (Sec. 8-27)

# REGULATORY OPPORTUNITIES

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- Citations may be issued for violations
- For persistent, uncorrected violations by a licensed business, Auto Dealers can take the business before the Automotive Board.
- For businesses with no license who continue to operate, a citation can be issued each day the business is in violation.

# REGULATORY CHALLENGES

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- Some businesses appear unmoved by citations and include as part of operating expense.
- Businesses with no license are unable to be brought before the Automotive Board for consideration of license removal because the business already has no license.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

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- Bring to table all regulatory parties/stakeholders to assist with enforcement, including non-City partners.
- Review City of Houston Code of Ordinances, Chapter 8 for opportunities to add additional language to assist with regulation.
- Opportunities for statutory enforcement