

Plastic Identification Cards

The Board issues approximately 50,000 paper pocket licenses per year on a two-year renewal cycle. Prior to 1998, the Board was on a four-year license renewal cycle and the paper pocket licenses "wore out" prior to the next license renewal.

To overcome the deficiencies of the paper license, the Board voluntarily purchased a table top printer and began to issue plastic ID cards, at an annual cost in materials of about \$27,000 plus 1000 hours of staff resources.

In 2006, the Board discussed alternatives to the expense of providing these plastic ID cards by requesting renewal notices to be programmed to require the renewal licensee to request a plastic ID; with the projection that a number of licensees would decline and thereby produce savings to continue the Board issuance of the ID cards.

Since the implementation of plastic ID cards in 1998, a number of events have occurred:

- The license renewal period has moved from a four year cycle to a two year cycle, requiring cards to be issued more frequently; requiring more material, postage and staff time.
- Postage has increased.
- Staff expenses have risen
- The desktop machine has passed its useful life.
- The last fiscal year/current year budget required an overall 15% reduction in operational expenses and 5% reduction in employee salary savings (i.e. vacancies)

The last late budget cycle prevented the ordering of supplies; which was delayed the issuance of ID cards by at least six months.

The total current annual cost to the Board is \$58,000 for materials/staff time, which is no longer manageable under the current fiscal climate.

Staff believes the concept of a permanent pocket ID is worth pursuing and is currently working with a contract vendor to provide plastic photo ID cards to those licensees who voluntarily choose to purchase one directly from the vendor. The process will work like this:

- The Board will provide a database of licensees to the vendor.
- A licensee will go to one of the multiple statewide locations (approximately 15 – appointment not required), provide proof of ID, pay the fee (estimated at \$6) and receive a photo ID that includes our logo and the license number.

We are still working out the details of this project and hope to reflect multiple licenses on one ID card. An example of a plastic photo ID card issued by the vendor is attached.



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