

Minutes



PUBLIC VEHICLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

MONDY, APRIL 29, 2013 – 9:33 a.m.

**COUNCIL CHAMBER, 2nd FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE
300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO L5B 3C1**

<http://www.mississauga.ca>

Members Present	Councillor Nando Iannicca, Ward 7 (Chair) Councillor Ron Starr, Ward 6 (Vice Chair) Al Cormier (Citizen Member) Baljit Singh Pandori (Elected at Large) Gurvel Singh (Taxicab Brokerages) Harsimar Singh Sethi (City Area Taxicab Drivers) Paramvir Singh Nijjar (City Area Taxicab Owners) Craig McCutcheon (Limousine Owners) Nabil A. Nassar (Citizen Member)
Staff Present:	Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement Darryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement

Contact: Stephanie Smith, Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk 905-615-3200 ext. 3795 Fax 905-615-4181
Stephanie.smith@mississauga.ca

CALL TO ORDER – 9:33 a.m.

DECLARATIONS OF DIRECT (OR INDIRECT) PECUNIARY INTEREST - NIL

PRESENTATIONS/DEPUTATIONS

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)

Minutes of the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee meeting held March 25, 2013.

Approved (Councillor Starr)

2. Amendments to the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended, for Taxicab Model Years

Harsimar Singh Sethi, City Area Taxicab Drivers inquired if the amendments to the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended, for Taxicab Model Years applied to single or multiple vehicle drivers and if 2006 modeled vehicle currently up for renewal would qualify for the extension. Darryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement noted that it applied to both and that 2006 model vehicles would qualify for the extension.

RECOMMENDATION

PVAC-0009-2013

That the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee approve the recommended changes to the requirements for taxicab model years as outlined in the report from the Commissioner, Transportation and Works, dated April 22, 2013 and titled “Amendments to the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended for Taxicab Model Years”, and that the by-law be amended accordingly.

Approved (H. Sethi)

3. Amendments to the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended, for Camera System Requirements in Taxicabs

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement spoke to the corporate report regarding amendments to the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended, for Camera System Requirements in Taxicabs. He noted that Staff met with Peel Regional Police (PRP) to discuss the reporting process for crimes against taxicab drivers. PRP identified inadequate camera systems in taxicabs and that it would be in the taxicabs drivers' best interest to upgrade their current system.

Committee members expressed their concern with the proposed camera system upgrades in taxicabs. Discussion ensued with respect to the additional \$1000.00 cost taxicab drivers would be faced with to upgrade their current system which already cost drivers \$800.00 eight years ago. It was noted that the corporate report is not complete as it does not address recommended suppliers, what the phase in period would be and who would benefit from the car system, the taxicab drivers or PRP.

Nabil A. Nassar, Citizen Member noted that the current issue with the camera system is the insufficient download space on the hard drive along with the accuracy of the date and time on the videos. Mr. Frost noted that the current camera systems have an 80% failure rate. Mr. Nassar noted the problem is that the only 35% of the public are aware that taxicabs are equipped with cameras and they are not acting as a deterrent.

Harsimar Singh Sethi, City Area Taxicab Drivers spoke to the matter and noted it would create a burden on drivers to report small crimes that occur in vehicles and that the PRP need to change the reporting process for taxicab drivers.

Councillor Iannicca, Chair inquired to PVAC how they would like to processed with the matter as they industry should decide the final outcome.

Councillor Starr noted that the industry wants more protection; however, the camera system is a costly investment.

Mark Sexsmith, Resident, inquired what the protocols are for public transit when purchasing equipment. Mr. Frost noted that all MiWay buses have camera systems that were approved by the PRP. He spoke to replacing the taxicab camera systems every 8 years to correspond with the vehicle replacement date to offset the cost. Mr. Sexsmith noted more information would need to be provided to drivers for the best system to purchase.

RECOMMENDATION

PVAC-0010-2013

That the corporate report dated April 22, 2013 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works with respect to amendments to the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended, for Camera System Requirements in Taxicabs be received and deferred to a future Public Vehicle Advisory Committee meeting.

Received (N. Nasser)

4. Hotel Shuttles

Gurvel Singh, Broker Representative spoke to the issue of hotel shuttles and noted that hotel shuttles are a big issue in the industry. He expressed concern that they are operating without a taxi license, may not have insurance and they are taking business away from taxicab drivers. Mr. Singh inquired how this issue can be enforced within the City of Mississauga as the industry is requesting their assistance. He also requested that staff look into people operating private vans as taxicabs as they are also having a financial impact on the industry.

Members of the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee engaged in conversation over the complexity of the issue and that enforcement is needed to address unlicensed taxi vehicles.

RECOMMENDATION

PVAC-0011-2013

That the fax dated April 19, 2013 from Gurvel Singh, Broker Representative with respect to hotel shuttles be received and referred to staff to prepare a Corporate Report for a later meeting date.

Received (N. Nassar)

5. Action List - 2012

Action List of the meeting held on March 25, 2013 provided to the Committee to update on the status of initiatives raised at prior meetings.

RECOMMENDATION

PVAC-0012-2013

That the Action List of the meeting held on March 25, 2013 provided to the Committee to update on the status of initiatives raised at prior meetings be received.

Received (H. Singh)

ADJOURNMENT – 10:35am (N. Nassar)

DATE OF NEXT MEETING –Monday June 17, 2013