



Minutes

PUBLIC VEHICLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2014 - 9:30 A.M.

COUNCIL CHAMBERS

SECOND FLOOR, CIVIC CENTRE

300 CITY CENTRE DRIVE, MISSISSAUGA, ONTARIO, L5B 3C1

<http://www.mississauga.ca/portal/cityhall/publicvehicleadvisory>

Members

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)
Harsimar Singh Sethi (City Area Taxicab Drivers)
Nabil A. Nassar (Citizen Member)
Paramvir Singh Nijjar (City Area Taxicab Owners)

Members Absent:

Craig McCutcheon (Limousine Owners)
Gurvel Singh (Taxicab Brokerages)

Staff Present:

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement
Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement
Stephanie Smith, Legislative Coordinator

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Stephanie.Smith@mississauga.ca

CALL TO ORDER - 9:34 A.M.

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST

PRESENTATIONS - Nil

DEPUTATIONS

1. Dr. Dan Hara, President, Hara Associates Inc., with respect to the Taxi Plate Issuance Review

Dr. Dan Hara, Hara Associates Inc. provided an updated progress report regarding the taxi plate issuance model review. Dr. Hara spoke to completed consultations with industry members, preliminary document review, future data collection and outlined the next steps. Dr. Hara further addressed feedback received industry members, the number of licensed taxis in the City of Mississauga, meter rates, plate issuance, accessible taxis and the future of taxicab mobile applications.

Karam Punian, Taxicab Driver, spoke to the first round of consultation with industry members, meter rates, accessible taxis and unlicensed limos. Dr. Dan Hara spoke to completed and future consultations, future statistical survey information and meter rates.

Al Cormier, Citizen Member, spoke to taxicab plate insurance, how accessible taxis are currently controlled and the effects of transit improvements. Dr. Dan Hara spoke to the current City of Mississauga by-laws and that the review would address transit improvements impacts on the industry.

Harsimar Singh Sethi, City Area Taxicab Drivers, spoke to meter rates.

Councillor Starr spoke to the number of industry members who participated in the consultations and the need for more input from taxicab plate holders.

Paramvir Singh Nijjar, City Area Taxicab Owners, noted the importance of surveying taxicab drivers.

Nabil Nassar, Citizen Member, spoke to the review of the plate issuance and inquired what definitions are being reviewed for accessible taxi and the cost of an accessible taxi trip. Dr. Dan Hara spoke to accessible standards for accessible taxis and subsidized rates offered in municipalities.

Baljit Singh Pandori, Elected at Large, inquired if Hara and Associates would be talking to insurance companies. Dr. Dan Hara noted that he would validate with insurance companies.

Mayor McCallion spoke to the importance of the current review of the taxicab industry being conducted. She further spoke to competition in the industry and the importance of a dress code for the industry.

Councillor Iannicca spoke to the complexity of the taxi industry and the user groups involved.

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputations made by Dr. Dan Hara and Associates regarding the Taxi Plate Issuance Model be received.

Received (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0012-2014

2. Item 2 Ian Black, General Manager, Uber Toronto

Ian Black, General Manager, Uber Toronto did not appear to make the deputation.

3. Item 3 Karam Punian, Taxicab Driver

No discussion took place.

MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

1.1 Minutes of the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee meeting held on April 8, 2014.

1.2 Minutes of the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee meeting held on May 12, 2014.

Approved (N. Nassar)

2. Taxicab Mobile Applications

Corporate Report dated September 17, 2014 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, with respect to taxicab mobile applications.

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement spoke to the requirements for Uber to operate in the City of Mississauga under the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law and noted that staff are enforcing the by-law.

Councillor Iannicca noted that Uber does not fit into the City of Mississauga by-laws and that they are illegal to operate in the City.

Karam Punian, Taxicab Driver, spoke to the model of taxicab mobile applications, metre rates and commission rates.

Al Cormier, Citizen Member, spoke to improving services for the residents of City of Mississauga and directed staff to continue to monitor the situation to improve services for residents.

Councillor Starr addressed concerns with the model proposed by Uber and the potential for losing control of the public vehicle industry.

Nabil Nassar, Citizen Member spoke to Uber's reasonability to follow the guidelines of a brokerage and the need to obey the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law.

Mayor McCallion spoke to the need for the Province of Ontario to legislate this matter as taxicab mobile applications serve the public. She directed staff to prepare a report to the Province and request that legislation be put in place to make it illegal to operate in Ontario.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the report from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, dated September 17, 2014 and entitled "Taxicab Mobile Applications" be received for information
2. That staff be directed to prepare a report for a future Public Vehicle Advisory Committee (PVAC) outlining the need for Provincial legislation and once endorsed by PVAC that the report be forwarded to the Province.

Referred (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0013-2014

RECOMMENDATION

That the letter dated September 29, 2014 from Ian Black, General Manager, Uber Toronto regarding taxicab mobile applications (TMA), be received.

Received (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0014-2014

3. Mobile Licensing Enforcement Practices

Corporate Report dated September 14, 2014 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, with respect to mobile licensing enforcement practices.

Mayor McCallion spoke to new staff implementing legislative practices in the industry and noted the importance of safety issues being enforced immediately. She noted the importance of Staff providing drivers more time for the fix minor problems.

RECOMMENDATION

That the report from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, dated September 17, 2014 and entitled "Mobile Licensing Enforcement Practices" be received for information.

Received (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0015-2014

4. Priority List Renewals

Email dated August 7, 2014 from Karam Punian, Taxicab Driver, regarding the priority list renewals.

Karam Punian, Taxicab Driver spoke to the priority list renewals and noted that the industry never discussed the change. He further spoke to the changes to the taxicab driver identification card.

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement noted that direction would be taken from the Committee and that staff would bring a report back to amend the by-law to suit the industry's needs on how they would like to renew their licenses.

RECOMMENDATION

That the email dated August 7, 2014 from Karam Punian, Taxicab Driver, regarding the priority list renewals be received and referred to staff.

Referred (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0016-2014

5. Priority List Renewals

Email dated August 11, 2014 from Gurvel Singh, Broker Representative, regarding the priority list renewals.

RECOMMENDATION

That the email dated August 11, 2014 from Gurvel Singh, Broker Representative, regarding the priority list renewals be received and referred to staff.

Referred (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0017-2014

6. Operator License Renewal Requirements

No discussion took place.

RECOMMENDATION

That the email dated August 11, 2014 from Gurvel Singh, Broker Representative, regarding operator license renewal requirements be received and referred to staff.

Referred (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0018-2014

7. Lyft Rideshare Program

No discussion took place.

RECOMMENDATION

That the letter July 10, 2014 from Mark Sexsmith, Taxi Owner, regarding the Lyft

Rideshare Program be received and referred to staff.

Referred (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0019-2014

8. Airport Taxicab Exemption

Email dated July 1, 2014 from Peter D. Pellier, Taxicab Driver, regarding airport exemption as it applies to taxicabs.

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement noted that the City of Mississauga was notified of the newest request for proposal (RFP) after the GTAA issued the contract. Mr. Frost further explained that the GTAA has their own authority over their limousine licenses and that any issues should be brought to the GTAA.

RECOMMENDATION

That the email from Peter D. Pellier, Taxicab Driver regarding airport exemption as it applies to taxicabs be received.

Received (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0020-2014

9. Public Vehicle Advisory Committee Election Update

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement, provided a verbal update regarding the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee (PVAC) election and noted that under normal practices a PVAC election would be held this fall, however, it has been delayed to the new year.

10. Public Vehicle Advisory Committee - Action List

Public Vehicle Advisory Committee Action List for 2014.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee Action List for 2014 be received.

Received (N. Nassar)

Recommendation PVAC-0021-2014

OTHER BUSINESS

Karam Punian, Taxicab Driver spoke to the upcoming mandatory inspections and inquired if staff would be issuing tickets to drivers. Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement provided clarification regarding mandatory inspection and spoke to safety infractions.

Peter Pellier, Taxicab Driver, thanked Mayor McCallion and Councillors for their contributions towards the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee (PVAC).

Mandhir Mann spoke to the taxicab priority list and expressed concerns. Councillor Iannicca indicated that a report would come back to the committee outlining the concerns raised.

Mahar Ahmad spoke to current by-laws regarding assessable taxicab plates not being able to be leased. Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing, noted that the current practice would be followed until further consideration from the Committee.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – To be determined

ADJOURNMENT – 11:20 A.M.