



Minutes

PUBLIC VEHICLE ADVISORY COMMITTEE

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF MISSISSAUGA

TUESDAY, MARCH 3, 2015 - 9:33 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 Ron Starr, Ward 6 (**Vice-Chair**)
Councillor Carolyn Parrish, Ward 5 (Arrival 9:46 a.m.)
Al Cormier (Citizen Member)
Baljit Singh Pandori (Elected at Large)
Gurvel Singh (Taxicab Brokerages)
Nabil A. Nassar (Citizen Member)
Craig McCutcheon (Limousine Owners)
Paramvir Singh Nijjar (City Area Taxicab Owners)

Members Absent:

Harsimar Singh Sethi (City Area Taxicab Drivers)

Staff Present:

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

Contact: Karen Morden, Legislative Coordinator
Office of the City Clerk 905-615-3200 ext. 5471 Fax 905-615-4181
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CALL TO ORDER - 9:33 AM

DECLARATIONS OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST - Nil

PRESENTATIONS - Nil

DEPUTATIONS

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

Dr. Dan Hara, Hara Associates Inc. provided an updated progress report regarding the taxi plate issuance model review.

Dr. Hara commented that there is now sufficient data with respect to dispatch response time to go forward with the completion of the report with a good analysis of the Mississauga market and thanked the companies who provided information, noting that data confidentiality will be protected. Dr. Hara noted the importance of the collection of data with respect to dispatch response time in relation to service quality and the ability to accurately determine if Mississauga currently has enough taxis and if there is a change to more single-shifted taxis.

Dr. Hara provided an updated proposed schedule which included consultation with the Older Adult Advisory Panel, consultation on costs of Mississauga taxi operation, the completion of a peer comparison in March 2015, the presentation of the report drafts based on the three phases of the report to the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee (PVAC) in May 2015, and the final report and recommendations completed in June, 2015.

Members sought clarification with respect to public meetings, the development of meter rates, the importance of supply and demand data from drivers, and current trends.

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation made by Dr. Dan Hara, President, Hara Associates Inc. regarding the Taxi Plate Issuance Model be received.

Received (G. Singh)

Recommendation PVAC-0001-2015

Karam Punian, Taxicab Driver, spoke to the Taxi Plate Issuance Model report and commented that several factors should be included in the study with open public discussion and input from the public and the industry. Councillor Starr, Vice-Chair asked Dr. Hara whether these factors were part of the mandate of the report and Dr. Hara confirmed that there would be content relevant to the concerns raised in the final report.

B. Zachary Killam, CEO, Play Charging, with respect to in-taxi charging devices for smartphones

Zachary Killam, CEO, Play Charging, spoke with respect to in-taxi charging devices for smartphones.

Mr. Killam provided background information on Play Taxi Media, presented the charging dock that fits on the vehicle headrest and provided information with respect to use of the devices in taxicabs. Mr. Killam noted that his company would provide the device to taxicab drivers at no cost and that an agreement would be reached with respect to sharing advertising revenue, noting that the device is affixed with a sticker to advertise a third party company. Mr. Killam commented that the cost of installation is roughly \$30 and that the devices are installed by his company.

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement noted that an amendment to the current by-law would be necessary if it is determined that in-taxi charging devices would be permitted.

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation made by Zachary Killam, CEO, Play Charging, regarding in-taxi charging devices be referred to staff to bring back a report on in-taxi charging devices.

Referred (Councillor Parrish)

Recommendation PVAC-0002-2015

C. Amandeep Mann with respect to tint-free provisions in the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended

Amandeep Mann, taxicab driver, spoke with respect to the tint-free provisions in the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended.

Mr. Mann requested a personal exclusion to the by-law that would allow him to maintain the after-market tint on his taxicab, based on his medical condition.

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement spoke to the 2014 corporate report on tint-free provisions noting that the information did not support the tinting of the windows to ensure the safety of both drivers and passengers and further added that the factory tint is acceptable and that the level of tint was determined by the manufacturers in accordance with police and enforcement departments across the country, as after-market tints are deep enough that the police are not able to see all occupants of a vehicle.

Mr. Mann commented that the in-taxi camera in his vehicle would promote safety and that he is in possession of a doctor's note from 2011 recommending that he be able to utilize after-market tint in his vehicle due to a medical condition.

Councillor Parrish and Councillor Starr advised Mr. Mann to provide medical documentation to them for review.

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation made by Amandeep Mann, taxicab driver, with respect to tint-free provisions in the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended be received and Mr. Mann is further advised to supply medical documentation to be reviewed by Councillor Parrish and Councillor Starr.

Deferred (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0003-2015

MATTERS CONSIDERED

1. Minutes of Previous Meeting

1.1 Minutes of the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee meeting held on September 29, 2014

Karam Punian, Taxicab Driver, spoke with respect to the minutes of the September 29, 2014 Public Vehicle Advisory Committee meeting.

Mr. Punian commented that the full discussion on Item 3 – Mobile Licensing Enforcement Practices was not documented in detail. Mr. Punian further commented on his concerns with enforcement practices. Councillor Parrish advised Mr. Punian that Committee Meeting minutes are an anecdotal report on the gist of the conversation and are not intended to be verbatim. Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement advised Mr. Punian to raise his concerns with respect to specific licensing enforcement situations with staff.

Approved, as amended (G. Singh)

2. Overview of Mobile Licensing Enforcement Practices for the Taxicab and Limousine Industries

Corporate Report dated February 18, 2105 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, entitled, "Mobile Licensing Enforcement Practices for the Taxicab and Limousine Industries".

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement spoke to Mobile Licensing Enforcement Practices for the Taxicab and Limousine Industries and noted that as a result of the meeting in Fall 2014 with former Mayor McCallion in attendance, Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement developed a rating system of contraventions to the Public Vehicle Licensing By-Law 420-04, as amended deeming them either minor or major offences and has identified how the by-law will be enforced.

Councillor Starr commented positively with respect to the report and requested that staff provide a progress update in a year's time.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the report from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, dated February 18, 2015 entitled "Mobile Licensing Enforcement Practices for the Taxicab and Limousine Industries" be received for information;
2. That staff provide an update to the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee in 2016.

Received (C. McCutcheon)

Recommendation PVAC-0004-2015

3. Regulation of Taxicab Mobile Applications

Corporate Report dated February 18, 2015 from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, entitled, "Regulation of Taxicab Mobile Applications".

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement, spoke to the regulation of taxicab mobile applications.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That Council request the Ministry of Transportation for the Province of Ontario pass legislation and/or regulations to address taxicab mobile applications such as Uber as outlined in the report from the Commissioner of Transportation and Works, dated February 18, 2015 entitled "Regulation of Taxicab Mobile Applications".
2. That a copy of the report from the Commission of Transportation and Works,

dated February 18, 2015 entitled "Regulation of Taxicab Mobile Applications", be forwarded to the Minister of Transportation, Province of Ontario.

Approved (B. Pandori)
Recommendation PVAC-0005-2015

4. Uber Taxi

Email dated February 11, 2015 from Baljit Pandori, Elected at Large, regarding Uber Taxi.

Baljit Pandori, Elected at Large, spoke with respect to Uber Taxi and the email he sent on behalf of the Taxicab Industry in Mississauga and requested an update from staff on Uber Taxi issues.

Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement spoke to staff's efforts to work through the issues with Uber Taxi and noted that staff are no longer seeing Uber Taxis in Mississauga at this time but have observed "Uber X" vehicles and are working with Peel Regional Police to move forward and are continuing to monitor the mobile application. Mr. Bell further commented that under the current by-law, Enforcement staff are able to deal with Uber Taxis but are unable to issue tickets to "Uber X" vehicles as those vehicles do not have meters.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the email dated February 11, 2015 from Baljit Pandori, Elected at Large, regarding Uber Taxi be received;
2. That the matter be referred to staff to prepare an updated report with respect to Uber and Uber X taxis.

Referred (P. Nijjar)
Recommendation PVAC-0006-2015

5. Moratorium on A-Plates

Email dated February 11, 2015 from Peter Pellier regarding a moratorium on the issuance of A-Plates.

Peter Pellier spoke with respect to his email dated February 11, 2015 with respect to a moratorium on the issuance of A-Plates and requested an amendment to the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended until such time as the review is complete.

Mr. Bell noted that A-Plates issued recently had been issued conditionally to ensure they are being used for accessible transportation with the option to revoke or suspend if it is found that they are not operating within the by-law.

Councillor Parrish inquired whether the review would address this issue and Dr. Hara deferred comment until the completion of the review currently taking place.

A motion was put forth by Al Cormier, Citizen Member to propose a three month moratorium on the issuance of A-Plates and that the five (5) current Temporary A-Plate applicants be exempt from the moratorium.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the email dated February 11, 2015 from Peter Pellier regarding a moratorium on the issuance of A-Plates be received;
2. That a three month moratorium on the issuance of A-Plates be enacted and that five (5) current Temporary A-Plate applicants be exempt from the moratorium.

Approved (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0007-2015

6. Taxi Meter Rates

Email dated February 10, 2015 from Al Cormier, Citizen Member, Public Vehicle Advisory Committee, regarding taxi meter rates.

RECOMMENDATION

That the email dated February 10, 2015 from Al Cormier, Citizen Member regarding taxi meter rates be received.

Received (A. Cormier)

Recommendation PVAC-0008-2015

7. Pan Am Games

Email dated February 25, 2015 from Mark Sexsmith regarding an information session for the Pan Am Games being held at Hershey Sportzone.

Colin Patterson, Coordinator, Integrated Road Safety Program, assured the Committee that City of Mississauga staff would be in attendance at the information session held at Hershey Sportzone.

RECOMMENDATION

That the email dated February 25, 2015 from Mark Sexsmith regarding an information session for the Pan Am Games being held at Hershey Sportzone be received.

Received (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0009-2015

8. Appointment of New Members to the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee

Councillor Starr spoke to the appointment of new members to the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee and discussed the appointment and election process.

9. Public Vehicle Advisory Committee Elections

Letter dated March 3, 2015 from Crystal Greer, Director Legislative Services and City Clerk, to industry members regarding the 2015 Public Vehicle Advisory Committee elections.

RECOMMENDATION

That the letter dated March 3, 2015 from Crystal Greer, Director Legislative Services and City Clerk, regarding the 2015 Public Vehicle Advisory Committee elections be received.

Received (Councillor Starr)

Recommendation PVAC-0010-2015

10. Public Vehicle Advisory Committee – Action List

The Public Vehicle Advisory Committee Action List for 2015.

RECOMMENDATION

That the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee Action List for 2015 be received.

Received (C. Parrish)

Recommendation PVAC-0011-2015

OTHER BUSINES

Karam S. Punian, Taxicab Driver, inquired as to why the PVAC election would be held at Malton Victory Hall when it is traditionally held at the airport. Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement confirmed that the location was chosen to ensure the integrity of the election and allow election officials to access licensing and voters list information remotely.

Gurvel Singh, Taxicab Brokerages, inquired about the recent signage at 151 City Centre Drive in the Tim Horton's parking lot stating, "No Taxi Parking" and was advised to speak with the building management as it is a private facility.

DATE OF NEXT MEETING – Tuesday, April 21, 2015 at 9:30 AM, City of Mississauga, Council Chambers

ADJOURNMENT – 11:33 A.M.