
Public Vehicle Advisory Committee

Date

2016/04/19

Time

10:08 AM

Location

Civic Centre, Council Chamber,
300 City Centre Drive, Mississauga, Ontario, L5B 3C1 Ontario

Members Present

Councillor Ron Starr, Ward 6 (Chair)
Councillor Carolyn Parrish, Ward 5 (Vice-Chair)
Al Cormier (Citizen Member)
Vikesh Kohli (Citizen Member)
Rajendra Singh (Citizen Member)
Baljit Singh Pandori (Taxicab Brokerages)
Karam S. Punian (Taxicab Drivers)
Harsimar Singh Sethi (Elected at Large)
Nirmal Singh (Taxicab Owners)

Members Absent

Joshua Zahavy (Limousine Brokerages)

Staff Present

Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement
Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement
Robert Genoway, Legal Counsel
Karen Morden, Legislative Coordinator, Legislative Services

Find it online

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

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1. **CALL TO ORDER – 10:08 AM**
 2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
Approved (Councillor Parrish)
 3. **DECLARATION OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST – Nil.**
 4. **MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING**
 - 4.1. Minutes from the April 8, 2016 Special Public Vehicle Advisory Committee Meeting
Approved (A. Cormier)
 5. **DEPUTATIONS**
 - 5.1 Item 6.1 Peter Peller, Taxi Industry
See discussion under Item 6.1.
 - 5.2 Item 6.1 Al Moore, Taxi Industry
See discussion under Item 6.1.
 - 5.3 Item 6.1 Yad Sidhu, Taxi Industry
See discussion under Item 6.1.
 - 5.4 Item 6.1 Tehnaz Mistry, Limousine Driver
See discussion under Item 6.1.
 - 5.5 Item 6.1 Jaskarun Singh, Taxi Industry
See discussion under Item 6.1.
 6. **MATTERS TO BE CONSIDERED**
 - 6.1. Summary of Proposed Regulations for Transportation Network Companies
Mickey Frost, Director, Enforcement provided a brief background on the Corporate Report entitled, “Summary of Proposed Regulations for Transportation Network Companies” and spoke to the recent Toronto report on the same matter.

At this time, the Chair called upon the delegates to speak.

- 5.1 Peter Pellier, Taxi Plate Owner spoke to the history of the taxi industry in Mississauga, to the history of the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee, and the emergence of UberX into the industry. Mr. Pellier urged the Committee to support the “Capture Option” in the regulation of Transportation Network Companies.

Karam Punian, Taxicab Drivers inquired whether Mr. Pellier believed his plates had lost value and whether he believed that there should be compensation for the loss of value. Mr. Pellier spoke to the impact the emergence of Uber had had on his family financially, noting that he felt the City should provide compensation to plate owners due to lowered plate values and the decrease in income from leasing his plates to drivers.

- 5.2 Al Moore, Taxi Industry spoke to the emergence of Uber into the taxi industry and urged the Committee to consider having the City amend the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04 to allow the City to offer a smartphone app that would connect the public to the nearest vacant taxi that is licensed to operate in the City of Mississauga.

Al Cormier, Citizen Member noted that Uber takes 25-30% of their drivers’ fares and inquired as to how much of the fare a taxi driver got to keep.

- 5.3 Yad Sidhu, Taxi Industry spoke regarding possible amendments to the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended including definitions, Schedule 1 pertaining to fees, and criminal record searches.

Councillor Starr asked Mr. Sidhu where he thought the taxi industry would be in five years, to which Mr. Sidhu replied that Council should not choose to adopt staff’s recommendations as in doing so the industry would slowly die. Mr. Sidhu further commented that the fee being charged to plate owners who have shelved their plates should be abolished, to which Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement advised that the City has not implemented that fee, nor charged any plate owner that fee.

- 5.4 Tehnaz Mistry, Limousine Driver spoke regarding possible amendments to the By-law to ensure equality in insurance requirements, ability to utilize surge pricing, safety inspections, winter tires, and the collection of HST. Ms. Mistry further commented on the need for a dispute resolution system in the industry.

- 5.5 Jaskarun Singh, Taxi Industry spoke regarding the effects of implementing a two-

tier system with app-based taxis, with respect to the fleet, licensing fees, markings on vehicles, inspections, pricing, insurance, cameras, training, and Criminal Record Searches.

Sami Khairallah, Taxi Industry commented that he is in support of the Capture Option, noting that there should be equal regulation and a limited number of TNCs.

Al Cormier, Citizen Member spoke to the Capture Option and commented that he was in support of a “Modified Capture Option” that would modernize the taxi industry moving forward and would address accessibility issues. Mr. Cormier further commented that the By-law should be reviewed annually.

Baljit Pandori, Taxicab Brokerages commented that he supports the Capture Option and that the current system is working well. Mr. Pandori further commented that the TNC sector has taken 30% of business from the taxi industry and expressed the need to come to a decision on the matter.

Harsimar Sethi, Elected at Large inquired as to whether Uber had been informed of the PVAC meeting, to which he was advised that they had been notified. Mr. Sethi further noted that he is in support of the Capture Option.

Nirmal Singh, Taxicab Drivers proposed an increase in fines for TNC drivers that would match the City of Brampton fines and requested that staff investigate.

Mr. Sethi inquired as to whether staff felt they had the power to impound, fine, and get an injunction if the City were to adopt the Capture Option. Mr. Frost commented that the Capture Option would create By-law amendments, that staff would enforce the By-law, and then would have to consult with Legal as to whether an injunction was possible. Robert Genoway, Legal Counsel expressed agreement, noting the need to demonstrate to the courts that the City has tried to regulate TNCs.

Rajendra Singh, Citizen Member expressed support for the “Modified Capture Option” and inquired as to the cost to the City thus far in enforcing the By-law and the reasoning for removing the English language proficiency. Daryl Bell, Manager, Mobile Licensing Enforcement advised that he would have to review the actual costs and noted that they have had multiple staff working on this issue daily.

Mr. Punian commented that he is in support of the Capture Option and requested clarification, to which Mr. Frost advised that the Capture Option was explained in detail in the report and that with the Capture Option, TNCs become illegal as

they must be licensed brokerages with licensed owners and drivers.

The Committee voted unanimously in support of the Capture Option.

RECOMMENDATION

1. That the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended, be amended to incorporate the “capture option” for the regulation of transportation network companies where transportation network companies will be required to obtain a broker licence and operate using only licensed taxi and limousine drivers, operating licensed taxi and limousine vehicles;
2. That the Public Vehicle Licensing By-law 420-04, as amended, be amended to facilitate licensed taxi and limousine drivers being able to work for more than one brokerage;
3. That staff be directed to report back to the Public Vehicle Advisory Committee on ways to modernize the regulation of taxi and limousine industries.

Carried (B. Pandori)

Recommendation PVAC-0006-2016

7. **INFORMATION ITEMS**

7.1. Uber - Correspondence from P. Pellier, Taxi Industry

RECOMMENDATION

That the deputation and associated email correspondence from Peter Pellier, Taxi Industry with respect to Uber, be received for information.

Received (K. Punian)

Recommendation PVAC-0007-2016

7.2. Definitions - Correspondence from M. Sexsmith, Taxi Industry

RECOMMENDATION That the correspondence from Mark Sexsmith, Taxi Industry with respect to amending By-law 420-04, as amended, pertaining to the “Definitions and Interpretation” section, be received for information.

Received (K. Punian)

Recommendation PVAC-0008-2016

7.3. Feedback on Proposed Changes to By-Law 420-04 - Correspondence from M. Sexsmith, Taxi Industry

RECOMMENDATION

That the correspondence dated April 12, 2016 from Mark Sexsmith, Taxi Industry with respect to feedback on proposed changes to By-law 420-04, as amended, be received for information.

Received (R. Singh)
Recommendation PVAC-0009-2016

- 7.4. Comments on Proposal for TNCs - Correspondence from A. Cormier, Citizen Member
That the correspondence dated April 8, 2016 from Al Cormier, Citizen Member with respect to by-law changes for transportation network companies, be received for information.

Received (K. Punian)
Recommendation PVAC-0010-2016

- 7.5. Proposed New Approach For Going Forward With or Without Uber - Correspondence from A. Cormier, Citizen Member

RECOMMENDATION

That the correspondence dated April 13, 2016 from Al Cormier, Citizen Member with respect to a proposed new approach for going forward with or without Uber, be received for information.

Received (R. Singh)
Recommendation PVAC-0011-2016

- 7.6. Correspondence from K. Punian, Taxicab Drivers

That the correspondence from Karam Punian, Taxicab Drivers with respect to amending By-law 420-04, as amended, be received for information.

Received (A. Cormier)
Recommendation PVAC-0012-2016

- 7.7. PVAC 2016 Action List, updated for the April 19, 2016 meeting.
Al Cormier, Citizen Member noted an error on the PVAC 2016 Action List and that the issue of accessible taxis should be marked "in progress".

RECOMMENDATION

That the PVAC 2016 Action List, updated for the April 19, 2016 meeting, be approved, as amended.

Approved, as amended (A. Cormier)
Recommendation PVAC-0013-2016

8. **OTHER BUSINESS** - Nil.

9. **DATE OF NEXT MEETING(S)**

Tuesday, June 21, 2016 – 10:00 AM, Council Chambers, Civic Centre

10. **ADJOURNMENT** – 11:51 AM