

City of Mississauga
Additional Agenda



Public Vehicle Advisory Committee

Date

September 19, 2017

Time

9:00 AM ****Please note the change in meeting start time.**

Location

Council Chamber

2nd Floor

300 City Centre Drive

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ITEM

- 8.2. Correspondence from Alexander Mantadis, Oakville Resident regarding the issuance of 38 taxi plates.

Contact

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Alexander Mantadis
[REDACTED]
Oakville, ON
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

September 18, 2017

Re: The decision to issue 38 Mississauga Taxicab plates

The decision to issue 38 unneeded Mississauga Taxicab plates was the result of blatant political interference in the plate issuance process.

Retired taxicab owners who attended PVAC meetings and Council meetings, who saw their retirement savings and plans evaporate as a result of a new category of public vehicle for hire created out of thin air, without legitimate compensation, rose to defend what little they had left, to see a further assault from within.

Council ignored, fully and completely, the protestations of those who contributed to the City's established public vehicle system for over 50 years. PVAC unanimously opposed issuance of plates. The Hara report opposed issuance of plates. Industry veterans pleaded, on bended knee, not to issue plates. All were callously and purposely ignored! Council refused to adopt a unanimous decision not to issue any additional plates. And now, as a result, the City has a further increase of the number of plates sitting on the shelf inactive. Are industry consultations just for show? Why allow the undermining of the existing system?

The political class of the City of Mississauga should hold its head in shame. You have shown that you have the ability to attend ceremonial event after event, tweet incessantly on twitter, but where were you to defend the interests and livelihoods of those who worked for, and trusted the City, that that they would have a reasonable pension in old age? The City has washed its hands of responsibility to the City's ex-cabbies! They are disposable, unneeded and have been replaced. PVAC's credibility, a Standing Committee of Council since 1972, has been reduced to nil: its unanimous vote against plate issuance was categorically ignored and denied by municipal politicians: a flagrantly irresponsible and arguably, negligent act vis à vis the industry and the democratic process itself.

The current council's shaping of democracy is a hollow shell of what it was. On the Public Vehicle file, it is an utter failure. It ought to be replaced.

a. m.

Alexander Mantadis