



1255 Imperial Avenue, Suite 1000
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Agenda

TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY MATTERS (WORM)

April 4, 2018

10:00 a.m.

James R. Mills Building
 Executive Committee Meeting Room, 10th Floor
 1255 Imperial Avenue, San Diego, 92101

To request an agenda in an alternative format or to request accommodations to facilitate meeting participation, please call the Clerk of the Board at least two working days prior to the meeting. Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs) are available from the Clerk of the Committee prior to the meeting and are to be returned at the end of the meeting.

		<u>ACTION RECOMMENDED</u>
1.	<u>Roll Call</u>	
2.	Approval of Minutes – September 12, 2017 and November 13, 2017	Approve
3.	<u>Non-Agenda Public Comment</u> The public may address the Committee regarding a matter <u>not</u> on the agenda. Each speaker has three minutes to speak. Give a completed <i>Request to Speak</i> form from the Clerk of the Committee	
4.	<u>Pending Revisions to Radio Dispatch Service Organization Registration form 570.5</u>	Informational
5.	<u>San Diego City Council approval to reduce taxicab vehicle insurance requirements</u>	Informational
6.	<u>Possible Taxicab Advisory Committee (TAC) lease driver replacement</u> MTS Staff will request sub-committee members to submit recommendations for eligible lease drivers to fulfill a possible TAC lease driver vacant seat for the remainder of the 2016-2019 term.	Possible Action
7.	<u>Next Meeting: TBD</u>	
8.	<u>Adjournment</u>	



San Diego Metropolitan Transit System
Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting
Workshop On Regulatory Matters

September 12, 2017

10:00 a.m.

James R. Mills Building
Board Meeting Room, 10th Floor
1255 Imperial Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Roll Call

Mr. Leonardo Fewell, Interim Taxicab Administration Manager, called the Taxicab Advisory Committee meeting to order at 10:14 a.m. A roll call sheet listing Taxicab Advisory Committee member attendance is attached.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – 5/26/17

Mr. Hueso moved for approval of the minutes of the 5/26/17, WORM meeting. Mr. Majid seconded the motion, and the vote was 7 to 0 in favor with Mr. Nichols, Mr. Seifu and Mr. Weldegorigs.

3. Non-Agenda Public Comment

Peter Zeshe – Representing Employee Rights Center expressed his concerns in the decline of business in the taxicab industry and the competition the industry is facing against TNC Uber and Lyft. He recommends the committee looks at the structure of the industry and work on reducing cost and burdens for the drivers so that the taxicab drivers can be more competitive in the market.

4. Management and Committee Member Communications

None presented

5. Proposed Revisions to MTS Ordinance 11

Public Comments

Kamran Hamidi - Mr. Hamidi suggested to the committee members to strike out clause 2.6 (b) from MTS Ordinance 11 and keeping the blue lights and making the mobile radios optional. Mr. Hamidi also expressed concern regarding the color scheme changes and suggested to leave the color and markings the way they are now. Mr. Hamidi agrees with the committee regarding the issuance of paper receipts and emphasizes the importance of a driver issuing this to customers because the printed receipt would have the cab information, in the event of lost and found or any other issues with the customer.

Adrian Kwiatkowski – President and CEO of Transportation Alliance Group recommends to the committee members to make an effort to modernize and restructure the taxicab industry as an effort to better compete with Uber and Lyft. Mr. Kwiatkowski states the reason why Uber and Lyft are successful is because they make their service user friendly to the consumers and do not place a burden on drivers such painting or marking their vehicles. Uber and Lyft also does not have heavy government regulations like the taxicab industry does and the consumer has accepted that. Mr. Kwiatkowski encourages the committee members to modernize the industry before it becomes obsolete.

The subcommittee discussed at length the items of Color Scheme/Paint, Vehicle Markings (possible Exterior/interior advertising), Rates of Fares/Soft Meters, Mobile Radios/FCC Licenses, Listing in telephone directories, Top lights/Code Blue lights, Credit Card payment acceptance, Driver Licensing Requirements, Administrative Fee Schedule (Transfer Fees).

Mr. Majid commented that color scheme used to be a factor however the color is no longer essential or beneficial, however some type of marking on the vehicle should still be set in place for the public to be able to identify and differentiate taxicab companies.

Mr. Palmeri agrees with Mr. Majid regarding the color/paint of the vehicle not being as essential as it was when the taxicab business was prevalent and suggest that if a permit holder purchases a fleet of vehicles of a certain color they should be able to be made operational without additional excessive cost to said permit holder. Mr. Palmeri states this would remove barriers of entry and will alleviate burdensome cost for drivers and the industry. Mr. Palmeri also suggested for the vehicles to not look so much like a taxicab as patrons are necessarily enthused about riding a cab and it is his recommendation for the vehicles to look more like a Transportation Network Company (TNC) vehicle versus a taxicab.

Mr. Hueso agrees with Mr. Majid and Mr. Palmeri regarding the color scheme/paint of the vehicles and recommends still having some type of identification, less markings and perhaps a large cab number for the public to differentiate a taxicab from a "TNC"; and states this would be useful for the public/patrons to be able to identify a taxicab in case the customer leaves personal items in a vehicle or if the customer has a compliment or complaint.

Mr. Majid, Mr. Palmeri and Mr. Hueso state the mobile radios are a thing of the past and as technology and mobile phone applications are more prevalent among riders the mobile radios are becoming obsolete and it is costly for the permit holders. Mr. Palmeri suggests making the mobile radios optional for drivers/permit holders to use and emphasizes that eliminating the radios does not mean a driver cannot use them, it just provides the driver a choice to use what best suits him or her.

The committee members also discussed the listing of telephone directories, top lights and code blue lights to be optional as long as there is an additional safeguard. The code blue lights is an area of concern as it is a safety issue, however, there are options such as electronic monitoring of the driver or a panic button which are things some in the industry already have.

Mr. Fewell communicated to the group that MTS is currently looking into modifying our administrative fee schedule. Mr. Fewell also communicated that the Sheriff's department may contemplate to make revision to their ordinance regarding the driver licensing requirements which would allow a driver to get to work the next day or minimize the administrative time that it would take for them to gain employment as a taxicab driver.

Mr. Fewell communicated to the committee that the California Dept. of Agriculture only has 3 devices as now one of them which belongs to Uber, the other to Lyft and the 3rd one to Fly Wheel and asked the members if they had any input on how to implement the option to adjust the rates.

Mr. Majid states the idea is to be able to adjust the rates, and he suggests to have the option for a permit holder/driver to be able to sign up to go with FlyWheel and should not be restricted based on the current rates structure. Mr. Majid states that as long as a driver has equipment approved by Weights and Measures then he/she should be able to adjust rates as desired and chose to use a hard meter of FlyWheel.

Mr. Fewell discussed with the group the options and requirements for credit card payment acceptance and asked the committee members if they would be interested in considering different methods of credit card acceptance to be an option. Mr. Fewell communicated that pursuant to Ordinance 11, MTS requires for a customer to be issued a receipt and MTS does require for the credit card acceptance machine to be linked to the meter, whether it is VeriFone, Square, etc. Mr. Fewell asked the

Action Taken

Mr. Majid moved to approve to keep Color Scheme/Paint, Vehicle Markings (possible Exterior/interior advertising), Rates of Fares/Soft Meters, Mobile Radios/FCC Licenses, Listing in telephone directories, Top lights/Code Blue lights, Credit Card payment acceptance, optional for radio services and/or permit holders Mr. Afifi seconded the motion, and the vote was 7 to 0 in favor with Mr. Nichols, Mr. Seifu and Mr. Weldegorigs

6. Next Meeting – TBD

7. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 11:53 a.m.

Accepted:

Filed by:

Leonardo Fewell, Interim Manager
MTS Taxicab Administration

Betty Brown, Clerk of the Committee
MTS Taxicab Administration



Attachment: Roll Call Sheet

SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM
 WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY MATTERS (WORM) MEETING
 ROLL CALL

MEETING OF (DATE): September 12, 2017

CALL TO ORDER (TIME): 10:14 a.m. ADJOURN: 11:53 a.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBER (Alternate)	ORGANIZATION	PRESENT (TIME ARRIVED)	ABSENT (TIME LEFT)
George Abraham <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/Eritrean Cab Co.	10:14 a.m.	11:53 a.m.
Tarek Afifi <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	10:14 a.m.	11:53 a.m.
Alfred Banks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	10:14 a.m.	11:53 a.m.
Tony Hueso <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alfredo Hueso <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/USA Cab, LTD	10:14 a.m.	11:53 a.m.
Akbar Majid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/SDYC Holdings, LLC	10:14 a.m.	11:53 a.m.
Marc Nichols <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Anderson <input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego County Regional Airport Authority		
Tony Palmeri <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michel Anderson <input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego Travelers Aid Society	10:14 a.m.	11:53 a.m.
Able Seifu <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver		
Margo Tanguay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	10:14 a.m.	11:53 a.m.
Medhanie Weldegiorgis <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/"A" Transportation, LLC		
Sharon Cooney <input type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Chief of Staff		
Leonardo Fewell <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Taxicab Administration Interim Manager	10:14 a.m.	11:53 a.m.
Samantha Leslie <input type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Staff Attorney/Regulatory Compliance		

CLERK OF THE TAC:  TAXICAB ADMINISTRATION MANAGER: 

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System
Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting
Workshop on Regulatory Matters (WORM)

November 13, 2017

10:00 a.m.

James R. Mills Building
Board Meeting Room, 10th Floor
1255 Imperial Avenue, San Diego, CA 92101

DRAFT MINUTES

Clerks Note:

The November 13, 2017 WORM meeting did not meet the quorum requirements and therefore no actions were taken and meeting adjourned. Staff and members present briefly discussed the following items, although no actions or recommendations were made during the meeting.

- Revisions to San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Ordinance No. 11, Providing for the Licensing and Regulation of Transportation Services Within the City by the Adoption of a Uniform Paratransit Ordinance
- Revisions to San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Taxicab Administration Fee Schedule for FY 2018
- Revisions to San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Taxicab Administration Taxicab and For-Hire Vehicle Insurance Requirements

Accepted:

Filed by:

Kenneth Nelson
Taxicab Administration Manager
MTS Taxicab Administration

Jamila L. Larkins, Clerk of the Committee
MTS Taxicab Administration



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Agenda Item No. 4

TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY MATTERS (WORM) SUBCOMMITTEE

April 4, 2018

SUBJECT:

PENDING REVISIONS TO RADIO DISPATCH SERVICE ORGANIZATION
REGISTRATION FROM 570.5

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

Budget Impact

None.

DISCUSSION:

MTS Taxicab Administration staff is in the process of reviewing form 570.5 in its current application. Staff will provide a status update to the subcommittee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'KENNELSON', is written over a horizontal line.

Kenneth Nelson
Taxicab Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Kenneth Nelson, 619.595-7034, Kenneth.Nelson@sdmts.com





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Agenda Item No. 5

TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY MATTERS (WORM) SUBCOMMITTEE

April 4, 2018

SUBJECT:

SAN DIEGO CITY COUNCIL APPROVAL TO REDUCE TAXICAB VEHICLE INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

Budget Impact

None.

DISCUSSION:

On Monday, March 19, 2018, the San Diego City Council voted in favor of reducing required minimum insurance coverage for taxicabs from \$1 million combined single limit (CSL) to \$350,000, CSL. The MTS Board of Directors will vote on a final approval on Thursday, April 12, 2018. Staff will provide a status update to the subcommittee.



Kenneth Nelson
Taxicab Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Kenneth Nelson, 619.595-7034, Kenneth.Nelson@sdmts.com





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Agenda Item No. 6

TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY MATTERS (WORM) SUBCOMMITTEE

April 4, 2018

SUBJECT:

POSSIBLE TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) LEASE DRIVER REPLACEMENT

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Taxicab Advisory Committee WORM Subcommittee submit recommendations for eligible lease drivers to fulfill a possible TAC lease driver vacant seat for the remainder of the 2016-2019 term.

Budget Impact

None.

DISCUSSION:

Staff will provide a status update to the subcommittee and request for recommendations for eligible lease drivers to fulfill a possible TAC lease driver vacant seat for the remainder of the 2016-2019 term.



Kenneth Nelson
Taxicab Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Kenneth Nelson, 619.595-7034, Kenneth.Nelson@sdmts.com

