



## Agenda

### MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

July 27, 2022

10:00 a.m.

*\*Meeting will be held via webinar\**

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/96643923312>

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<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/96643923312>.

#### ACTION RECOMMENDED

- |                            |   |               |
|----------------------------|---|---------------|
| 1.                         | ROLL CALL   |               |
| 2.                         | <a href="#">APPROVAL OF MINUTES – May 25, 2022</a>  | Approve       |
| 3.                         | PUBLIC COMMENTS   |               |
| COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS |   |               |
| 4.                         | <a href="#">Transportation Brokerage and Vehicle Sharing Program Opportunities for Taxicab and Nonemergency Medical Transportation Companies (Arun Prem, Megan Schmidt, Budd Anderson, Christian Hernandez of FACT)</a> | Informational |
| 5.                         | <a href="#">Taxicab Advisory Committee Election Results (Leonardo Fewell)</a>   | Informational |
| 6.                         | <a href="#">Taxicab Advisory Committee Membership Guidelines (Leonardo Fewell)</a>  | Informational |
| 7.                         | <a href="#">Integration of Soft-Meter and Trip Information Technologies (Leonardo Fewell)</a>   | Informational |



- |     |   |               |
|-----|---|---------------|
| 8.  | <a href="#"><u>For-Hire Vehicle Administration Operations Update (Leonardo Fewell)</u></a>                      | Informational |
| 9.  | <a href="#"><u>Topics for Next Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting (Leonardo Fewell)</u></a>                     | Informational |
| 10. | <u>Committee Member Communications</u><br>Brief Comment on any Taxicab related item not Included in the Agenda. |               |

OTHER ITEMS

- |     |   |
|-----|---|
| 11. | NEXT MEETING DATE: November 16, 2022 at 10:00am |
| 12. | ADJOURNMENT                                     |

# DRAFT MINUTES

## MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

May 25, 2022

1. Roll Call

Chair Elo-Rivera called the Taxicab Advisory Committee meeting to order at 1:02 p.m. A roll call sheet listing Taxicab Advisory Committee member attendance is attached.

2. Approval of Minutes

Akbar Majid moved to approve the minutes of the February 23, 2022, MTS Taxicab Advisory Committee meeting. Margo Tanguay seconded the motion, and the vote was 12 to 0 in favor with Brian Hilemon, Guillermo Morquecho and Michael Trimble absent.

3. Public Comments

There were no Public Comments.

### COMMITTEE DISCUSSION ITEMS

4. Taxicab Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle Policy Survey Results (Norah Shultz, SDSU)

Leonardo Fewell, For Hire Vehicle Administration Manager, introduced Dr. Norah Shultz, who presented on the taxicab wheelchair accessible vehicle policy survey results. She outlined the following information: study design, passenger sample, passenger survey results, and taxicab permit holder survey results.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

*George Sadat* – A taxi driver at San Diego Airport made a verbal statement to the Committee during the meeting. Sadat asked about recent rate changes, the airport holding lot and the bathroom sanitization problems. Sadat noted that the recent rate changes would not help the drivers.

Chair Elo-Rivera replied that the remarks being presented did not align with the agenda item. He encouraged these comments be made during the appropriate agenda item.

Sadat asked that the flat rate be adopted instead based on a specified radius around the airport, and asked that the holding lot restroom be sanitized frequently. Sadat stated that the flat rate would positively impact long-distance riders.

*William Aloze* – A taxi driver at the San Diego Airport made a verbal statement during the meeting. Aloze believed that taxi drivers should have been involved in the development of the survey research questions. Aloze also noted that the wheelchair accessible vans are not an economically feasible acquisition for fleets and encouraged incentives. Aloze asked that the agency assist with fare recovery for this service.

#### COMMITTEE COMMENT

Antonio Hueso acknowledged the difficulty for the taxicab industry to serve the clientele requiring wheelchair accessible vehicles. He acknowledged the difficulty to find drivers that would drive these vehicles. He acknowledged the MTS regulated Non-Emergency Vehicles (NEM) services, but noted the obstacles in promoting the services because of the qualifying

criteria needed to attain the service. He stated that while taxicab rates should be the same for the provision of wheelchair transportation, it requires a different level of driver in terms of training and passenger sensitivity. He acknowledged that not only is there a need for WAVs but also a sustainable demand for WAVs. He states the shortage of WAVs relates to the various obstacles including automotive replacement parts, supplies, and a shortage of drivers that are interested in providing WAV service.

Akbar Majid noted that a successful Wheelchair Accessible program is one that is subsidized. He noted that otherwise that service would not be profitable for a contract to be successful. He encouraged the agency to research other models throughout the state to compare its incentives.

Margo Tanguay acknowledged her educational background with the disabled community and her current involvement facilitating taxicab service through the use of medical vouchers. She noted a statistic that 45% of riders needing financial assistance. She advocated for subsidies that included reduction of permit fees, insurance premiums, and guaranteed number of trips. She encouraged driver training to include equipment handling, CPR certification and passenger sensitivity training.

David Tasem stated that he has driven for both Yellow and USA cab as a WAV driver and stated there are no WAV announcements or advertisements from dispatch services to passengers, or ways to refer passenger to a dispatch service offering WAV service. He provided an anecdote to acknowledge that while the service was creating revenue, it wasn't as much revenue as management at the time hoped for, and so the program was discontinued. He noted that dispatchers could refer customers to the organization that could accommodate the request. He noted that drivers, not only permit holders, should have also been involved in the development of the survey questions.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

*Louise Hickman* – Louise Hickman is a researcher at the University of Cambridge who assisted in the project. Hickman cautioned member comments as they described the need for special drivers to accommodate wheelchair accessible riders. Hickman asked that the committee focus instead on the training of drivers, and suggested a disability-based organization host the training. Hickman asked that awareness for WAV taxis be advertised.

#### Action Taken

Informational item only. No action taken.

#### 5. 2022 TAC Election Update (Leonardo Fewell)

Mr. Fewell presented on 2022 TAC Election Update. He outlined: voting information, upcoming tasks, and election deadlines.

Chair Elo-Rivera commended staff for their efforts on the item.

#### Action Taken

Informational item only. No action taken.

#### 6. 2022 Regulatory Fee Payment Update (Leonardo Fewell)

Mr. Fewell presented on 2022 Regulatory Fee Payment Update. He discussed: permit billing information and permit statistics.

Action Taken

Informational item only. No action taken.

7. For-Hire Vehicle Administration Quarterly Report and Operations Update (Leonardo Fewell)

Mr. Fewell presented on the For-Hire Vehicle Administration quarterly report and operations update. He discussed: number of active vs. surrendered permits, FHVA operations update, per type percentages and warnings, customer feedback cases January-March 2022, San Diego Airport taxicab and TNC trips, FHVA operations update, presentation to SANDAG Transportation Committee on AB 302, SANDAG regional flexible fleet procurement, overview of 2022 maximum rates of fare, comparison taxi rates of fare in other cities, 2022 taxicab maximum rates of fare, and reasons why MTS will not approve fuel surcharge at this time.

Public comment

*Abel Seifu* – Seifu commented on lack of formal meetings to address issues with MTS and suggested the creation of a small group to discuss ongoing driver issues with MTS. Seifu stated that the change of rate does not improve the industry's conditions and asked to impose a flat fee rather than a per mile distance. Seifu also asked MTS to facilitate a conversation with Cross Border XPress (CBX) to allow all taxicab to access and provide service at CBX.

*William Aloze* – Aloze reiterated Seifu's request to establish a small driver group to address ongoing concerns with MTS. He mentioned the upcoming TAC election and how drivers have no opportunity to express their concerns during the time period between TAC meetings. Aloze said that the idea of having only two porta-potties and one can of water at the Airport's taxicab holding lot for over 200 hundred drivers is not the best. He mentioned that fare increases are a good start but would like the adoption of a flat rate for airport originated trips. He finalized by mentioning the surge pricing utilized by TNCs.

COMMITTEE COMMENT

Alfred Banks stated that a flat rate for short trips would force taxi riders to Uber. He stated that the current increase should be sufficient to accommodate the current industry's needs.

Michael Anderson acknowledged that the Airport will address the bathroom issues at the taxicab holding lot. He expressed excitement on the launch of the electronic queue dispatch for taxicabs. He was curious to see other industry comparisons for flat rate fees.

Peter Zschiesche noted that the airport once hosted Taxi Associations meetings. Later on, the airport decided to disperse the association and rely on MTS to communicate with drivers on airport related matters. He encouraged committee members to contact the Airport's Board members to raise issues in between TAC meetings.

Alfred Banks asked if the MTS can facilitate meetings with the Airport issues with on behalf of taxicab drivers. He asked MTS to facilitate an incentive program with the state to fund the taxicab industry.

Akbar Majid stated that issues with the Airport are not in the authority of MTS to address. Prior to the Taxi associations, the airport hosted an ad hoc committee for taxi operations and met on as needed basis to discuss issues. He asked that the Airport explore the idea of creating an ad-hoc committee to address taxi drivers concerns outside of the Taxicab Advisory Committee.

Michael Anderson replied that he would relay the information to management.

Alfred Banks requested a bi-monthly meeting with the airport to discuss driver concerns and to include ACE parking and the Airport Traffic Officer personnel.

Margo Tanguay – Margo Tanguay stated Airport short trip fare refusals have been a long lasting problem, but did not believe a flat rate provides a solution. She supports the idea of establishing regular meetings with the Airport.

#### Action Taken

Informational item only. No action taken.

#### 8. Topics for Next Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting (Leonardo Fewell)

Mr. Fewell presented on topics for next Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting and feedback for additional topics requested.

#### PUBLIC COMMENT

*Abel Seifu* – Seifu emphasized the importance to adopt soft-meter technologies to help the taxicab industry and how MTS can require dispatch services to offer soft-meter technologies to their subscribers.

*William Aloze* – Aloze requested MTS help taxi drivers gain access to CBX.

#### 9. Committee Member Communications

There was no Committee Member Communications discussion.

Akbar Majid replied to a comment made earlier about asking CBX allow all taxi owners into the property. He asked MTS staff if CBX was a private entity and can choose who is allowed on their property.

Mr. Fewell replied that CBX is a private entity and are not subject to the same public agency guidelines or rules as does the Airport. CBX is a member of this committee, and such dialogue can occur in this forum.

#### Next Meeting Date

The next Taxicab Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for July 27, 2022, at 10:00 a.m.

#### 10. Adjournment

Chair Elo-Rivera adjourned the meeting at 2:44 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Committee Clerk

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San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

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San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

Attachment: Roll Call Sheet

SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM  
TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) MEETING

ROLL CALL

MEETING OF (DATE): May 25, 2022 CALL TO ORDER (TIME): 1:02pm  
ADJOURN: 2:44pm

COMMITTEE MEMBER		(Alternate)		ORGANIZATION	PRESENT (TIME ARRIVED)	ABSENT (TIME LEFT)
Voting Committee Members						
Sean Elo-Rivera (Chair)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	MTS Board of Directors/ SD City Council	1:02pm	2:44pm
Akbar Majid	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/SDYC Holdings, LLC	1:02pm	2:44pm
Alfred Banks	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	1:02pm	2:44pm
Antonio Hueso	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	USA Cab, LTD	1:02pm	2:44pm
Brian Hilemon	<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego Tourism Authority	-	-
Daryl Mayekawa	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Claudia Rubio	<input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego Convention Center	1:02pm	2:44pm
David Tasem	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	1:02pm	2:44pm
George Abraham	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Daniel Fesshaye	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/Eritrean Cab Co.	1:52pm	2:44pm
Guillermo Morquecho	<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	-	-
Hamid Amini	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jazzy Cab	1:02pm	2:44pm
Marc Nichols	<input type="checkbox"/>	Michael Anderson	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	San Diego County Regional Airport Authority	1:02pm	2:44pm
Margo Tanguay	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	1:02pm	2:44pm
Michael Trimble	<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego Gaslamp Quarter Association	-	-
Mikail Hussein	<input type="checkbox"/>	Peter Zschiesche	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	United Taxi Workers Federation San Diego	1:02pm	2:44pm
Vacant	<input type="checkbox"/>	None	<input type="checkbox"/>	Cross Border X-Press	-	-
Nasser Tehrani	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Kamran Hamidi	<input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/N.A.T. Cab Co	1:02pm	2:44pm
Non – Voting Committee Members						
Austin Shepherd	<input type="checkbox"/>	(no alternate)	<input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures	-	-
Edna Rains	<input type="checkbox"/>	(no alternate)	<input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego County Sheriff's Department Licensing Division	-	-

COMMITTEE CLERK: /S/ Dalia Gonzalez





## Agenda Item No. 4

### MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

July 27, 2022

#### SUBJECT:

TRANSPORTATION BROKERAGE AND VEHICLE SHARING PROGRAM OPPORTUNITIES  
FOR TAXICAB AND NONEMERGENCY MEDICAL TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES (ARUN  
PREM, MEGAN SCHMIDT, BUDD ANDERSON, CHRISTIAN HERNANDEZ OF FACT)

#### INFORMATIONAL ONLY

##### Budget Impact

None.

#### DISCUSSION:

Facilitating Access to Coordinated Transportation (FACT) is the Consolidated Transportation Service Agency (CTSA) for San Diego County. FACT serves as an information resource for specialized transportation providers and provides technical assistance and public outreach to increase awareness of specialized transportation options.

FACT manages a brokerage of transportation providers that fill gaps in existing transportation services. Through ride referrals and trips provided through the brokerage, FACT facilitates coordination among providers and consolidates services into a one-stop mobility center for seniors, individuals with disabilities, low-income individuals, and other low-mobility groups.

FACT will provide a joint presentation on FACT's transportation brokerage and vehicle sharing program opportunities for Taxicab and Nonemergency Medical transportation companies.

/S/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell

For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619.235.2643, [Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com](mailto:Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com)





## Agenda Item No. 5

### MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

July 27, 2022

#### SUBJECT:

TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE ELECTION RESULTS (LEONARDO FEWELL)

#### INFORMATIONAL ONLY

##### Budget Impact

None.

#### DISCUSSION:

TAC Guidelines requires that every three (3) years the MTS For-Hire Vehicle Administration (FHVA) hold an election to determine who will represent taxicab permit holders and lease drivers on the TAC. Candidates applied through a self-nomination process. Ballots were casted electronically via [associationvoting.com](http://associationvoting.com) beginning Monday, June 13, 2022, through Monday, June 27, 2022. FHVA did not receive any requests from permit holders or lease drivers to opt-out from online voting by requesting a paper ballot.

Prior to the election, information on the election process was covered at the TAC and sent via e-mail to all permit holders on file and lease drivers that provided FHVA with a valid e-mail address. Additionally, both before and during the election and on repeated occasions, FHVA Regulatory Inspectors went to the San Diego Airport taxicab holding lot and several taxicab stand locations to inform and remind lease drivers about the election.

Per the TAC Guidelines, the following seats are elected:

- Three (3) seats are available for taxicab lease drives;
- Four (4) seats are available for single permit holders; and
- Two (2) seats are available for permit holders of more than one (1) permit.

FHVA received a total of nine (9) self-nomination forms, one (1) for each available seat category.



On June 29, 2022, Associationvoting provided FHVA with a TAC election certification letter (attached). A total of 55 votes were casted out of a total of 564 eligible permit holder and lease driver voters, resulting in a 9.8% voter turnout. The following is a summary of the lease driver and permit holder candidates and their respective vote counts:

LEASE DRIVER	NUMBER OF VOTES
Alfred Banks	19
Margo Tanguay	10
David Tasem	9

PERMIT HOLDER OF 1 TAXICAB	NUMBER OF VOTES
Able Seifu (Odyssey Cab)	28
Zewdu Girma (Beezee Taxi)	13
Akbar Majid (Yellow Cab)	12
Agustin Hodoyan (Soul Cab)	9

PERMIT HOLDER OF MORE THAN 1 TAXICAB	VOTES
George Abraham (Eritrean Cab)	13
Antonio Hueso (USA Cab)	9

The above elected lease drivers and permit holders are eligible for appointment to the TAC for the next three (3) year term, beginning July 27, 2022 and ending in 2025.

/S/ Leonardo Fewell  
Leonardo Fewell  
For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619.235.2643, [Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com](mailto:Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com)

Attachment: A. TAC Election Certification Letter form Associationvoting.com



**AssociationVoting.com**

10205 Crossview Trail

Howell, MI 48855

## **CERTIFICATION OF ONLINE VOTE RESULTS**

June 28, 2022

Leonardo Fewell

MTS For-Hire Vehicle Administration. Taxicab Advisory Committee (TAC)

Dear Leonardo Fewell,

Thank you for the opportunity to conduct this hybrid election for the MTS For-Hire Vehicle Administration. Taxicab Advisory Committee (TAC). The election was conducted from June 13, 2022 8:00 am PDT to June 27, 2022 5:00 pm PDT. The following are the official results of your election.

### ***Voting Results***

#### ***Positions***

**Permit Holders (of one Taxicab) (Select 4)**

<b>Candidates</b>	<b>Unweighted</b>	<b>Weighted</b>
<b>Able Seifu (Odyssey Cab)*</b>	28	28.000
<b>Zewdu Girma (Beezee Taxi)*</b>	13	13.000
<b>Akbar Majid (Yellow Cab)*</b>	12	12.000
<b>Agustin Hodoyan (Soul Cab)*</b>	9	9.000

**Permit Holders (Two or more Taxicabs) (Select 2)**

Candidates	Unweighted	Weighted
<b>George Abraham (Eritrean Cab)*</b>	13	13.000
<b>Antonio Hueso (USA Cab)*</b>	9	9.000

**Lease Drivers (Select 3)**

Candidates	Unweighted	Weighted
<b>Alfred Banks (Constant Cab)*</b>	19	19.000
<b>Margo Tanguay (USA Cab)*</b>	10	10.000
<b>David Tasem (USA Cab)*</b>	9	9.000

**Bold/\* - Current top vote getter.**

*Italic/(Tie) - Indicates tie for the final top-vote-getter position(s).*

**Turnout****Unweighted Turnout**

# Eligible	# Voted	Turnout %
564	55	9.8

**Weighted Turnout**

# Eligible	# Voted	Turnout %
564.000	55.000	9.8

**Layout and Configuration**

The ballot language as it appeared to members is included in the attached Election Summary Report.

## **Data Retention**

As part of the voting software, we maintain a confidential audit trail that includes the unique identifier, time ballot was cast, and ballot selections for your members. This data will be preserved for 12 months from the date of certification for your election. Please contact us if you have any further questions about our data storage policies or if you need access to this data.

These vote results are true and accurate, and represent the votes cast by eligible members in the online election and the paper ballots entered by the client Voting Manager during the voting period as identified above. Records of individual votes are maintained in electronic format pursuant to the data retention guidelines described above. The Voting Manager has restricted access to the election information and doesn't have permission to manipulate a voter ballot during or after this election period.

Congratulations on the successful completion of your election. Thank you again for choosing AssociationVoting.com. If you have any further questions, you can contact us at 1-877-8-VOTING.

Sincerely,

*Kimberly J Harwood, Chief Voting Officer*

Kimberly J Harwood, Chief Voting Officer

Enclosure:

Election Summary Report with Ballot Language



**Metropolitan  
Transit  
System**

## **Agenda Item No. 6**

### **MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

July 27, 2022

**SUBJECT:**

**TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP GUIDELINES (LEONARDO FEWELL)**

**INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

**Budget Impact**

None.

**DISCUSSION:**

TAC Guidelines sets forth the membership of the TAC. Membership includes taxicab lease drivers, permit holders, and other organization members. There may be two (2) organizational member seats that could remain unfilled and staff will be requesting feedback from TAC on how the best address these vacancies, which causes concerns with meeting quorum.

/S/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell

For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619.235.2643, [Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com](mailto:Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com)

Attachment A: Taxicab Advisory Committee Guidelines





# SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE GUIDELINES

## 1 PURPOSE

The Taxicab Advisory Committee's purpose is to:

- 1.1 Provide feedback to the Chief Executive Officer and designated staff on taxicab matters to formulate recommended courses of action that the Chief Executive Officer or Board of Directors, whichever applicable, may review for approval;
- 1.2 Review summaries of administrative hearing officer decisions concerning taxicab permit holder and lease driver penalties;
- 1.3 Discuss taxicab permit holders/lease drivers' written grievances;
- 1.4 Review summaries of complaints concerning taxicab service;
- 1.5 Review vehicle inspection criteria, process, results, and rankings;
- 1.6 Review the Chief Executive Officer's Annual Fee Schedule; and
- 1.7 Comment on MTS's work program concerning taxicab matters.

## 2 MEMBERSHIP

Sixteen voting members are appointed as follows:

- 2.1 One representative of the MTS Board of Directors appointed on an annual basis, who will be designated by the MTS Board of Directors to serve as Chair of the Taxicab Advisory Committee.
- 2.2 One member appointed by the San Diego Convention and Visitor's Bureau, the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority, San Diego Convention Center, Gaslamp Quarter Association, Cross Border Express and the United Taxi Workers of San Diego (UTWSD), each serving a three-year term.
  - a. Each organization or agency may designate one (1) alternate member by providing written notification to the MTS Clerk of the Taxicab Advisory Committee.
  - b. The UTWSD member must either be: a current member of the UTWSD; or be a current employee or other authorized representative of the UTWSD.





- 2.3 Six taxicab permit holders in good standing, each serving a three-year term, elected by taxicab permit holders and lease drivers, divided as follows: four seats are designated for representation of a permit holder with one taxicab; and two seats are designated for representation of permit holders of two or more taxicabs.
- 2.4 Three taxicab lease drivers in possession of a San Diego Sheriff's Department-issued Taxicab Driver Identification Card valid in the MTS areas of jurisdiction, being in good standing with the Sheriff's Licensing Division, each serving a three-year term, elected by taxicab permit holders and lease drivers.

2.5 The election shall comply with the following guidelines:

- a. Taxicab lease driver representative elections shall take place every three years at the same time as the taxicab permit holder representative elections.
  - b. Taxicab lease drivers and taxicab permit holders are permitted to cast one vote per seat.
- 2.6 The taxicab permit holders, lease drivers and UTWSD representative shall meet the eligibility requirements at all times while serving on the Taxicab Advisory Committee.
- 2.7 A taxicab permit holder member unable to attend a meeting may appoint an alternate from the same permit category, that is in good standing with MTS, to attend in their absence.
- 2.8 A taxicab lease driver unable to attend a meeting may appoint another taxicab lease driver, who is in good standing with the Sheriff's Licensing Division, to attend in their absence.
- 2.9 The Taxicab Advisory Committee or the Chief Executive Officer or designee shall make an interim appointment if a member's seat becomes vacant within the three-year term.
- 2.10 The Vice Chair will be the For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager.
- 2.11 One non-voting member will be appointed by the County of San Diego's Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures.
- 2.12 One non-voting member will be appointed by the County of San Diego Sheriff's Department.

### 3 REMOVAL AND RESIGNATION

- 3.1 Any member who misses four (4) consecutive meetings may be subject to removal. For any member who has missed three (3) consecutive meetings, a documented warning shall be provided to the member.
- 3.2 A member may resign by providing written notification to the MTS Clerk of the Taxicab Advisory Committee.

### 4 MEETINGS

- 4.1 Taxicab Advisory Committee meetings are subject to the provisions of the Ralph M. Brown Act, California Government Code, Section 54950, et. seq.
- 4.2 Taxicab Advisory Committee meetings will be held quarterly at the offices of MTS and/or via remote teleconferenced meetings, as permissible.
- 4.3 The agenda for each meeting will be posted in the MTS lobby and/or MTS website, as permissible.
- 4.4 The agenda, backup materials, and minutes of the previous meeting will be sent to each member in advance of the meetings, upon request.
- 4.5 The Chair may call additional meetings, as necessary.
- 4.6 Fifty-one percent attendance is a quorum to hold a meeting.

## 5 VOTING

- 5.1 Each voting member of the Taxicab Advisory Committee has an equal vote.
- 5.2 Fifty-one percent of the votes of those in attendance will approve an item.
- 5.3 A roster of the Taxicab Advisory Committee members who voted will be provided to the MTS Board of Directors, along with the item, for MTS Board action on an agenda item.

## 6 SUBCOMMITTEES

- 6.1 MTS Board of Directors approval is required to establish a standing subcommittee. The Workshop of Regulatory Matters is a standing subcommittee for Taxicab Advisory Committee and is subject to the Brown Act.
- 6.2 Chief Executive Officer or designee approval is required to establish an ad hoc subcommittee.

## 7 APPROVAL

- 7.1 These Guidelines were revised by the MTS Board of Directors on November 18, 2021.
- 7.2 The MTS Chief Executive Officer shall have the authority to implement additional procedures to carry out elections and maintain regular and orderly meetings of the Taxicab Advisory Committee.



## Agenda Item No. 7

### MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

July 27, 2022

#### SUBJECT:

INTEGRATION OF SOFT-METER AND TRIP INFORMATION TECHNOLOGIES (LEONARDO FEWELL)

#### INFORMATIONAL ONLY

##### Budget Impact

None.

#### DISCUSSION:

A soft-meter is a taximeter provided through a smartphone or tablet that uses global positioning system (GPS) or other onboard diagnostics to calculate distance and final trip fares. Soft-meter technologies are associated with additional features for drivers to provide up-front and flexible fare rates, trip data collection, and reduced maintenance and recalibration costs. Soft meters have become an industry standard and are utilized in many cities due to the many benefits associated with their use.

For-Hire Vehicle Administration (FHVA) supports technology solutions for the taxicab industry and believes adopting soft-meter technologies will benefit taxi drivers and passengers. FHVA will provide TAC with information on how soft meters can benefit the regional taxicab market.

/S/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell

For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619.235.2643, [Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com](mailto:Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com)





**Metropolitan  
Transit  
System**

## **Agenda Item No. 8**

**MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM  
TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)**

July 27, 2022

**SUBJECT:**

**FOR-HIRE VEHICLE ADMINISTRATION OPERATIONS UPDATE (LEONARDO FEWELL)**

**INFORMATIONAL ONLY**

**Budget Impact**

None.

**DISCUSSION:**

For-Hire Vehicle Administration will provide the Taxicab Advisory Committee with a report on the following categories: number of permitted companies, number of active and surrendered permits by vehicle type, number of field contacts, issued citations, taxicab airport originated trips, and other For-hire vehicle statistics, as well as an update on administrative operations.

/S/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell

For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619.235.2643, [Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com](mailto:Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com)





## Agenda Item No. 9

### MEETING OF THE SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC)

July 27, 2022

#### SUBJECT:

TOPICS FOR NEXT TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING (LEONARDO FEWELL)

#### INFORMATIONAL ONLY

##### Budget Impact

None.

#### DISCUSSION:

Feedback is requested on what topics should be addressed at the next Taxicab Advisory Committee meeting on November 16, 2022. At this time, staff recommends the following agenda items: Proposed revisions to Ordinance No. 11, For-Hire Vehicle Administration Quarterly Report and Operations Update, Taxicab Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle policy update and a presentation on recent legislative efforts relating to and/or may be impacting the for-hire vehicle transportation industry.

/S/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell

For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619.235.2643, [Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com](mailto:Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com)



# Transportation Brokerage and Vehicle Sharing Program Opportunities for Taxicab and NEMT Companies

Agenda Item #4



# FACT

## Mission

Assist San Diego County residents with barriers to mobility to achieve independence through coordination of transportation services





# FACT

## ROLE

- Special needs transportation provider
- CTSA for San Diego County  
(*translation* - Fills gaps in services)

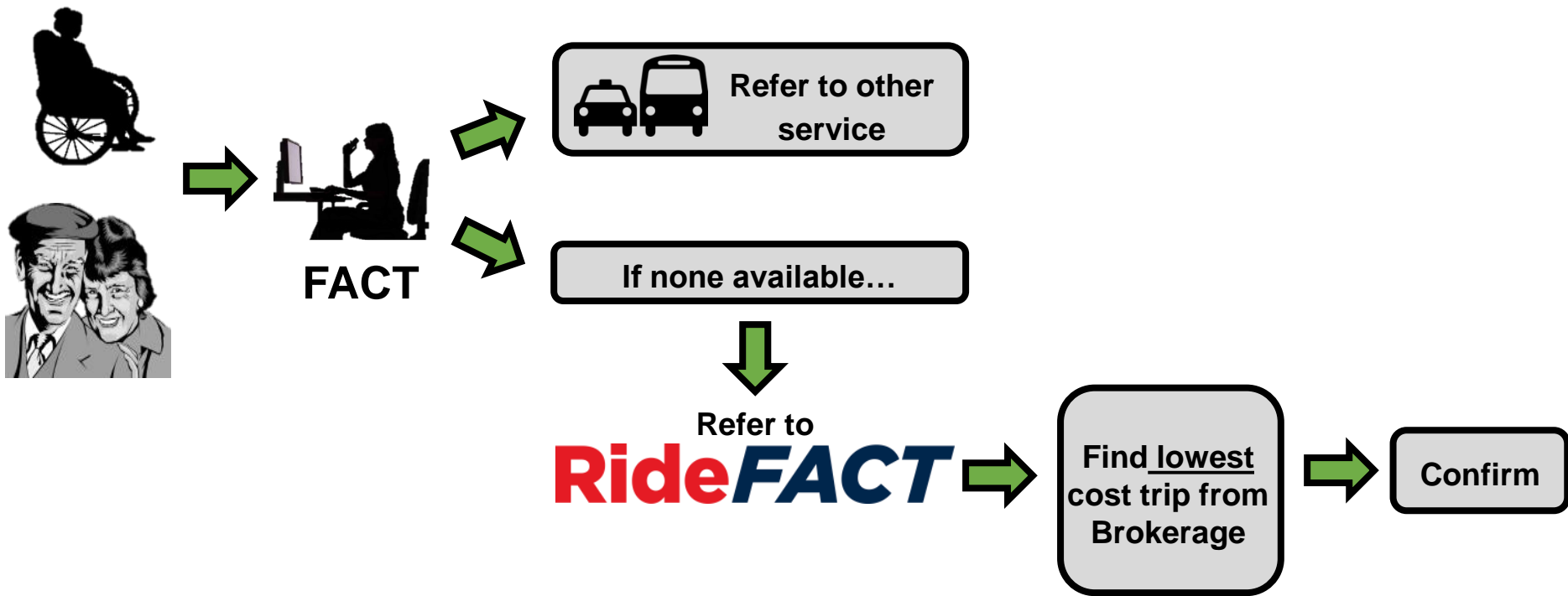
## SERVICES

- Transportation referrals
- Affordable Specialized transportation - Countywide
- Accessible Vehicle Sharing



RideFACT riders Jack & Rose

# FACT Unique Service Model



# FACT Brokerage



- Eleet
- SDMed
- Furaat
- Home of Guiding Hands
- HopSkipDrive

- Loops
- LYFT
- Renewing Life
- Safety First
- RideYellow





Mary Zachary, RideFACT rider



# FACT

## Assisting Agencies in San Diego County

- Cities of Escondido, Oceanside, San Marcos
- County of SD
- 211 SD
- Scripps Health
- TriCity Medical Center
- PACE (senior services) programs
- Parkinsons Association
- SDG&E

# FACT's Vehicle Sharing Program

- **Purpose:** Promote EQUITY and ACCESS for residents in San Diego County.
- FACT shares vehicles with taxi companies, and agencies that serve seniors and persons with disabilities
- Innovative process that involves no cash payments



# FACT's Vehicle Sharing Program

- Priority - members of FACT's transportation Brokerage.
- Additional vehicles - offered to others serving seniors and individuals with disabilities.

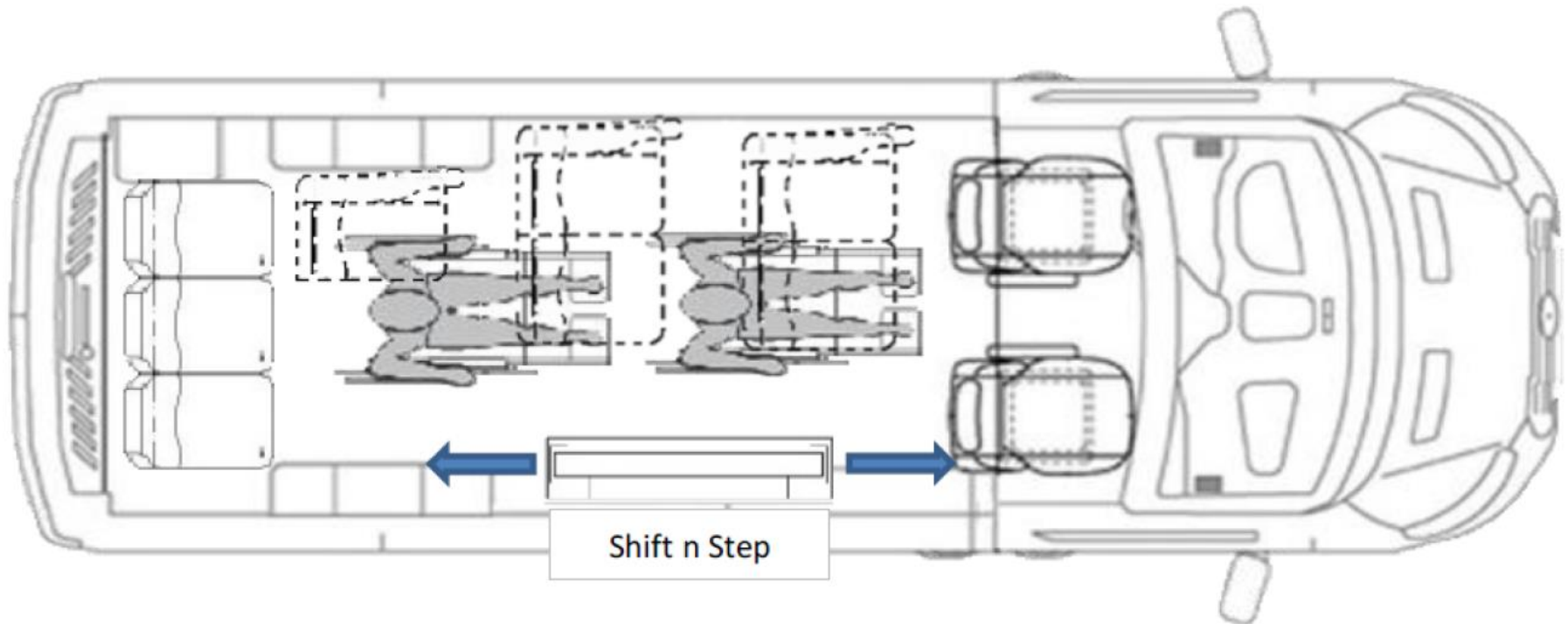
# 12 New Accessible Vehicles in 2022

## New Class V: Ford Transit 350 Mobility Trans Van

- 7-Ambulatory Passengers or  
2-Ambulatory + 2-Wheelchair Passengers
- Expected to be available for lease this year

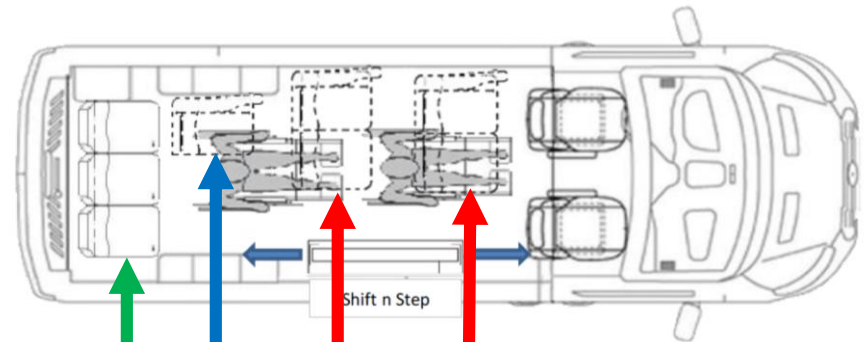


# New Accessible Vehicles



- Class V – Require a “Class B” or higher driver's license
- Avoiding Class B license requirement (removal of one seat):
  - 9 ambulatory passengers and 1 driver (10)

# New Accessible Vehicles

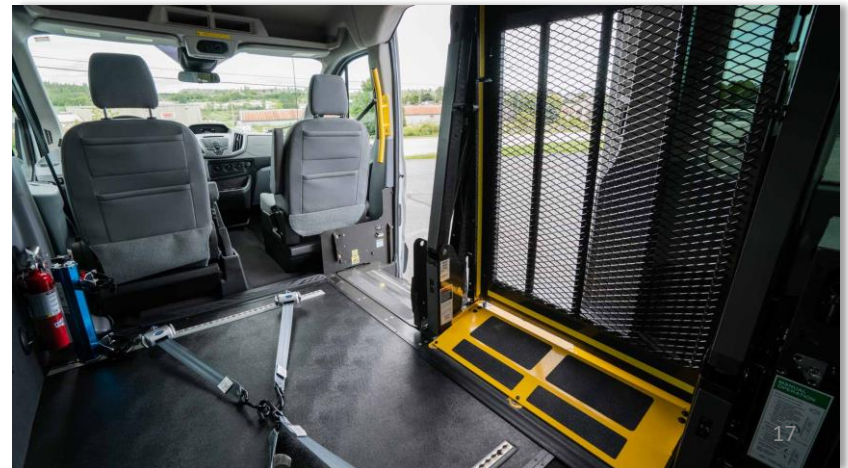


3 middle seats fold against vehicle wall to accommodate 2 wheelchair passengers

Fixed bench seat

# New Accessible Vehicles

## Shift-N-Step





# Used Accessible Vehicles

~~3 used vans available for shared use or sale:~~

- ~~• 2017 Dodge: Braun Corporation Entervan—~~
- ~~—Low floor mini van~~
- ~~—(5) Passengers + Driver or~~
- ~~—(2) Wheelchairs~~



# Vehicle Sharing Parameters

- Sign an agreement with FACT
- “In kind” payment for vehicle use
- Vehicle in service 20 hours / week minimum
- Lessee is responsible for all vehicle costs including maintenance/repairs, insurance, citations, and registration fees

# Vehicle Sharing Parameters

- Have a Preventative Maintenance Plan and Schedule in place
- Maintain vehicle and driver records for inspections
- Submit Quarterly or Bi-Annual Reporting vehicle usage reports
- Subject to Inspections



**Christian Hernandez  
Arun Prem  
Meagan Schmidt**

**(760) 304 - 2887**  
**[www.factsd.org](http://www.factsd.org)**

**Thank you!**

# Taxicab Advisory Committee (TAC) Election Results

Agenda Item #5

# TAC Election Results

- 9 Self-Nominations Submitted, for 9 Elected Positions
  - 1 Candidate provided photo and biography blurb
- The election was conducted from June 13 through June 27, 2022 via AssociationVoting.Com
- Out of 564 eligible voters (i.e. permit holders or lease drivers that MTS had an email address for), 55 people voted.
  - This results in a 9.8% voter turnout.

# TAC Election Results

4 Seats for Permit Holders of 1 Taxicab

Candidates	Number of Votes
Able Seifu (Odyseeey Cab)	28
Zewdu Girma (Beezee Taxi)	13
Akbar Majid (Yellow Cab)	12
Agustin Hodoyan (Soul Cab)	9

# TAC Election Results

2 Seats for Permit Holders of 2 or more Taxicabs

Candidates	Number of Votes
George Abraham (Eritrean Cab)	13
Antonio Hueso (USA Cab)	9

# TAC Election Results

## 3 Seats for Taxicab Lease Drivers

Candidates	Number of Votes
Alfred Banks (Constant Cab)	19
Margo Tanguay (USA Cab)	10
David Tasem (USA Cab)	9

# Taxicab Advisory Committee Membership Guidelines

Agenda Item #6

# TAC Membership Guidelines

- TAC members consists of taxicab lease drivers, permit holders and other organization members
- Lease drivers and permit holders are elected every three years
- Current TAC organization members are: San Diego Airport, San Diego Tourism Authority, San Diego Convention Center, Gaslamp Quarter Association, Cross Border Xpress
- Each organization appoints a representative to TAC
- Lease drivers, permit holders and organization appointees attendance is needed to attain quorum



# TAC Membership Guidelines

- There may be one (1) organizational member seat that could remain unfilled
- Feedback is requested on how to best address this vacancy, which causes concerns with meeting quorum.

# Integration of Soft-Meter and Trip Information Technologies

Agenda Item #7

# Soft-Meter and Trip Integration Technology

## Hard-Meter:

- Pre-Fixed fares calculated by distance and time (no up-front pricing)
- Requires external seals, one by service agent, and a second by Department of Weights and Measures
- Only state authorized service agents may change rates or make repairs
- Currently there are only 3 authorized “service agents” in San Diego County



# Soft-Meter and Trip Integration Technology

## Soft-Meter:

- Provided through a Smart-Phone/Tablet
- Utilizes GPS Technology and other vehicle diagnostics
- Digitally calibrated/sealed
- Multiple makes/models available on the market
- Industry Standard for modern dispatch systems
- Currently only 1 dispatch service in San Diego utilizes soft-meters



# Soft-Meter and Trip Integration Technology

## Benefits of Soft-Meter technology:

- Collection of electronic trip sheet data as required by Ordinance No. 11
- Enables taxicab drivers to receive text messages and other notifications from dispatch service (passenger, event, demand location information)
- Ability to provide passengers with up-front pricing based on destination and split fares
- Ability to change fares up to the maximum authorized rate based on business (passenger) demand
- Remotely and digitally programmed and sealed by authorized representative

# Soft-Meter and Trip Integration Technology

## Benefits of Soft-Meter technology:

- Enhances fraud prevention as soft-meters do not rely solely on vehicle speed sensors, tire pressure, and size
- Reduces dependence on tire variation potentially resulting in cheaper and faster installation
- Standards set by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST)
- Potential software integration to e-hail app products
- Reduces barriers to entry by allowing new drivers to begin work as soon as subscribed to a dispatch service and vehicle inspection is completed
- Allows users to compile trip and other data needed to participate in securing contracts

# Soft-Meter and Trip Integration Technology

## Possible Incentives to Explore:

- Use of a Soft-Meter could meet criteria for charging an additional 6% to maximum rate of fare
- Drivers who utilize soft-meter technology would not be required to produce physical trip sheet as currently required by Ordinance No. 11
- FHVA may waive “Dispatch Service Change” Fee
- Other ideas?

# For-Hire Vehicle Administration Operations Update

Agenda Item #8



# FHVA Operations Update

## Number of Active vs. Surrendered Permits

Number of Active vs Surrendered For-Hire Vehicle Permits (As of 07/15/2022) Number of Permit Holders: <b>Taxi: 467 Low-Speed: 2 NEM/Charter: 65 Jitney: 2 TOTAL: 536</b>				
Permit Type	Total Number of Permits	Number of Permits Surrendered	Currently Active Permits	% Loss in Active Permits
Charter	86	9	77	10%
Jitney	4	2	2	50%
Low Speed Vehicle	22	0	22	0%
NEMT	446	31	415	7%
Taxi	650	101	549	15%
<b>Total (All Types)</b>	<b>1208</b>	<b>143</b>	<b>1065</b>	<b>12%</b>

# FHVA Operations Update

## 2022 (April-June Field Inspections)

2022 QUARTERLY (APRIL - JUNE) F.H.V.A. FIELD INSPECTIONS & STATS											
	SD	NC	CV	LM	ELC	LG	SNT	POW	IB	SY/OTAY	TOTAL
Contacts	1236	403	655	119	343	99	39	31	54	596	3575
Cites		1			1						2
Parking	51									3	54
Warnings	17	8	5	4	3		1	4		2	44
Field Rep				1							1

### Definitions:

Contacts: Field contacts to verify driver and vehicle compliance

Cites: Notice to Appear in Court

Parking: Parking Citation (administrative fine)

Warnings: Verbal Warning to driver to correct violation

Field Rep.: Field report requiring reinspection to ascertain violation has been corrected



# FHVA Operations Update

## Per vehicle type percentages and warnings

- Of the total contacts, breakdown per vehicle type

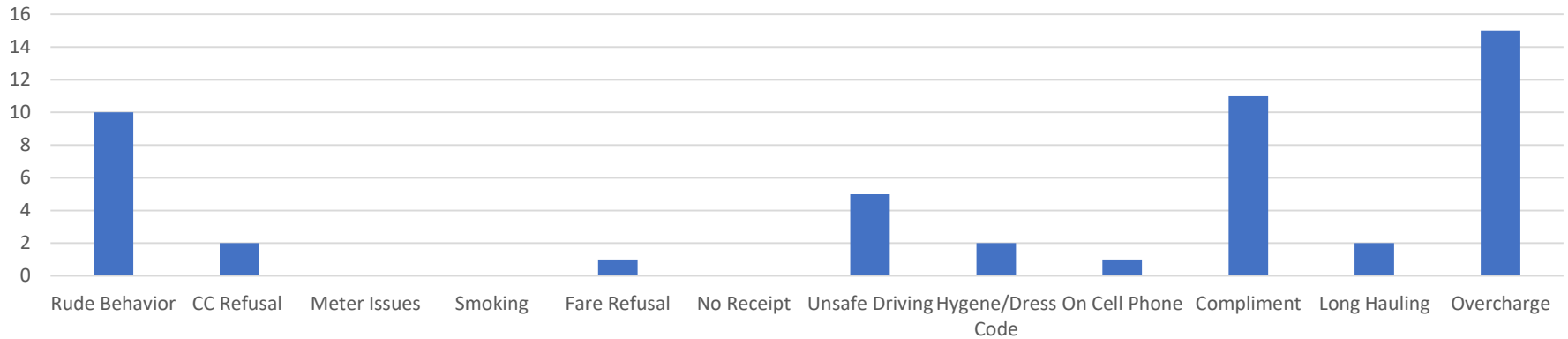
	TOTAL	PERCENT FROM TOTAL	
TAXI'S	1002	28.03%	
NEM'S	2552	71.38%	
JETNEY'S	2	0.06%	
LSV'S	19	0.53%	
TOTAL	3575		

- Of the total warnings, breakdown per warning type

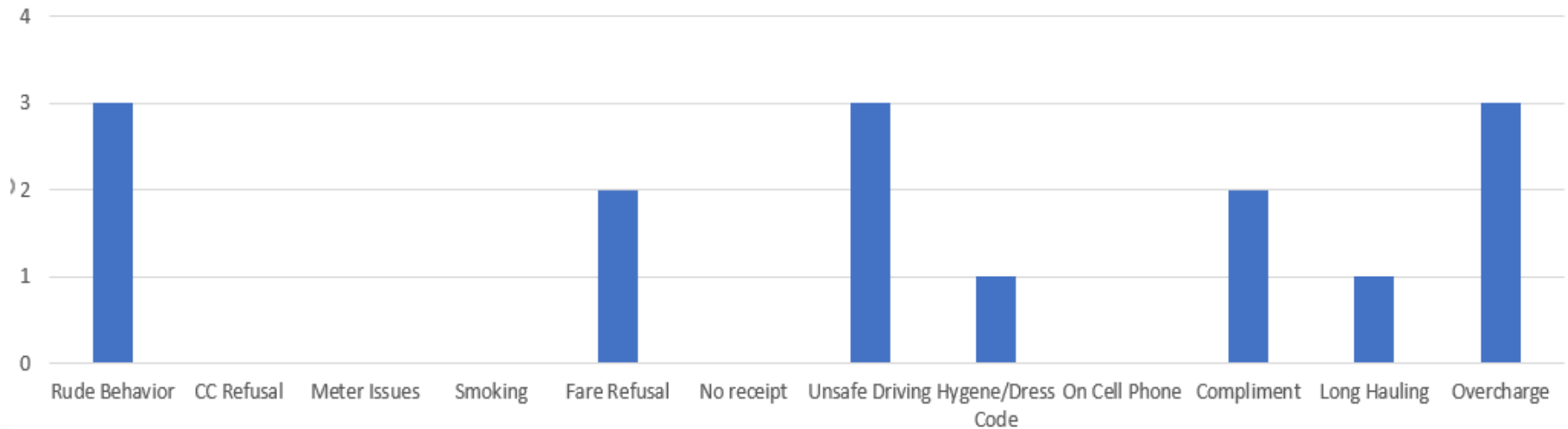
ISSUED WARNINGS (April-June)	TOTAL
DO NOT HAVE SHERIFF ID	20
SHERIFF ID WORN/VEHICLE DISPLAY	7
TRIP LOGS - COMPLETE/NON-COMPLETE	0
MECHANICAL	0
NO OP PERMIT	13
OTHER	4

# FHVA Operations Update

Customer Feedback Cases April – July 2022

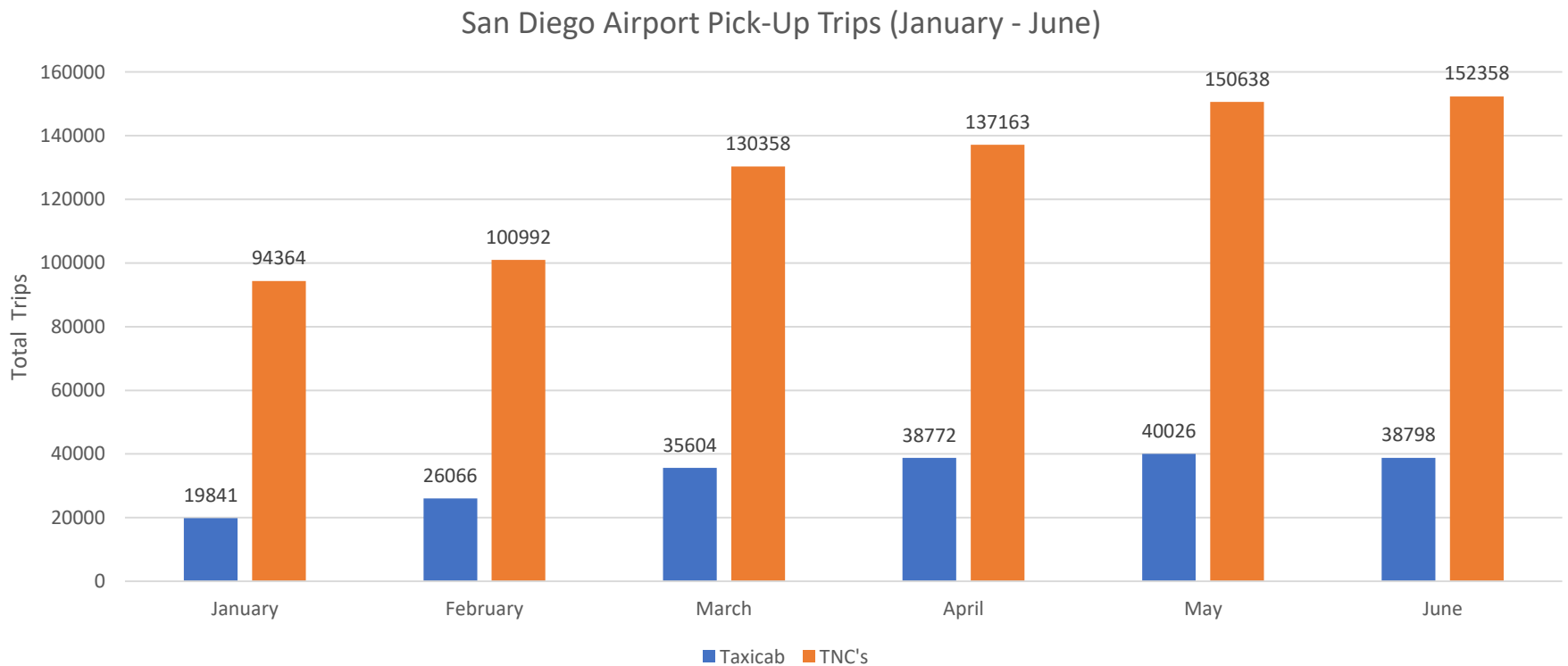


Customer Feedback Cases January-March 2022



# FHVA Operations Update

## San Diego Airport Taxicab and TNC trips



# FHVA Operations Update

- E-mail is primary method of communication for all purposes
- Permit Holders must notify FHVA of any changes in their address, phone number or e-mail information
- FHVA staff available by appointment only. All calls and e-

Position	Name	Phone Number	Email
Manager (General Information)	Leonardo Fewell	(619) 235 – 2643	Leonardo.Fewell @sdmts.com
Regulatory Analyst (Application, Transfers)	Alexis Dizon	(619) 595 – 3081	Alexis.Dizon@sdmts.com
Regulatory Inspector (Vehicle Inspections)	Tom Lee	(619) 557 – 4524	Tom.Lee@sdmts.com
Regulatory Inspector (Driver Training)	Mark Palmer	(619) 398 – 9595	Mark.Palmer@sdmts.com
Regulatory Inspector (Enforcement)	Joe Ross	(619) 398 – 9573	Joseph.Ross@sdmts.com

# FHVA Operations Update

## Underutilized Taxicab Stands on Harbor Drive

- Most of the Taxicab activity takes place at the San Diego Airport, CBX, Otay and San Ysidro Border areas.
- Taxicab stands in the downtown area and along Harbor Drive are not being utilized
- The Port of San Diego has requested MTS to repurpose exceeding taxicab stand curb space for tour buses.
- Drivers should diversify their work shifts to occupy taxicab stands in the city and provide service to Harbor Dr hotels

# FHVA Operations Update

## Convention Center and Cruise Ship Terminal Activity

- The San Diego Convention Center and Port of San Diego are reporting an increase in Conventions and Cruise activity for the remainder of 2022 and 2023
- Taxicab Drivers and dispatch services are encouraged to visit the San Diego Convention Center and Port of San Diego websites for the Convention and Cruise Ship activity calendars.
- San Diego Convention Center:
  - <https://www.visitsandiego.com/calendar>
- Port of San Diego
  - <https://www.portofsandiego.org/21-22-cruise-season>



# Topics for Next Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting

Agenda Item #9

# Topics for Next Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting

- For-Hire Vehicle Administration Quarterly Report and Operations Update
- Taxicab Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle Policy Update
- Presentation on recent legislative efforts related to and/or may be impacting the For-Hire Vehicle Transportation Industry

# Committee Member Communications

Brief comment on any taxicab related item  
not included in the Agenda