



Taxicab Advisory Committee Agenda

Click link to access the meeting:

<https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1607273020>

Zoom Meeting ID

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Webinar Features:

 Raise Hand	▶	Use the raise hand feature every time you wish to make a public comment.
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	▶	The chat feature should be used by panelists and attendees solely for "housekeeping" matters as comments made through this feature will not be retained as part of the meeting record. See the Live Verbal Public Comment for instructions on how to make a public comment.



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1. If you are joining the meeting audio by phone and viewing the meeting on a device, dial the number provided in the 'join audio' phone call tab of the initial pop-up, and enter the Meeting ID (found in the link).
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Live Verbal Public Comments: Use the 'Raise Hand' icon every time you wish to make a public comment on an item. Raise your hand once the agenda item you wish to comment on has been called. In person public comments will be taken first, virtual attendees will be taken in the order in which they raise their hand. Requests to speak will not be taken after the public comment period ends, unless under the Chair's discretion. General Public Comment, at the beginning of the Board of Directors meeting only, will be limited to five speakers. Additional speakers with general public comments will be heard at the end of the meeting. Two-minutes of time is allotted per speaker, unless otherwise directed by the Chair.

Public Comments Made Via Zoom

1. Click the link found at the top of this instruction page
2. Click the raise hand icon located in the bottom center of the platform
3. The Clerk will announce your name when it is your turn to speak
4. Unmute yourself to speak

Public Comments Made by Phone Only

1. Dial **+1-669-900-9128**
2. Type in the zoom meeting ID found in the link and press #
3. Dial *9 to raise your hand via phone
4. The Clerk will call out the last 4 digits of your phone number to announce you are next to speak
5. Dial *6 to unmute yourself



Written Public Comments (before the meeting): Written public comments will be recorded in the public record and will be provided to MTS Board Members in advance of the meeting. Comments must be emailed or mailed to the Clerk of the Committee* by 4:00pm the day prior to the meeting.



Translation Services: Requests for translation services can be made by contacting the Clerk of the Committee* at least four working days in advance of the meeting.



In-Person Participation: In-person public comments will be heard first. Following in-person public comments, virtual attendees will be heard in the order in which they raise their hand via the Zoom platform. Speaking time will be limited to two minutes per person, unless specified by the Chairperson. Requests to speak will not be taken after the public comment period ends, unless under the Chair's discretion.

Instructions for providing in-person public comments:

1. Fill out a speaker slip located at the entrance of the Board Room;
2. Submit speaker slip to MTS staff seated at the entrance of the Board Room;
3. When your name is announced, please approach the podium located on the right side of the dais to make your public comments.

Members of the public are permitted to make general public comment at the beginning of the agenda or specific comments referencing items on the agenda during the public comment period. General Public Comment, at the beginning of the Board of Directors meeting only, will be limited to five speakers. Additional speakers with general public comments will be heard at the end of the meeting.



Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs): ALDs are available from the Clerk of the Committee* prior to the meeting and are to be returned at the end of the meeting.



Reasonable Accommodations: As required by the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), requests for agenda information in an alternative format or to request reasonable accommodations to facilitate meeting participation, please contact the Clerk of the Committee* at least two working days prior to the meeting.



***Contact Information:** Contact the Clerk of the Committee via email at Brenda.Jackson@sdmts.com, phone at (619) 595-4977 or by mail at 1255 Imperial Ave. Suite 1000, San Diego CA 92101.



Agenda del Comité Consejero de Taxis

Haga clic en el enlace para acceder a la reunión:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/1607273020>

Formas de Participar



Computadora: Haga clic en el enlace más arriba. Recibirá instrucciones para operar el navegador de Zoom o la aplicación de Zoom. Una vez que haya iniciado sesión en la reunión, tendrá la opción de participar usando el sistema de audio de su computadora o teléfono.

ID de la reunión
en Zoom

Funciones del Seminario En Línea:

 Levantar la mano	►	Use la herramienta de levantar la mano cada vez que desee hacer un comentario público.
	►	Los participantes pueden habilitar el subtitulado haciendo clic en el ícono CC. También puede ver la transcripción completa y cambiar el tamaño de letra haciendo clic en “configuración de subtítulos”. Estas herramientas no están disponibles por teléfono.
	►	Este símbolo indica que usted se encuentra en silencio , haga clic en este ícono para quitar el silenciador de su micrófono.
	►	Este símbolo indica que su micrófono se encuentra encendido . Haga clic en este símbolo para silenciar su micrófono.
	►	La herramienta de chat deben usarla los panelistas y asistentes únicamente para asuntos “pertinentes a la reunión”, ya que comentarios realizados a través de esta herramienta no se conservarán como parte del registro de la reunión. Consulte el Comentario público verbal en vivo para obtener instrucciones sobre cómo hacer un comentario público.



Teléfono Inteligente o Tableta: Descargue la aplicación de Zoom y participe en la reunión haciendo clic en el enlace o usando el ID del seminario web (que se encuentra en el enlace).



Teléfono:

1. Si está participando en la reunión mediante audio de su teléfono y viendo la reunión en un dispositivo, marque el número indicado en la pestaña de llamada telefónica “unirse por audio” en la ventana emergente inicial e ingrese el ID de la reunión (que se encuentra en el enlace).
2. Si está participando solo por teléfono, marque: **+1-669-900-9128** o **+1-253-215-8782** e ingrese el ID de la reunión que se encuentra en el enlace, pulse #. Tendrá acceso al audio de la reunión, **pero NO podrá ver las presentaciones en PowerPoint.**



Comentarios Públicos Verbales en Vivo: Use la herramienta “levantar la mano” cada vez que desee hacer un comentario público sobre alguno de los artículos. Levante la mano una vez que el artículo de la agenda sobre el que desea comentar haya sido convocado. Los comentarios públicos en persona se escucharán primero, se escuchará a los asistentes virtuales en el orden en el que levanten la mano. No se aceptarán solicitudes para hablar después de que termine el periodo para hacer comentarios públicos, a menos de que el presidente determine de otra forma a su discreción. Comentarios públicos generales, únicamente al inicio de la reunión de la Junta de Directores, se limitarán a cinco personas que deseen hablar. Las personas adicionales que deseen aportar comentarios públicos generales podrán hacerlo al final de la reunión. Se otorga dos minutos de tiempo por persona que desee hablar, a menos de que el presidente instruya de otra forma. *(Consulte la página 2 para obtener instrucciones sobre cómo hacer un comentario público.)*

Comentarios Públicos a Través de Zoom

1. Haga clic en el enlace que se encuentra en la parte superior de esta página de instrucciones
2. Haga clic en el ícono de levantar la mano en el centro inferior de la plataforma
3. El secretario anunciará su nombre cuando sea su turno de hablar
4. Desactive el silenciador para que pueda hablar

Comentarios Públicos Realizados Únicamente por Teléfono

1. Marque el **+1-669-900-9128**
2. Ingrese el ID de la reunión en Zoom que se encuentra en el enlace y pulse #
3. Marque *9 para levantar la mano por teléfono
4. El secretario indicará los últimos 4 dígitos de su número de teléfono para anunciar que usted será el siguiente en hablar
5. Marque *6 para desactivar el silenciador



Comentarios Públicos por Escrito (Antes de la Reunión): Los comentarios públicos por escrito se registrarán en el registro público y se entregarán a los miembros de la Junta de MTS antes de la reunión. Los comentarios deben enviarse por correo electrónico o postal al secretario del Comité* antes de las 4:00 p.m. el día anterior a la reunión.



Servicios de Traducción: Pueden solicitarse servicios de traducción comunicándose con el secretario del Comité* por lo menos cuatro días hábiles antes de la reunión.



Participación en Persona: Los comentarios públicos en persona se escucharán primero. Después de los comentarios públicos en persona, se escuchará a los asistentes virtuales en el orden en el que levanten la mano a través de la plataforma de Zoom. El tiempo para hablar se limitará a dos minutos por persona, a menos de que el presidente especifique de otra forma. No se recibirán solicitudes para hablar después de que termine el periodo para hacer comentarios públicos, a menos de que el presidente determine de otra forma a su discreción.

Instrucciones para brindar comentarios públicos en persona:

1. Llene la boleta para personas que desean hablar que se encuentran en la entrada de la Sala de la Junta.
2. Entregue la boleta para personas que desean hablar al personal de MTS que se encuentra sentado en la entrada de la Sala de la Junta.
3. Cuando anuncien su nombre, por favor, acérquese al podio ubicado en el lado derecho de la tarima para hacer sus comentarios públicos.

Los miembros del público pueden hacer comentarios públicos generales al inicio de la agenda o comentarios específicos que hagan referencia a los puntos de la agenda durante el periodo de comentarios públicos. Los comentarios públicos generales únicamente al inicio de la reunión de la Junta de Directores, se limitarán a cinco personas que deseen hablar. Las personas adicionales que deseen aportar comentarios públicos generales podrán hacerlo al final de la reunión.



Dispositivos de Asistencia Auditiva (ALD, por sus siglas en inglés): Los ALD están disponibles con el secretario del Comité* antes de la reunión y estos deberán ser devueltos al final de la reunión.



Facilidades Razonables: Según lo requerido por la Ley de Estadounidenses con Discapacidades (ADA, por sus siglas en inglés), para presentar solicitudes de información de la agenda en un formato alternativo o solicitar facilidades razonables para facilitar su participación en la reunión, por favor, comuníquese con el secretario del Comité* por lo menos dos días hábiles antes de la reunión.



***Información de Contacto:** Comuníquese con el secretario del Comité por correo electrónico en Brenda.Jackson@sdmts.com, por teléfono al (619) 595-4977 o por correo postal en **1255 Imperial Ave. Suite 1000, San Diego CA 92101.**



Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting

Agenda

July 21, 2026 at 10:00 a.m.

In-Person Participation: James R. Mills Building, 1255 Imperial Avenue, 10th Floor Board Room, San Diego CA 92101

Teleconference Participation: (669) 254-5252; Webinar ID: https:160 727 3020; <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1607273020>

NO.	ITEM SUBJECT AND DESCRIPTION	ACTION
1.	Roll Call	
2.	Public Comments	
3.	Approval of Minutes Action would approve the May 13, 2026 Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes.	Approve
DISCUSSION ITEMS		
4.	Driver Recognition Program Awards (Leonardo Fewell)	Informational
5.	Taxicab Advisory Committee Membership Guidelines (Leonardo Fewell)	Informational
6.	For-Hire Vehicle Administration (FHVA) Operation Update (Leonardo Fewell)	Informational
OTHER ITEMS		
7.	Topics for Next Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting (Leonardo Fewell)	Informational
8.	Committee Member Communications and Other Business	
9.	Next Meeting Date: November 20, 2026 and 10:00am	
10.	Adjournment	





Agenda de la reunión del Comité Asesor de Taxis

Julio 21, 2026 a las 10:00 a. m.

Participación presencial: James R. Mills Building, 1255 Imperial Avenue, Sala de Juntas del piso 10, San Diego, CA 92101

Participación por teleconferencia: (669) 254-5252; ID del seminario web: 160 727 3020; <https://www.zoomgov.com/j/1607273020>

N.º	TEMA Y DESCRIPCIÓN	ACCIÓN
1.	Pase de Lista de Asistencia	
2.	Comentarios del Público	
3.	Aprobación de las Actas La acción aprobaría el May 13, 2026 acta de la reunión del Comité Asesor de Taxis.	Aprobar
TEMAS DE DISCUSIÓN		
4.	Premios del Programa de Reconocimiento a Conductores (Leonardo Fewell)	Informativo
5.	Normas de Afiliación del Comité Asesor de Taxis (Leonardo Fewell)	Informativo
6.	Actualización Operativa de la Administración de Vehículos de Alquiler (FHVA)(Leonardo Fewell)	Informativo
OTROS TEMAS		
7.	Temas Para la Próxima Reunión del Comité Asesor de Taxis (Leonardo Fewell)	Informativo
8.	Comunicaciones de los Miembros del Comité y otros Asuntos	
9.	Fecha de la Próxima Reunión: Noviembre 20, 2026 y 10:00 a. m.	
10.	Cierre de Sesión	



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

May 13, 2026

[Clerk's note: Except where noted, public, staff and Committee member comments are paraphrased.
The full comment can be heard by reviewing the recording at the [MTS website](#).]

1. Roll Call

Leonardo Fewell called the Taxicab Advisory Committee meeting to order at 9:10 a.m. A roll call sheet listing Taxicab Advisory Committee member attendance is attached as Attachment A.

Committee Comment

Mr. Fewell opened the meeting announcing the passing of Regulatory Inspector Tom Lee and paid tribute to his life and service. He highlighted Tom's nearly 24 years with MTS Taxicab Administration, his respected standing in the taxi industry, and his dedication to his family and colleagues. Mr. Fewell led a moment of silence in Tom Lee's memory and thanked UTW for their assistance with Tom's remembrance.

Mr. Fewell introduced Mr. Yona Tekeste as the newly appointed TAC member for the owner of one permit category, and stated that he looked forward to his contribution to the industry.

2. Public Comments

There were no Public Comments.

3. Approval of Minutes

Committee Member Peter Zschiesche moved to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2025 and February 27, 2026, MTS Taxicab Advisory Committee meetings. Committee member Aleayehu Tegegne seconded the motion, and the vote was 9 to 0 in favor with Committee Members, Able Seifu, KidaneTsefagebriel, Letty Canizalez, Cesar Lopez, Horacio Sanchez David Tasem, Chair Elo-Rivera and absent.

PUBLIC HEARING

4. Proposed Amendments to For-Hire Vehicle Services Regulations (Leonardo Fewell and Samantha Leslie)

Leonardo Fewell, MTS For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager, and Samantha Leslie, MTS Deputy General Counsel, presented on Proposed Amendments to For-Hire Vehicle Service Regulations. They outlined the proposed amendments to For-Hire Vehicle Regulations MTS Ordinance 11 and Board Policy No. 34, which included, County of San Diego Sheriff's Office (Sheriff) licensing of drivers, rates of fare for non-emergency medical, charters, jitney, low-speed vehicles, removal of annual fee schedule appeal, airport access fee and refusing trips based on trip destination into private property, non-emergency medical vehicle requirements, interior posting withing vehicles, removing physical map requirement, electronic trip receipts to passenger, agreements with private businesses, contactless payments, days to place a vehicle in service removing permit transfers, and removing taxicab stand filing fee.

Public Comment

Committee Comment

There were no Committee Comments.

Action Taken

Chair Elo-Rivera moved the motion that the MTS TAC forward a recommendation to the Board of Directors to approve the proposed revision to MTS Ordinance No. 11 and MTS Board Policy No. 34, "For-Hire Vehicle Services". and called the vote to order. Vote was 9 in favor (Aklilu Fray, Eduardo Gonzalez, Francisco Bates, Gonzalo Ayala, Gonzalo Ayala, Peter Zschiesche, Chair Elo-Rivera, Thanh Nguyen, Yona Tekeste Kahsai) to 1 not in favor (Aleayehu Tegegne) with Able Seifu, Cesar Lopez, David Tasem, Horacio Sanchez, Kidane Tesfagebriel and Letty Canizalez absent.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

5. Sustainable Measures for Taxicabs: Smart Meter Technology (Leonardo Fewell)

Leonardo Fewell, MTS For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager, presented on Sustainable Measures for Taxicabs: Smart Meter Technology. He presented on Smart Meter Technology, core features of Smart-Meter, GPS-based fare calculation, up-front pricing capability, integrated digital payments, trip data and cloud connectivity, passenger and driver apps integration and digital functionality. Key benefits for taxicabs, better competition and enabling integration with Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), increased transparency and customer trust, operational efficiency, regulatory & reporting, and improved rider experience. Key benefits of Up-front pricing, predictability and transparency, better customer experience and next steps.

Public Comment

There were no Public Comments.

Committee Comment

Committee Member Alemayehu (Alex) Tegegne stated they were new to the concept and admitted that he did not understand how the system would work, especially in the context of taxi services. He explained that customers still had to physically come to his car to find out the fare, which put taxis at a disadvantage compared to TNCs such as Uber, where pricing was visible in advance. He noted that he had missed the last meeting and was therefore unsure if this topic had already been addressed.

Leonardo Fewell explained that the current effort was focused on enabling technology for upfront pricing, noting that some dispatch services using soft meter systems could already provide this feature within existing regulations as long as fares stayed below maximum rates. He encouraged broader adoption of this technology so all taxi drivers could offer upfront pricing and contactless payments, adding that future discussions, including Ad Hoc Committee meetings, would explore policy changes to better align with these tools and invited participation for feedback.

Chair Elo-Rivera expressed appreciation for the presentation and acknowledged the significant research and effort involved. He noted the importance of the topic for the industry and emphasized that adopting such measures could help taxi services remain competitive in an increasingly challenging environment.

Action Taken

Informational item only. No action taken.

6. For-Hire Vehicle Administration (FHVA) Operations Update (Leonardo Fewell)

Leonardo Fewell, MTS For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager, presented on For Hire Vehicle Administration Operations Update. He discussed: The primary method of communication, Ordinance 11, FHVA staff availability, future online permitting portal, Ad Hoc meeting on taxicab rates of fare and next steps, Number of Billed vs renewed For-Hire Vehicle (FHV) permits, number of active vs. surrendered FHV permits as of 05/07/2026 and 2026 quarterly (Jan-Mar) FHVA field inspection statistics, Customer feedback cases and airport trips for Calendar Year (CY) 2026.

Public Comment

There were no Public Comments.

Committee Comment

Chair Elo-Rivera asked whether “overcharge” referred to a customer’s perception of being overcharged or if it was something that had been formally verified. Mr. Fewell explained that customer overcharge cases were tracked through complaints submitted via phone or QR code, which are then investigated by field staff. He stated an overcharge was confirmed based on findings such as the meter not being activated or a fare exceeding the allowed maximum limits, while misunderstandings were marked as unfounded. Only verified issues were recorded as sustained cases in their system.

Committee Member Alemayehu Tegegne expressed concern about penalties for not displaying a Sheriff issued ID, describing a case where a driver received a ticket and had to appear in court over what he felt was an accidental oversight. He argued the fine was excessive given that drivers often work outside the airport and could easily forget their ID, and he criticized enforcement practices as disruptive, particularly when inspections occurred during busy convention periods rather than slower times when education might be more effective. Mr. Fewell explained that enforcement aimed to ensure drivers complied with regulations, including displaying ID badges. He emphasized that reminders were regularly sent through emails and outreach, noting that ID display was a basic requirement distinguishing taxi drivers from TNC drivers and was mandated by both MTS and the Sheriff’s office. He added that inspections and citations were necessary due to repeated noncompliance and public complaints, stressing that visible IDs helped assure passenger safety and professionalism. Mr. Fewell noted that while warnings and education were used, they were not always effective, and suggested that future technology solutions, such as digital ID displays through smart meters, could help address the issue while maintaining compliance and customer service standards.

Committee Member Peter Zschiesche raised concerns about the transition to digital systems, noting that many taxi drivers struggled with technology and would likely need ongoing support from dispatch offices, creating an issue for both drivers and staff. He emphasized that drivers should have a voice in setting fares, sharing that UTWSD had successfully allowed drivers to provide feedback on rates through surveys, leading to an alternate method rather than relying on rigid formulas like Consumer Price Index (CPI), which he argued could push prices too high. Mr. Zschiesche also highlighted confusion among younger passengers unfamiliar with taxi services, suggesting the need for better public education and marketing, particularly at the airport and through city outreach, to promote taxi availability and benefits.

Action Taken

Action Taken

Informational item only. No action taken.

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

Leonardo Fewell, MTS For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager, presented on Topics for Next Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting. He recommended including Sustainable Measures for the Taxicab Industry and FHVA Operations Update. He also suggested adding an item to the agenda to consider updates to the Taxicab Advisory Committee Guidelines, specifically to revise membership and attendance requirements in order to ensure quorum and support more effective discussions

Public Comment

There were no Public Comments.

Committee Comment

Committee Member Peter Zschiesche referenced prior MTS action on the Waymo issue and suggested that it would be helpful to receive an update at the next meeting on developments and potential options. He recommended that Chair Elo-Rivera provide this feedback, noting it would be valuable information for the industry. Chair Elo-Rivera agreed to provide an update on the Waymo issue at a future meeting and noted that Rosa Olascoaga-Vidal, Deputy Chief of Strategic Initiatives, could also share information on related city efforts. He expressed concern that emerging technologies, such as automated vehicles, posed a significant threat to drivers' livelihoods by potentially removing labor from the equation, and he highlighted additional concerns about their readiness for public roads. Chair Elo-Rivera added that actions had already been taken with the city to advocate for local control over decision-making and that a more detailed update, along with committee feedback, would help shape both short- and long-term strategies.

Action Taken

Informational item only. No action taken.

OTHER ITEMS

8. Committee Member Communications

There was no Committee Member Communications and Other Business discussion.

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

10. Next Meeting Date

The next Taxicab Advisory Committee meeting is scheduled for July 21, 2026, at 10:00 a.m.

11. Adjournment

Chair Sean Elo-Rivera adjourned the meeting at 10:18 a.m..

/S/ Sean Elo-Rivera

Chairperson
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

/S/ Adriana Castro

Committee Clerk
San Diego Metropolitan Transit System

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

ROLL CALL

MEETING OF (DATE): May 13, 2026

CALL TO ORDER (TIME): 9:10am

ADJOURN: 10:18am

COMMITTEE MEMBER		ALTERNATE		ORGANIZATION	PRESENT (TIME ARRIVED)	ABSENT (TIME LEFT)
Voting Committee Members						
Sean Elo-Rivera (Chair)	☒	None	☐	MTS Board of Directors/ SD City Council	9:28am	10:18am
Able Seifu	☐	None	☐	Permit Holder / Odyssey Cab	Absent	Absent
Alemayehu Tegegne	☒	None	☐	Permit Holder / AT Cab	9:10am	10:18am
Gonzalo Ayala	☒	None	☐	Permit Holder / Heritage Cab	9:10am	10:18am
Aklilu Fray	☒	None	☐	Permit Holder / AK Cab	9:10am	10:18am
Yona Tekeste Kahsai	☒	None	☐	Permit Holder / Yonisam Cab	9:10am	10:18am
Kidane Tesfagebriel	☐	None	☐	Permit Holder / Western Cab	Absent	Absent
Letty Canizalez	☐	None	☐	SD Tourism Authority	Absent	Absent
Eduardo Gonzalez	☒	Jose Raul Alcantar	☐	Cross Border X-Press	9:10am	10:18am
Mikail Hussein	☐	Peter Zschiesche	☒	United Taxi Workers SD	9:10am	10:18am
Daryl Mayekawa	☐	Thanh Nguyen	☒	SD Convention Center	9:10am	10:18am
Marc Nichols	☒	Michael Anderson	☐	SD Regional Airport Authority	9:10am	10:18am
Francisco Bates	☒	None	☐	Border Transportation Council (BTC)	9:10am	10:18am
Cesar Lopez	☐	None	☐	Taxicab Lease Driver	Absent	Absent
Horacio Sanchez	☐	None	☐	Taxicab Lease Driver	Absent	Absent
David Tasem	☐	None	☐	Taxicab Lease Driver	Absent	Absent
Non – Voting Committee Members						
Jonathan Garcia	☒	Austin Shepard	☐	SD Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures	9:10am	10:18am
Jessica Marty	☐	None	☐	SD County Sheriff's Department Licensing Division	Absent	Absent

COMMITTEE CLERK: /S/ Adriana Castro



**Metropolitan
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Agenda Item No. 04

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

JULY 21, 2026

SUBJECT:

Driver Recognition Program Awards

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

Budget Impact

None

DISCUSSION:

On July 30, 2025, For Hire Vehicle Administration (FHVA) provided a presentation to TAC on the implementation of a Driver Recognition Program to recognize drivers who provide excellent customer service. Based on an evaluation of complimentary passenger feedback submissions, dispatch service and Non-Emergency Medical Transportation (NEMT)/Charter permit holder recommendations submitted to FHVA, and feedback from Regulatory Inspectors, two eligible drivers were selected for recognition. One from the taxicab, Jitney and Low Speed Vehicle category, and one from the NEMT and Charter vehicle category.

The Chair of the TAC will preside over a brief recognition ceremony and present the awards to the selected drivers.

/s/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell
For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619.235.2643, Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com





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Item No. 4, 7/21/2026

Driver Recognition Program Awards

Taxicab Advisory Committee

Driver Recognition Awards

- For-Hire Vehicle Administration recognizes drivers in the Taxicab, Jitney and Low-Speed Vehicle categories as well as the Non-Emergency Transportation and Charter vehicle categories, who demonstrate excellence in customer service, courtesy, and professionalism.
- Today's recipients were selected based on the following criteria:
 - Driver Compliments received by FHVA
 - Feedback from Dispatch Services (recommending a subscriber(s))
 - Feedback from FHVA Regulatory Inspector staff (firsthand knowledge of professionalism and compliance)

Driver Recognition Awards

- Each driver from their respective categories will receive the following:
 - An award recognition certificate
 - A \$100 gas gift card
 - Four (4) car wash tickets
 - The driver's picture and professional profile showcased on the MTS FHVA website for two (2) months after the award
 - Large Vehicle "Award Recognition" decal to be affixed to the driver's vehicle. (The decal can remain part of the vehicle as long as the driver continues to drive it)
 - MTS promotional merchandise
 - Sheriff's Driver I.D. renewal fee waiver

Driver Recognition Awards

**Taxicab, Jitney or Low-Speed
Driver Category Winner:**

Ahmed Saadat Nejad
Ery Cab



Driver Recognition Awards

**Non-Emergency / Charter
Driver Category Winner:**

**Omar Dawood
Possibilities Medical
Transportation**



CONGRATULATIONS!

Questions/Comments



**Metropolitan
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Agenda Item No. 05

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

July 21, 2026

SUBJECT:

Taxicab Advisory Committee (TAC) Membership Guidelines (Leonardo Fewell)

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

Budget Impact

None

DISCUSSION:

The TAC is comprised of sixteen voting members as follows: The Chair of the TAC, designated by the MTS Board of Directors on an annual basis, six organization representatives, six taxicab permit holder representatives, and three lease driver representatives.

Per the TAC Guidelines, the TAC or the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or designee may make an interim appointment if a member's seat becomes vacant within the three-year term. In addition, the MTS Board of Directors may make changes the TAC membership seats.

Currently, two member seats no longer meet eligibility and/or attendance requirements: one vacant seat in the lease driver category; and one seat for the San Diego Convention and Visitor's Bureau.

To reduce the concern of not meeting quorum and to maximize TAC participation, feedback is requested on how to best fill these two seats.

/s/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell
For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619.235.2643, 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 administrative taxicab permit holder and lease driver penalty guidelines;
- 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 and process;
- 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 (1) 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 Representatives from six (6) organizations or agencies, each serving a three-year term that may designate one (1) alternate member by providing written notification to the MTS Clerk of the Taxicab Advisory Committee, divided as follows:
 - 2.2.1 One (1) member appointed by the San Diego Convention and Visitor's Bureau;
 - 2.2.2 One (1) member appointed by the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority;
 - 2.2.3 One (1) member appointed by the San Diego Convention Center;
 - 2.2.4 One (1) member appointed by the Cross Border Express;
 - 2.2.5 One (1) member appointed by the United Taxi Workers of San Diego (UTWSD), that must either be: a current member of the UTWSD or be a current employee or other authorized representative of the UTWSD; and
 - 2.2.6 One (1) member appointed by the Border Transportation Council.

- 2.3 Six (6) taxicab permit holders in good standing, each serving a three-year term, elected by taxicab permit holders and lease drivers, divided as follows: four (4) seats are designated for representation of a permit holder with one taxicab; and two (2) seats are designated for representation of permit holders of two (2) or more taxicabs.
- 2.4 Three (3) 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 September 11, 2025.
- 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.



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Item No. 5, 7/21/2026

Taxicab Advisory Committee Guidelines

Taxicab Advisory Committee

TAC Guidelines

- TAC is comprised of sixteen voting members as follows:
 - One representative from the MTS Board of Directors (TAC Chair)
 - One member from each of the following organizations each serving a three-year term:
 - San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau
 - San Diego Convention Center
 - San Diego Airport
 - Gaslamp Quarter Association
 - Cross Border Xpress (CBX)
 - United Taxi Workers San Diego (UTWSD)
 - Border Transportation Council (BTC)
 - Six Taxicab Permit Holders in good standing
 - Four seats for representatives with one taxicab
 - Two seats for representatives with two or more taxicabs
 - Three taxicab lease drivers in possession of a valid Sheriffs License

TAC Guidelines

- Per the TAC Guidelines, any member who misses four consecutive meetings may be subject to removal.
- The representative from the lease driver category has not met attendance requirements
- San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau has not met attendance requirements.
- Per the TAC Guidelines, TAC or the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) or designee shall make an interim appointment if a member's seat becomes vacant within the three-year term. Further, the MTS Board of Directors may make changes to the membership makeup of TAC.

TAC Guidelines

- Vacant Lease Driver Seat:
 - FHVA reached out to permit holders of multiple permits and requested they inform lease drivers about the seat vacancy.
 - The Sheriff's licensing division will inform lease drivers of the current lease driver seat vacancy and how to contact FHVA if they are interested on an interim appointment.
- Vacant San Diego Convention and Visitors Bureau:
 - FHVA reached out to the Port of San Diego to gauge interest in joining

TAC Guidelines

- Feedback is requested by TAC on
 - any nominations for an interim appointment for the lease driver category or other outreach staff should conduct to fill this seat
 - any potential alternatives for the San Diego Convention and Visitor Bureau organizational seat.

Questions/Comments



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Agenda Item No. 06

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

JULY 21, 2026

SUBJECT:

For-Hire Vehicle Administration (FHVA) Operations Update (Leonardo Fewell)

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

Budget Impact

None

DISCUSSION:

FHVA will provide a report on the following topics and categories: number of active and surrendered permits by vehicle type, number of field contacts, issued citations, airport originated trips, customer feedback cases, wildcatting enforcement, other for-hire vehicle statistics, and administrative operations.

/s/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell
For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619.235.2643, Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com

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San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) is a California public agency comprised of San Diego Transit Corp., San Diego Trolley, Inc. and San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway Company (nonprofit public benefit corporations). MTS member agencies include the cities of Chula Vista, Coronado, El Cajon, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City, Poway, San Diego, Santee, and the County of San Diego. MTS is also the For-Hire Vehicle administrator for multiple cities in San Diego County.





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Item No. 6, 7/21/2026

For-Hire Vehicle Administration (FHVA) Operations Update

Taxicab Advisory Committee

FHVA Operations Update

- E-mail is the primary method of communication for all purposes. It is the responsibility of the permit holders to check spam/junk folders and adjust e-mail filters to accept FHVA emails (sdmts.com) domain.
- Per Ordinance No. 11 1.8 (c), Permit holders must notify FHVA of any changes in their address, phone number(s) or e-mail information.
- FHVA staff is available by appointment only. All calls and emails are returned by the next business day.

FHVA Operations Update

- FHVA is transitioning to an online permitting solution that will serve as its main database and allow applicants and permit holders to complete and submit:
 - Applications for new and additional permits
 - Requests dispatch service changes, surrenders and return to service
 - Annual statements and vehicle inspections needed for permit renewals
 - Vehicle insurance, registration and other documents and forms
 - Credit and Debit Card payments for all administrative fees
- Once operational, permit holders may fully complete the annual renewal process online. FHVA will provide an update on the target completion date at the November 20, 2026, TAC meeting.

FHVA Operations Update

- As part of this transition to conduct business online, beginning August 1, 2026, FHVA will only accept new permit applications through e-mail. Applicants may request information and submit new or additional permit applications via e-mail to:

FHVAPERMITS@SDMTS.COM

- FHVA staff will respond with guidance and instructions on how to complete the permit issuance process and other business requests.

FHVA Operations Update

- Valid Certificate of Insurance (COI) Requirement.
- Ordinance No. 11 prohibits the operation of a for-hire vehicle unless the permit holder establishes and maintains in effect a form of financial responsibility.
- Permit holders are responsible of ensuring their insurance policy remains in effect at all times, and that any renewals are submitted by the insurance broker to FHVA, before expiration.
- When insurance expires, FHVA sends a notification to the permit holder, the dispatch service, and if applicable, the Airport, that the permit(s) have been suspended.

FHVA Operations Update

- Maintaining valid insurance is needed to ensure public safety for passengers, permit holders and the general public.
- To avoid penalties for insurance expiration, permit holders should contact FHVA and request their permit(s) be placed under voluntary surrender at no charge.
- Once FHVA receives a valid certificate of insurance from the broker, permit holders can contact FHVA and request reinstatement of their vehicle(s) at no charge.
- Once FHVA suspends a permit for no insurance, a \$75 re-inspection fee will apply.

FHVA Operations Update

- To voluntarily surrender a permit(s) to FHVA and avoid a permit suspension and penalties due to insurance expiration, please contact:

- Regulatory Inspector Joseph Ross

Joseph.Ross@sdmts.com

619.398.9573

- Regulatory Inspector Mark Palmer

Mark.Palmer@sdmts.com

619.398.9595

FHVA Operations Update

Wildcatter Enforcement

- Wildcatter Enforcement Statistics provided by San Diego Police Department (SDPD).
 - Between 5/11/2026 and 07/05/2026, SDPD and CA Public Utilities (CPUC) Investigators conducted wildcatting focused operations in the San Ysidro and Otay Mesa Areas.
 - The results were two investigative stops, administrative citations, and the impound of two vehicles using the 30 day impound code. The suspect contacted on 07/05/26 had a history of wildcatting dating back to 2002. As of this morning, their vehicle is still impounded with a pending charge of over \$900.00 to retrieve it. The cost increases everyday the vehicle is in storage.

FHVA Operations Update

Number of Active vs. Surrendered For-Hire Vehicle Permits (as of 7/16/2026)				
Permit Type	Total Number of Permits	Currently Active Permits	Number of Permits Surrendered	% Surrendered Permits
Charter	98	89	9	9%
Jitney	7	7	0	0%
LSV	26	26	0	0%
NEM	661	642	19	3%
Taxi	863	763	100	11.5%
Total (All Types)	1655	1527	128	8%

FHVA Operations Update

2026 QUARTERLY (April-June) F.H.V.A. FIELD INSPECTIONS & STATS												
	San Diego	National City	Chula Vista	La Mesa	El Cajon	Lemon Grove	Santee	Oceanside	Poway	Imperial Beach	SY/OTAY	TOTAL
Contacts	410	104	179	44	54	13	41	32	30	15	155	1077
Cites	9	1	4	2	0	0	3	0	0	0	5	24
Parking	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2
Warnings	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Field Rep	19	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	21

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 re-inspection to ascertain violation has been corrected

FHVA Operations Update

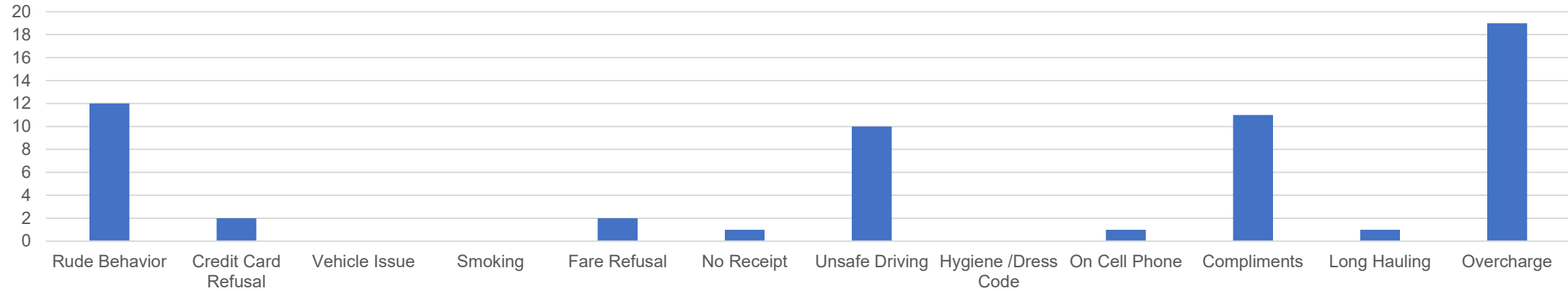
Contact per Vehicle Type		
Vehicle Type	Contacts	Percent
Taxi	460	42.5%
NEM / Charter	602	56%
Jitney	6	0.5%
Low Speed Vehicle	9	1%
Total	1077	100%

FHVA Operations Update

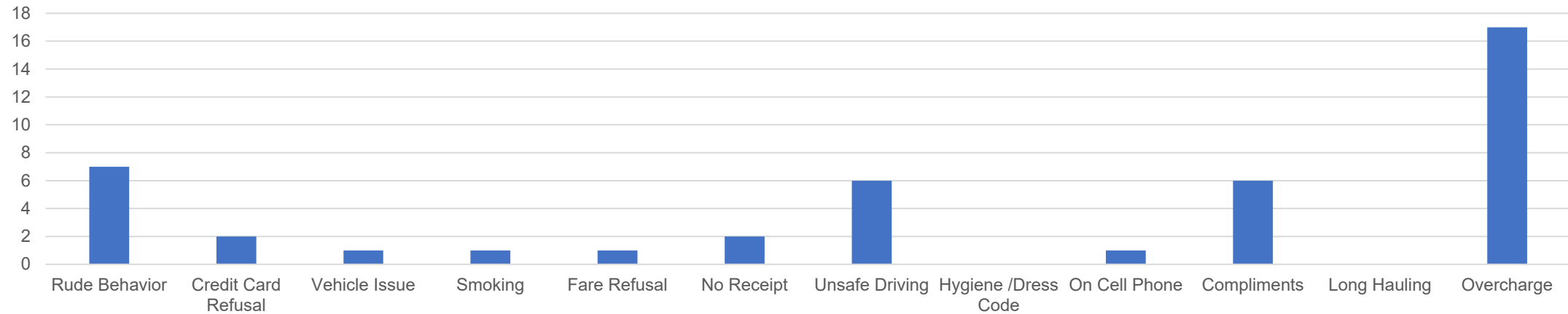
Issued Warnings	
Does not have Sheriff ID	2
Sheriff ID Not Worn or Displayed	0
No Trip Log / Incomplete	0
Mechanical	0
No Operation Permit	1
Other :	
Expired Registration	0
No Fire Extinguisher	0
Window Tint	0
No AC	0
No Horn	0
Total Warnings	3

Customer Feedback Cases

Customer Feedback Cases (January - March 2026)

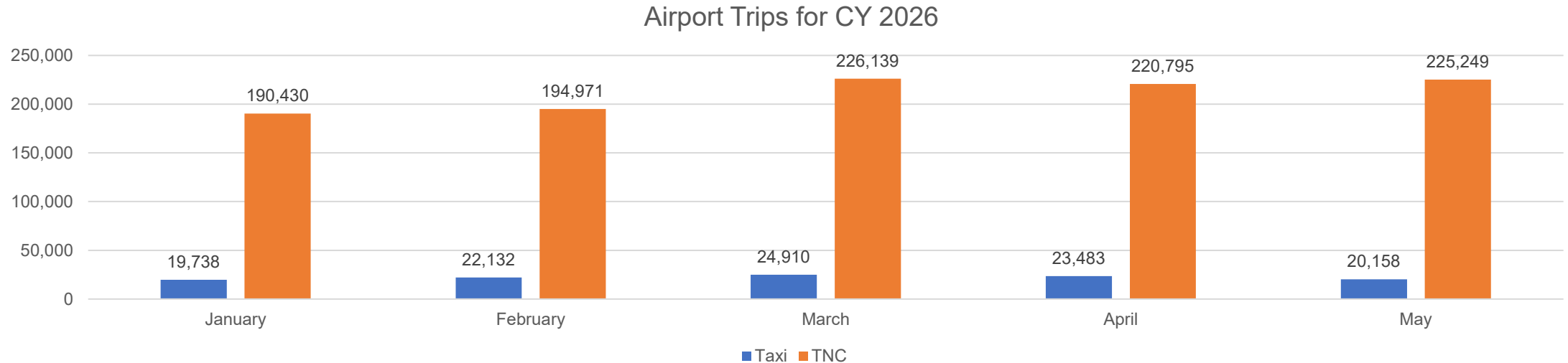


Customer Feedback Cases (April - June 2026)



FHVA Operations Update

Airport Trips for CY 2026



	Jan	Feb	March	April	May
Taxi	9.4%	10.2%	9.9%	9.5%	8.2%
TNC	90.6%	89.8%	90.1%	90.5%	91.8%

Questions/Comments



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Agenda Item No. 07

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

JULY 21, 2026

SUBJECT:

Topics for Next Taxicab Advisory Committee (TAC) Meeting (Leonardo Fewell)

INFORMATIONAL ONLY

Budget Impact

None

DISCUSSION:

Feedback is requested on what topics should be addressed at the next TAC meeting scheduled for November 20, 2026 at 10:00am. Currently, staff recommends the following agenda items:

- For Hire Vehicle Administration (FHVA) 2027 Budget Overview and Fee Schedule
- Revisions to TAC Membership Guidelines
- Autonomous Vehicle Passenger Service
- Airport Access Fees
- FHVA Operations Update

/s/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell
For-Hire Vehicle Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619.235.2643, Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com





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Item No. 7, 7/21/2026

Topics for Next Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting

Taxicab Advisory Committee

Topics for Next TAC Meeting

- Feedback is requested on what topics should be addressed at the next TAC meeting
- Currently, staff recommends the following agenda items
 - FHVA 2027 Budget Overview and Fee Schedule
 - Revisions to TAC Membership Guidelines
 - Autonomous Vehicle Passenger Service
 - Airport Access Fees
 - FHVA Operations Update

Questions/Comments