

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System  
Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting

March 13, 2019

10:00 am

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

1. Roll Call

Mr. Nelson, MTS Taxicab Administration Manager, called the Taxicab Advisory Committee meeting to order at 10:06 a.m. A roll call sheet listing Taxicab Advisory Committee member attendance is attached

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – June 13, 2018, September 12, 2018 and December 12, 2018.

Mr. Hueso moved to approve the minutes, with a second by Mr. Tasem. The vote was 8 to 0 with Mr. Chasteen, Mr. Mayekawa, Mr. Mercer, Mr. Palmeri, Mr. Seifu, Mr. Terzi and Mr. Weldegiorgis absent.

3. Non-Agenda Public Comment

Ebrahim Seyedalizadeh-The new ordinance requires an address other than a PO Box or Radio Service, and requires a home address; it appears on Sherriff's address and for privacy and security reasons does not want to have home address. He would like this to be readdressed for the privacy of driver, sometimes customers take a picture of ID's and all private identifying information is captured. He feels this is safer as he has been driving for 37 years for USA Cab and was previously using this address.

Chairperson Ward stated that MTS staff would work offline to see if there are any other options.

Kelly Quinn and Somali Family Services- The nonprofit organization they have designed to help small businesses, specifically in the transportation industry starting NEM (Nonemergency Medical), taxi driver and LYFT was described. They will assist with such items as business documentation, licensing, accounting/bookkeeping and other business requirements, licensing fees, monthly workshops help with any business needs. Once someone attends workshops they can assist with developing business plans. Will work directly with other organizations to provide business startup fees-these funds are grants, not loans so funds do not have to be repaid.

4. Management and Committee Member Communications

Chairperson Ward began with an introduction of himself as a member of the San Diego City Council representing urban areas such as, Downtown, North Park and Hillcrest; he emphasized that as part of the committee to represent those areas he feels a strong connection to the represented Industries success. This will be a shared success and he's very excited to be part of the mission of the board.

Mr. Nelson reviewed the Taxicab, NEM (Nonemergency Medical) and other for hire vehicle data; the figures were provided with the original meeting packet. Mr. Nelson noted that there is no longer a time limit on permit abeyance as long as the yearly permit fee is paid. It was also noted that the active permit numbers have declined since 2018. FRED (Free Ride Everywhere Downtown) has started the permit process for their LSV's and will be able to share stands once they are permitted just as other permitted vehicles.

Citation data was reviewed to reemphasize that MTS Regulatory Inspectors have not been overly judicious in issuing cites.

Mr. Nelson reviewed the Customer Feedback figures that were provided with the original packet. He noted that most of the complaints were customer service related. These issues will continue to be reviewed in the Driver Training Courses. As the data tracking system is new, complaint outcome is not included, but will be in the future.

Mr. Banks said that he thinks the Taxi Stands are an issue. Mr. Nelson reiterated that all permitted LSV's (Low Speed Vehicles) pay the same fees get the same rights as other permitted vehicles.

Mr. Tasem said that most Taxi stands do not have numbers delineated. Again, Mr. Nelson said that he would look into reevaluating the stands and capacities.

Ms. Tanguay shared that the situation has been volatile in the past, due to matters such as taxi curbs not being enforced.

Mr. Nelson stated that MTS Taxicab Administration only has four to five Regulators to enforce across four to five cities and he will speak to law enforcement if necessary.

Chairperson Ward offered his help with City representatives where FRED is concerned if needed to help lessen any conflicts.

Chairperson Ward stated that inspection data is promising and shows the importance of customer safety. In regards to complaints, he agrees with the importance of outcomes as many times complaints can be a "he said, she said" situation. He asked if there is a way to work with industry partners to identify how many trips are in account to narrow down the complaint data.

Mr. Hueso said he is thankful for the data provided as it legitimizes the information and helps with providing the information to drivers from MTS, as an official regulator, rather than just coming from radio services. He also noted that there are changes in the horizon that he would like the TAC, and relevant San Diego City Committees, to start considering now; such as the existing grandfather clause that will mature for specific equipment in relation to age of vehicles, digital dispatch, hybrids and alternative fuel sources.

5. Taxicab Advisory Committee Permit Holder Member Nomination and Election Process

Mr. Nelson reviewed the TAC election process and guidelines; the detailed information was provided with original packet. He did note that lack of quorum has had a negative impact on

action items. Mr. Hueso commented that the lack of participation has created problems in the past as well. Action would review and approve the proposed permit holder election process and appoint a subcommittee to validate the election results.

Action Taken

Mr. Tasem moved for approval, Ms. Tanguay seconded the motion and the vote was 8 to 0 in favor with Mr. Chasteen, Mr. Mayekawa, Mr. Mercer, Mr. Palmeri, Mr. Seifu, Mr. Terzi and Mr. Weldegiorgis absent.

6. Taxicab Advisory Committee Lease Driver Representative Member Nomination and Election

Mr. Nelson reviewed the TAC election process and guidelines; the detailed information was provided with original packet. Mr. Hueso commented that the lack of participation has created problems in the past and maybe seat numbers should be reconsidered. Mr. Tasem stated that one vacancy remained due to the driver representative losing his license and it was decided to leave the seat open until the next election period as no one else wanted to take the position. Mr. Nelson stated that these items would be considered after the election period close. Action would review and approve the proposed lease driver election process and appoint a subcommittee to validate the election results. Mr. Nelson suggested that the subcommittee meet on the same day to count both vote categories rather than two separate days as in the past.

Action Taken

Subcommittee volunteers are Mr. Majid, Mr. Hueso, Mr. Tasem, Ms. Tanguay and Mr. Tehrani.


Ms. Tanguay moved for approval, Mr. Tasem seconded the motion and the vote was 8 to 0 in favor with Mr. Chasteen, Mr. Mayekawa, Mr. Mercer, Mr. Palmeri, Mr. Seifu, Mr. Terzi and Mr. Weldegiorgis absent.

7. Next Meeting – June 19, 2019

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 am.

Accepted:

  
Christopher Ward  
Chair of Taxicab Advisory Committee

Attachment: Roll Call Sheet

Filed by:

  
Jamila L Larkins, Clerk of the Committee  
MTS Taxicab Administration

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

MEETING OF (DATE): March 13, 2019

CALL TO ORDER (TIME): 10:06 am

ADJOURN: 10:40 am

COMMITTEE MEMBER (Alternate)	ORGANIZATION	PRESENT (TIME ARRIVED)	ABSENT (TIME LEFT)
Christopher Ward (Chair) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	MTS Board of Directors/SD City Council	10:00 am	10:40 am
George Abraham <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/Eritrean Cab Co.	10:00 am	10:40 am
Alfred Banks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	10:00 am	10:40 am
Marc Nichols <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego County Regional Airport Authority	10:00 am	10:40 am
Ryan Chasteen <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Hotel Industry		
Tony Hueso <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Alfredo Hueso <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/USA Cab, LTD	10:00 am	10:40 am
Akbar Majid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/SDYC Holdings, LLC	10:00 am	10:40 am
Daryl Mayekawa <input type="checkbox"/> Josh Layne <input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego Convention Center		
Namara Mercer <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Hotel Industry		
Tony Palmeri <input type="checkbox"/> Michel Anderson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	San Diego Travelers Aid Society	10:00 am	10:40 am
Able Seifu <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver		
Margo Tanguay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	10:00 am	10:40 am
David Tasem <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	10:00 am	10:40 am
Nasser Tehrani <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Houshang Nahavandian <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/N.A.T. Cab Co.	10:00 am	10:40 am
Joe Terzi <input type="checkbox"/> Brian Hilemon <input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego Tourism Authority		
Medhanie Weldegiorgis <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/"A" Transportation, LLC		
Marco Mares <input type="checkbox"/> non-voting	San Diego County Department of Agriculture, Weights and Measures		
Edna Rains <input type="checkbox"/> non-voting	San Diego County Sheriff's Department Licensing Division		
Paul Jablonski <input type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Chief Executive Officer		
Sharon Cooney <input type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Chief of Staff		
Kenneth Nelson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Taxicab Administration Manager	10:00 am	10:40 am
Samantha Leslie <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Staff Attorney/Regulatory Compliance	10:00 am	10:40 am

CLERK OF THE TAC: 

TAXICAB ADMINISTRATION MANAGER: 