Minute No. 185
Report – Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works – January 13, 2022

Item No. 1 Vehicles for Hire Annual Report

COUNCIL DECISION:

Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works and adopted the following:

1. That an extension of time of 30 days be granted for the Winnipeg Public Service to report back on the following:

    A. An update on the vehicle for hire industry under the new By-law and to request approval for any By-law revisions deemed necessary.

    B. Reporting on Taxis in Diamond Lanes.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY:

Moved by Councillor Allard,

That the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works be adopted by consent.

Carried

EXECUTIVE POLICY COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 19, 2022, the Executive Policy Committee concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works and submitted the matter to Council.

STANDING COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION:

On January 13, 2022, the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works submitted the following to the Executive Policy Committee and to Council:

1. That an extension of time of 30 days be granted for the Winnipeg Public Service to report back on the following:

    A. An update on the vehicle for hire industry under the new By-law and to request approval for any By-law revisions deemed necessary.

    B. Reporting on Taxis in Diamond Lanes.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the intent of the foregoing.

David Grant submitted a communication dated January 12, 2022, with respect to the matter.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION:

On December 12, 2019, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Standing Policy Committee on Infrastructure Renewal and Public Works, and adopted the following:

1. That future reports on Taxis in Diamond Lanes be made by the Winnipeg Parking Authority, in consultation with Winnipeg Transit, and included as part of the Vehicles for Hire Annual Report.

2. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the forgoing.

On December 13, 2017, Council concurred in the recommendation of the Executive Policy Committee, as amended, and adopted the following:

1. That the attached Vehicle for Hire By-law draft set out in Appendix A:

    A. Be amended by deleting any reference to "individuals confined to a wheelchair" and replacing it with "individuals who use a wheelchair and cannot self-transfer".

    B. Be enacted as amended, with an effective date of February 28, 2018.

2. That the Taxicab Licence Fee By-Law No. 6123/93 be repealed.

3. That the fees set out in Appendix B be approved effective February 28, 2018, with authority provided to the designated employee to accept payment for fees up to two (2) months in advance of the effective date.

4. That Council requests from the Province of Manitoba express legislative authority to assess fines and penalties administratively as part of the vehicle for hire program, in addition to fines and penalties imposed under the Municipal By-Law Enforcement Act and the Provincial Offences Act.

5. That new taxi licenses may be issued by the Designated Employee for the City when the ratio of City of Winnipeg taxi licenses / population falls below the ratio of 1:1203, which results in the immediate issuance of 120 licenses.

6. That the 2018 maximum fares for taxis be approved as set out in Appendix C.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

7. That membership on the Vehicles for Hire Appeal Board be established in accordance with the Policy - Citizen Appointments on Boards and Commissions.

8. That, as a temporary measure, and notwithstanding its Operating Charter, the Winnipeg Parking Authority be authorized to administer and enforce the Vehicle for Hire By-law and the collection of all fees and any penalties imposed for contraventions of the Bylaws.

9. That the full time equivalents (FTEs) as outlined in Appendix D be approved to be added to the Winnipeg Parking Authority's FTE complement to enable the administration and enforcement of the By-law.

10. That the 2018 Operating Budget for the Winnipeg Parking Authority be amended to increase revenues by $1.3 million and increase expenditures by $1.3 million for a net budget impact of nil, as included in Appendix E.

11. That the City enter into, execute and deliver an information sharing agreement with Manitoba Public Insurance Corporation and such other agreements as determined necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services ("ancillary agreements") to facilitate enforcement of the Vehicles for Hire By-law and all other By-laws of the City, which agreement may contain provisions concerning real-time access to personal information and the provision of personal information for the purposes of collecting fines.

12. That authority be delegated to the Chief Administrative Officer to negotiate and approve the terms and conditions of the information sharing agreement and the ancillary agreements, in accordance with this report and such other terms and conditions deemed necessary by the City Solicitor / Director of Legal Services to protect the interests of the City.

13. That the Public Service be required to report back every 12 months for the first 5 years with an update on the vehicle for hire industry under the new By-law and to request approval for any By-law revisions deemed necessary.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

14. That the Stakeholder Engagement Summary included under Appendix G be received as information.

15. That Section 43 (1) of the Vehicle for Hire By Law be amended to eliminate the 20 year period to transfer taxicab licenses thereby allowing transferable taxicab licenses to be transferred for an indefinite time period;

16. That Council approve the issuance of 60 year round taxicab licenses effective March 1, 2018 with another 60 year round taxicab licenses effective December 1, 2018 all to be allocated through a lottery.

17. That Council authorize licenced taxis to travel in diamond lanes effective March 1, 2018 on a one year trial period.

18. That a driver safety surcharge of $.03 per trip be applied to Personal Transportation Providers with all revenue raised from this surcharge used to support a program to promote safety and security in the vehicle for hire industry;

19. That the Public Service report back in 120 days with recommendations on a program to support safety and security in the vehicle for hire industry to be developed in consultation with stakeholders from this industry;

20. That Sections 33, and 34 of the Vehicle for Hire By-law be amended to enable PTP drivers that have undergone a criminal record and vulnerable person sector search to begin driving in the vehicle for hire industry pending the outcome of a Child Abuse Registry Check.

21. That the Vehicles for Hire By-law be amended to make it clear that Taxi drivers with valid licenses on February 28, 2018 may continue driving until their licenses expire, at which point they will require Vulnerable Sector Searches as part of their Criminal Record Check in order to renew their licenses.

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DECISION MAKING HISTORY (continued):

COUNCIL DECISION (continued):

22. That section 32 be amended to remove the following from the information required to be provided by Personal Transportation Providers dispatchers to passengers: A. The dispatcher's contact information; B. The minimum number of seats provided in a PTP vehicle; C. the PTP vehicle's provincial licence plate number; D. a process to keep a record of the acceptance or refusal of the transportation service and information concerning that process.

23. That the Proper Officers of the City be authorized to do all things necessary to implement the foregoing.