
Licensing and Standards Committee

Meeting No.	14	Contact	Dela Ting, Acting Administrator
Meeting Date	Friday, June 6, 2008	Phone	416-397-7769
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	lsc@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall		

Licensing and Standards Committee		
Councillor Howard Moscoe (Chair)	Councillor Sandra Bussin	Councillor Rob Ford
Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong (Vice Chair)	Councillor Mike Del Grande	Councillor Anthony Perruzza

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Declarations of Interest under the Municipal Conflict of Interest Act

Speakers/Presentations: A complete list will be distributed at the meeting

Confirmation of Minutes: May 9, 2008

Communications/Reports

LS14.1	Presentation			Wards: All
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Presentation - New Municipal Licensing and Standards Division Website

Summary

Staff Presentation on new Municipal Licensing and Standards Division website on Notices of Violations and Orders.

(Deferred from May 9, 2008 - 2008.LS13.5)

LS14.2	ACTION			Ward: 11
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2306 St. Clair Avenue West Remediation

(April 24, 2008) Report from City Solicitor

Financial Impact

There are no financial implications resulting from the adoption of this report.

Summary

This report provides information on the legal options currently available to the City to remediate the fire damaged property at 2306 St. Clair Avenue West (the “Property”). Based on the assessment by City Building staff that the Property is not currently unsafe, the City has no legal grounds at this time on which to issue any orders to remedy an unsafe condition at the Property based on violations of the Building Code Act.

Municipal Licensing and Standards intends to assess the condition of the Property in May and, if debris remains at the Property, it intends to issue a Notice of Violation for Waste to the Property owner to remove debris from the Property. Municipal Licensing and Standards staff have not issued any Property Standards orders to repair the Property at this time as this could jeopardize ongoing investigations regarding the fire and the interests of third parties with respect to the Property and equipment at the Property. This approach will be reassessed after the May inspection.

The legal title to the Property was reviewed and the City has no legal standing to order remediation of the Property based on the encumbrances currently registered on Title.

Background Information

Staff Report from City Solicitor

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-13285.pdf>

LS14.3	ACTION			Wards: All
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Taxicab Fuel Surcharge and Fare Increase Proposals*Public Notice*

(May 27, 2008) Report from Acting Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards

Recommendations

The Acting Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards recommends that:

The City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 545, Licensing, be amended to increase taxicab fares, as follows:

1. Increasing the initial taximeter drop rate by \$1.00 from \$3.00 to \$4.00;
2. Increasing in the per kilometre rate from \$0.25 per 0.170 kilometres (170 metres) to \$0.25 per 0.155 kilometres (155 metres); and
3. The City Solicitor be directed to prepare the necessary bill to give effect to the recommendations in this report.

Financial Impact

The recommended taxicab fare increase is intended to help offset the cost for taxicab drivers of rising fuel prices. The increase will result in fare increase to passengers in the order of 11.4 per cent to 17.5 per cent for trips of five kilometres and 20 kilometres, respectively.

The adoption of the recommended increase in taxicab fares will require ML&S to purchase approximately six thousand meter seals, at a cost of approximately \$2,000.00, in order to accommodate the taximeter testing and resealing task associated with any change to the taxicab fare. A new tariff card for each licensed taxicab will also need to be printed. These direct expenditures are provided for within the current operating budget, as a normal part of service delivery by the ML&S Licensing Enforcement Team.

The Toronto Transit Commission's Wheel-Trans operating costs for sedan service to the disabled community in Toronto will be impacted by the adoption of the recommended increase in taxicab fares. These impacts will result in expenditure increases of approximately \$350,000.00 in 2008 and approximately \$1,000,000.00 in 2009. The 2008 expenditures will be accommodated within the 2008 Council Approved Operating Budget for TTC-Wheel Trans. The 2009 annualized impact of the fee increase will be considered during the 2009 Budget process.

The Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer have reviewed the recommendations and concur with the financial impact statement.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to make a recommendation for an increase in taxicab fares in the City of Toronto due to the unprecedented increase in gasoline prices and the resulting additional costs to and impact on the Toronto taxicab industry.

Background Information

Staff Report from Acting Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-13487.pdf>

LS14.4	ACTION			Wards: All
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Taxicab Lease Agreements

Public Notice

(May 27, 2008) Report from Acting Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards

Recommendations

The Acting Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards recommends that:

1. A Working Group, to include interested Councillors, staff and industry representatives, be established to review the existing licensing provisions related to taxicab leasing and to report back to the Licensing and Standards Committee in September, 2008 with recommendations for any necessary amendments to the City of Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 545, Licensing.

Financial Impact

The recommendations will have no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the current year's operating budget.

Summary

Members of the taxicab industry have raised concerns related to the regulations governing the leasing for taxicabs contained in the Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 545, Licensing.

Therefore, it is proposed that a Working Group be established to further consult with the stakeholders, evaluate the existing licensing provisions, and if appropriate, recommend amendments to Chapter 545, Licensing, to address issues identified in the review. The proposed Working Group would include interested Councillors, staff and members of the industry and would report back to the Licensing and Standards Committee in September, 2008 with the results of its consultations and any recommendations it considered appropriate.

Background Information

Staff Report from Acting Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards
(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-13513.pdf>)