

Licensing and Standards Committee

Meeting No.	10	Contact	Dela Ting, Acting Administrator
Meeting Date	Friday, January 11, 2008	Phone	416-397-7769
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	lsc@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall		

Attendance

Members of the Licensing and Standards Committee were present for some or all of the time periods indicated under the section headed “Meeting Sessions”, which appears at the end of the Minutes.

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

Also in Attendance

Councillor Adam Vaughan	X
Councillor Cesar Palacio	X

Confirmation of Minutes

On motion by Councillor Denzil Minnan Wong, the Minutes of the meeting of the Licensing and Standards Committee held on November 30, 2007, were confirmed.

LS10.1	ACTION	Amended		Wards: All
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Using Camera Phones to Report Graffiti, Litter and Maintenance Issues

(November 23, 2007) Member Motion from Councillor Palacio

Summary

City Council on November 19 and 29, 2007, referred the following Motion (M164) to the Licensing and Standards Committee for consideration:

"That the City Manager report to an upcoming meeting of the Licensing and Standards Committee on the feasibility of promoting the use of camera phones by the public to report litter, graffiti and maintenance issues as described in the motion moved by Councillor Palacio."

Communications

(January 8, 2008) e-mail from Devin Glowinski, Operations Coordinator, Downtown Yonge Business Improvement Area (LS.New.LS10.1.1)

Speakers

Councillor Cesar Palacio, Ward 17, Davenport

Decision Advice and Other Information

On motion by Councillor Del Grande, the Licensing and Standards Committee:

1. Requested the City Manager to report back to the Licensing and Standards Committee on the feasibility of:
 - a. promoting the use of camera phones by the public to report litter, graffiti and maintenance issues, as outlined in motion (M164) by Councillor Cesar Palacio;
 - b. how this concept can be seamlessly integrated into the 3-1-1 System;
 - c. "google mapping" citizens' pictures, similar to how the City of London, England (Borough of Lewisham) has done at virtually no cost;
 - d. utilizing City bus shelter advertising as one method of promoting this initiative, if approved by City Council; and

(Motion by Councillor Moscoe)

- e. building the proposal into the graffiti pilot project approved by City Council.

Links to Background Information

M164 Motion to the Licensing and Standards Committee

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-9705.pdf>

LS10.2	ACTION	Referred		Wards: All
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Regulation of Queuing on the Public Sidewalk

(Public Notice given)

(December 18, 2007) Report from Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards

Recommendations

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

1. Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 545, Licensing, be amended to include in § 545-497. Noise control and crowd control plan, the following:
 - a. A queue shall not be comprised of more than two (2) files of persons.
 - b. A queue shall not be formed so as to obstruct pedestrians in any manner or location.
 - c. A queue shall not be formed other than in a straight line adjacent and parallel to the curb or edge of the sidewalk closest to the roadway.
 - d. A queue shall not extend beyond the limit of the business for which the patrons are seeking entrance.
 - e. A queue shall not be formed when a minimum clearway of 1525 mm wide cannot be maintained at all times.
 - f. All queues shall be monitored by security guards, with at least one security guard for every 100 patrons in the queue.
2. City Staff be authorized and directed to take any other action necessary to implement the recommendations of this report.

Financial Impact

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

Summary

Consultations were undertaken with City Divisions, the Toronto Police Service (Divisions 52 and 14), the Alcohol and Gaming Commission (AGCO), the King-Spadina Residents Association (KSRA), the Toronto Entertainment District Association, as well as representatives of the club owners. Input was sought from the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

The Toronto Pedestrian Charter reflects the principle that a city's walkability is one of the most important measures of the quality of its public realm, and of its health and vitality. The purpose of regulating queuing on the sidewalk would be to support the principles set out in Toronto Pedestrian Charter, and in particular: Accessibility; Personal and Community Safety; and, Community Cohesion and Vitality.

The City of Toronto Accessibility Design Guidelines and Vibrant Streets - Toronto's Coordinated Street Furniture Program both address the use of City sidewalks and recommend that in no case should clearways for pedestrians be less than 1525 mm wide.

Three possible options for the implementation of the regulations have been considered: a permitting scheme similar to that used with cafes and marketing; amending the crowd control plan requirements currently contained in Chapter 545, Licensing relating to Entertainment Establishments and Nightclubs; or seeking to apply conditions to the liquor licence through the licensing process of the AGCO.

Staff recommend that the Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 545, Licensing, ARTICLE XLI Entertainment Establishment/Nightclub § 545-497, Noise control and crowd control plan, of Chapter 545, Licensing be amended to include the regulations to be followed in the development of the required crowd control plan.

Speakers

Councillor Adam Vaughan, Ward 20, Trinity-Spadina

Decision Advice and Other Information

On motion by Councillor De Grande, the Licensing and Standards Committee:

1. referred the report (December 18, 2007) from the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, to the Working Group on the Entertainment District, for consideration; and
2. requested that they report back to the Licensing and Standards Committee with any licensing reforms, including any sidewalk queuing provisions, for consideration by the Committee.

Links to Background Information

Regulation of Queuing on the Public Sidewalk

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-9706.pdf>

LS10.3	ACTION	Adopted		Wards: All
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Taxicab Fare Calculation and Impact of 2008 Goods and Services Tax Reduction on Taxicab Fares

(January 7, 2008) Report from Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards

Recommendations

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

1. Taximeters in Toronto licensed taxicabs be recalibrated to reflect the Federal government's reduction of the Goods and Service Tax (G.S.T.) on January 1, 2008, from 6% to 5%; and
2. The resulting increase in taxicab fares is absorbed by the taxicab industry as an increase of approximately 1% in taxicab fares for 2008.

Financial Impact

This report will have no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in Municipal Licensing and Standard's current year's budget.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise the City of Toronto regarding an annual review of taxicab fares utilizing the most recent Statistics Canada Consumer Price Index for the Province of Ontario, with special attention being paid to the current cost of fuel; and, to report on the impact on taxicab fares of the Federal government's reduction of 1% in the Goods and Services Tax (G.S.T.) on January 1, 2008.

The cost of operating a taxicab in the City of Toronto has increased by 0.66% from November 2005 to date based on the current taxicab fare determination formula. Utilizing the current taxicab fare determination formulas of Toronto, Mississauga and Ottawa, as shown in Appendix "A" to this report, the Toronto formula indicates a fare increase of 0.66%, an increase of 0.45% utilizing the Mississauga formula and an increase of 1.62% according to the Ottawa formula. Based on the three formulas, the average taxicab fare increase for Toronto licensed taxicabs is 0.91% based on current Statistics Canada data.

Given that the G.S.T. was reduced by 1% on January 1, 2008 and that the current fare calculation indicates that taxicab fares should, as an average, be increased by 0.91% for City of Toronto licensed taxicabs, it is recommended that taxicab fares in the City of Toronto be increased by allowing the taxicab industry to absorb the 1% G.S.T. reduction in lieu of a fare increase.

Committee Recommendations

On motion by Councillor Minnan-Wong, the Licensing and Standards Committee recommended to City Council that:

1. Taximeters in Toronto licensed taxicabs be recalibrated to reflect the Federal Government's reduction of the Goods and Services Tax (G.S.T.) on January 1, 2008, from 6% to 5%; and
2. The resulting increase in taxicab fares be absorbed by the taxicab industry as an increase of approximately 1% in taxicab fares for 2008.

Motions

Introduce Report motion moved by Councillor Denzil Minnan-Wong (Carried)

Links to Background Information

Taxicab Fare Calculation and Impact of 2008 Goods and Services Tax Reduction on Taxicab Fares

<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-9793.pdf>

LS10.4	ACTION	Referred		Ward: 39
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Livery Service at Residential Location

Summary

Request from Councillor Mike Del Grande with respect to livery service issues at residential location in Ward 39, Scarborough-Agincourt.

Decision Advice and Other Information

On motion by Councillor Perruzza, the Licensing and Standards Committee requested the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, to report to the next meeting of the Licensing and Standards Committee on February 15, 2008, on livery service issues at a residential location in Ward 39, Scarborough-Agincourt, raised by Councillor Mike Del Grande.

Motions

Introduce Motion without Notice motion moved by Councillor Mike Del Grande (Carried)

Meeting Sessions

Session Date	Session Type	Start Time	End Time	Public or Closed Session
2008-01-11	Morning	9:35 AM	10:00 AM	Public

 Chair