

January 23, 2014

To the Chair of Licensing & Standards Committee, Cesar Palacio,

I want to commend staff and the Licensing and Standards committee members, particularly the Chair, Councillor Palacio, for their hard work in trying to come to terms with the complex issues facing the Taxi Industry in Toronto.

A careful review of the report demonstrates that many large questions remain unanswered, some of which relate to Provincial regulations which appear to limit the city's authority to establish a fee for new licenses above the level of cost recovery.

Before Council determines whether it can or should issue a new standard of licence, I would like the opportunity to make a request to the Province, on behalf of City Council, to invite it to cooperate with the City Manager in changing the regulations or laws that govern issuing of a licence at a price above cost recovery.

Recommendations

1. The Licensing and Standards Committee refer recommendations 1 to 11 of LS26.1 to the Deputy City Manager Cluster B, in conjunction with the Director of Municipal Licensing and Standards, and in consultation with the Disability Issues Committee, for a further report back to the Licensing & Standards Committee in February, 2015.
2. City Council direct the City Manager to engage the Province in discussions regarding amending the City of Toronto Act to allow the City to issue new taxi licenses at a price above cost recovery.

Sincerely,

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City of Toronto



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