



REVISED

Member Motion

City Council

Notice of Motion

MM24.9	ACTION			Ward: All
--------	--------	--	--	-----------

Supporting Taxi Operators from COVID-related Financial hardship - by Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Paul Ainslie

** Notice of this Motion has been given.*
** This Motion is subject to referral to the General Government and Licensing Committee. A two-thirds vote is required to waive referral.*

Recommendations

Councillor Kristyn Wong-Tam, seconded by Councillor Paul Ainslie, recommends that:

1. City Council request the City Manager to consider, as part of his upcoming October 2020 COVID-19 Financial report, the reduction of taxicab licensing renewal fees for 2020.
2. City Council request the General Government and Licensing Committee, at its November meeting, to consider an amendment to Toronto Municipal Code, Chapter 546, Licensing of Vehicles-for-Hire to extend the maximum age of vehicles used as a taxicab, sedan limousine or private transportation company vehicle from seven model years to nine model years, for vehicles of the 2013 model year and onward, and the maximum age of vehicles used as a stretch limousine from eight model years to ten model years, for vehicles of the 2012 model year and onward.

Summary

Toronto’s Taxicab industry has been experiencing economic hardship for over a decade, which has only been accelerated and exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic. Due to the pandemic, the industry has lost over 90 percent of their business, with approximately 95 percent of the fleet having been parked or without service since the state of emergency began. As Toronto continues its cautious reopening, the Taxicab owners estimate it will take the Taxicab industry an additional 12-18 months to fully recover at full service levels and revenues.

For the Taxicab industry to survive, they need immediate financial relief and assistance from the City of Toronto. Despite access to the Canadian Emergency Response Benefit (CERB), many taxi owners have indicated that they will be unable to pay the existing taxi renewal fees, and are concerned about their ability to replace their fleet when they reach the end of their current viability cycle.

In keeping these factors in mind, we are requesting that the City Council to consider the following recommendations and provide immediate relief to taxi operators across the City of

Toronto.

Background Information (City Council)

Member Motion MM24.9

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2020/mm/bgrd/backgroundfile-156956.pdf>)