

December 10, 2024

Subject: 2024 Review of the Vehicle-for-Hire By-Law Industry

Good afternoon, Madam Chair and Committee members

This is the first report since 2016, when City regulated Vehicle –for-Hire. This report was long waited by the industry. In 2016 City Council directed the Executive Director to bring forward few reports within 24 months. Taxi Industry was waiting for those reports directed by City Council in 2016.

In 2016 City Council passed following recommendations:

Item-2016.LS10.3

SECTION 4- ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDATIONS

C. City Council direct the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standard, to procure a consultant to undertake a supply and demand study that assesses and measures the impact of the volume of PTC vehicle and drivers, as it relates to full-time working the existing taxicab driver labor market, before and on regular basis after implementation, in one year and every two years after that.

M. City Council Direct the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standard to report on:

- a. The feasibility of lowering the fee for Standard Plate Owner renewals by 75%
- b. The feasibility of establishing a transition fund for taxicab plate owners who investments have been negatively impacted by new market entrants;

Madama Chair we were waiting for the reports mentioned above but unfortunately not a single word on those reports.

To cap the PTC drivers when they already reached to 80,429 will not have any significance impact, even though your (Madam Chair) intent is highly commendable and admirable. In Toronto, 1 PTC driver is available for 39 citizens whereas in NY City, the population is 6 times more but number of drivers is same. In NY 1 driver is available for 238 citizens.

City of Toronto spent a hefty amount of money to conduct a third-party study by James M Cooper. The Staff should bring that report in front of this Committee to determine the right number of PTC drivers needed in Toronto.

To collect data from Taxi industry, Staff is recommending Digital Taxi meters. Instead of putting extra burden on the taxi driver to buy new meter, the Staff should explore to find software which can work with the existing Taxi meters.

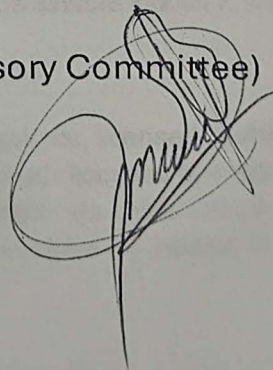
At the last but not the least, there are 1,472 vehicles ranging from years 2013-2017 are due to be replaced by March 31, 2025. Since everyone will not be able to make replacement, so there will be a huge short fall of taxis in next few months. I am requesting this Committee to give one- and two-years extension to vehicles 2016 and 2017 respectively.

This is my two cents.

Sajid Mughal (Former Chair, Taxicab Advisory Committee)

Tel: 647 836 2930

Email: imsajidmughal@gmail.com

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sajid Mughal', is written over a circular stamp or seal.