

Comparison of Current Taxicab Code to Proposed Taxicab Code

	Question	Current	Proposed
1	What types of permits/licenses are required, and what are the fees?	<u>Taxicab vehicle permit</u> \$100 for the first vehicle \$50 for the second and third vehicles \$25 for each additional vehicle	<u>Taxicab vehicle permit</u> \$50 per vehicle <u>Taxicab business permit</u> \$100 per business
2	Are late fees assessed for late renewals?	No	Yes, a \$25 late fee is established for renewal applications that are submitted after the date of expiration.
3	Who approves, denies and revokes licenses/permits?	City Commission	City Clerk
4	How is it determined whether an application for a new/renewal permit should be approved or denied?	<p>The City Commission determines if the license is needed to meet the public convenience and necessity by considering the systems of transportation already operating, the probable congestion of traffic resulting from an additional system of transportation, the question of whether or not the existing systems of transportation are rendering the services required to meet the needs of the public.</p> <p>Additionally, the City Commission shall conduct an investigation as it may deem advisable as to the moral and physical fitness of such person to operate such taxicabs.</p>	<p>Applicants must...</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - provide proof of ownership of the licensed taxicab vehicle - provide proof that the licensed taxicab vehicle is insured at or above the minimum level required by the Taxicab Code - not have had a taxicab license revoked by the City within the preceeding 2 years - must pass the criminal background check.
5	What is the process to appeal a decision deny an application for a new/reneal permit?	<p>The current taxicab code loosely addresses appeals of denials likely as a result of the vague criteria by which such decision is made. The code states that no application shall be denied without first giving the applicant an opportunity to be heard before the Commission.</p>	<p>Under the proposed code, the City Commission may hold a public hearing to consider an appeal of decision to deny an application for a new/renewal permit. If a denial is upheld, the applicant may not reapply until one year following the date of the denial.</p> <p>Additionally, applicants may immediately reapply if an application is denied due to an incomplete application.</p>
6	What would cause an existing permit to be revoked ?	<p><u>The City Commission may revoke</u> a permit an owner of a licensed taxicab vehicle, or anyone driving their vehicle, is found to be incompetent, guilty of misconduct, or to have violated any of the provisions of the Taxi Code or other traffic ordinances of the City.</p>	<p><u>The City Clerk may revoke</u> a license/permit for the following reasons:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Fraud, misrepresentation, or false statement contained in any application 2. Any violation of the Taxicab Code 3. Conducting a permitted or licensed activity in an unlawful manner, in a manner that disturbs the peace, or in a manner that is injurious to the health, safety, or welfare of the residents of the city.

Comparison of Current Taxicab Code to Proposed Taxicab Code

	Question	Current	Proposed
7	What is the process to appeal a decision revoke a permit?	The current taxicab code loosely addresses appeals of denials and revocations. The code states that revoked licenses may be restored or reissued only after the applicant provided sufficient proof of their fitness, or the fitness of their driver, to operate such taxicab.	Under the proposed code, the City Commission may hold a public hearing to consider an appeal of decision to revoke a permit.
8	Is a criminal background check required, and what triggers an application to be denied or revoked?	No. A criminal background check is not required; however, the City Commission may revoke or cancel a license if the owner or driver of a licensed taxicab vehicle is found to be incompetent, guilty of misconduct, or to have violated any of the provisions of the Taxicab Code or other traffic ordinances of the City.	Yes. Applications for new/renewal permits would be denied, and existing permits would be revoked if the applicant has been convicted of the following within the preceding 5 years: felony, crime of dishonesty, crime against a person, driving under the influence, or driving with a suspended driver's license. Permit revocation and denial would also result from an outstanding arrest warrant.
9	What are the minimum insurance requirements for taxicab vehicles?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - \$25,000 for any injury to or death of any one person - 50,000 for the injury or death of any number of persons in any one accident - \$10,000 for property damage in any one accident 	<p>\$300,000 combined per occurrence single limit coverage for all bodily injury, death and property damage for each taxicab vehicle with a capacity of six (6) or fewer passengers (e.g. a sedan or minivan).</p> <p>\$500,000 combined per occurrence single limit coverage for all bodily injury, death and property damage for each taxicab vehicle with a capacity of seven (7) or more passengers (e.g. a 15 passenger van or a limousine used for taxi operations).</p>
10	Are taxicab drivers required to provide a receipt to customers?	Yes, passengers are entitled to an itemized receipt that contains the name of the owner, the total amount paid and the date of payment	Same
11	Are taxicabs required to be equipped with a taximeter?	Yes, taximeters are required except for taxicabs charging a flat rate. Taximeters are subject to inspection by the Police.	Yes, taximeters are required except for taxicabs charging flat rates. Taximeter would not be subject to Police inspection under the proposed code.
12	Are rate cards required, and how are rates established?	Yes, rate cards are required. Rates must be filed with the City Clerk's Office. Changes to the rates cannot be implemented until after the new schedule of fares has been on file with the City Clerk's Office for 30 days.	Same
13	Are taxicab vehicles subject to City inspection?	Yes, the Police shall inspect taxicabs periodically at such intervals as established by the Chief of Police to ensure that taxicab vehicles are maintained in safe operating condition.	No, the City will not inspect taxicab vehicles under the proposed code.

Comparison of Current Taxicab Code to Proposed Taxicab Code

	Question	Current	Proposed
14	Is there a penalty for operating a without a required license/permit?	The Current code does not address unlicensed taxicab operators.	The proposed code establishes a minimum \$500, maximum \$1,000 fine for operating without the appropriate license/permit.
15	Are there requirements for the identification/markings of taxicab vehicles?	The current code does not address markings or identification of taxicab vehicles.	The City Clerk will issue a unique taxi decal along with each taxicab vehicle license. The decal must be displayed on the rear window of each taxicab vehicle. The exterior of a taxicab must be clearly marked with the name and phone number of the business.
16	Does the Taxi Code address the Americans with Disabilities Act?	The current code does not address issues of equal access to taxicabs.	Under the proposed code, no taxicab driver or taxicab business operator shall knowingly or negligently allow a taxicab driver to: (1) Refuse to serve a person with a disability who can otherwise use a taxicab; (2) Charge higher fares or fees for carrying individuals with disabilities and their equipment than are charged to other persons; (3) Refuse to provide assistance with the stowing of mobility devices; (4) Refuse to allow service animals to ride with passengers with disabilities.
17	Are taxicab drivers required to undergo background checks?	The current code does not address the issue of taxicab driver background checks.	Under the proposed code, licensed taxicab company operators would be required to conduct background checks on any individual driving a licensed taxicab vehicle. The results of the driver background checks would be filed with the City Clerk's Office as a code requirement.
Additional Information			
18	Are taxicab companies required to provide a minimum level of dispatch service (e.g. 24/7 dispatch)?	The current code does not address this issue.	The proposed code does not include requirements for dispatch service levels.
19	Are taxicab companies required to own and operate a minimum number of taxicab vehicles?	The current code does not address this issue.	The proposed code does not include requirements licensed taxicab company operators own and operate a certain number of taxicab vehicles.
20	Are taxicab companies required to maintain operations at a commercially zoned premise, or a facility located within the city limits?	The current code does not address this issue.	The proposed code does not include requirements for the location or zoning of a taxicab operator's premises.