



City of Edmonton - Vehicle For Hire Fall Update

Edmonton

Vehicle for Hire Driver Training Amendments

In March 2022, City Council directed the Vehicle for Hire team to prioritize an amendment to Vehicle for Hire Bylaw 17400 to expand driver training for all vehicle for hire drivers. The team has completed background research which involved reviewing potential training models and driver training requirements in other municipalities. Further, initial engagement with vehicle for hire drivers and dispatchers was completed in August and September 2022. This engagement comprised of:

- Interviews with accessible taxi, taxi and rideshare drivers to enable the City understand their experience and needs as vehicle for hire drivers
- Questionnaires to taxi, limousine and rideshare dispatchers to enable the City understand their current training requirements and processes for drivers

The team is reviewing feedback from the engagement and will use it to inform any recommendation that will be made to City Council on the matter. The team will also engage other vehicle for hire stakeholders such as the Accessibility Advisory Committee, the Women's Advocacy Voice of Edmonton and various user groups to obtain their input and better understand the user experience.

It is anticipated that the driver training report will be presented to Community and Public Services Committee in the first quarter of 2023.

Vehicle for Hire Fare Review

In July 2022, City Council approved the addition of a temporary 13.29% fuel surcharge to taxi base fares stipulated under the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw. This was in response to a proposal from the taxi industry highlighting significant increases in operating costs, and in particular fuel costs.

Administration is continuing to monitor retail gasoline prices, and if the rates return to or below the March 2021 to February 2022 average price of 129.9 cents per litre for two consecutive quarters, Administration will return to Council for further direction.

Currently, the team is developing a plan for the comprehensive and permanent revision of the fare structure in the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw. The team will reach out to industry for their input on this matter.

Vehicle for Hire Work Plan 2022 - 2023

Other items on the 2022-2023 work plan that the team is working on include development of an updated stakeholder relationship strategy for the program, and research and evaluation of options for an accessible vehicle dispatch system.

Vehicle Licence Transfer Form

The City has created a new form for licensees to use when requesting a transfer of an accessible taxi or taxi vehicle licence. A copy of this form can be found [here](#).

Thank you again for your contributions to Edmonton's Vehicle for Hire Service.

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