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Agenda

TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TAC) WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY MATTERS (WORM)

November 18, 2019

2:00 p.m.

Taxicab Administration Building
 1501 National Avenue, San Diego, CA 92113

To request an agenda in an alternative format or to request accommodations to facilitate meeting participation, please call the Clerk of the Board at least two working days prior to the meeting. Assistive Listening Devices (ALDs) are available from the Clerk of the Committee prior to the meeting and are to be returned at the end of the meeting.

	<u>ACTION RECOMMENDED</u>
1. <u>Roll Call</u>	
2. Approval of Minutes – August 13, 2019	Approve
3. <u>Non-Agenda Public Comment</u> The public may address the Committee regarding a matter <u>not</u> on the agenda. Each speaker has three minutes to speak. Give a completed <i>Request to Speak</i> form to the Clerk of the Committee.	
4. <u>Revisions To Board Policy No. 34 (For-Hire Vehicle Services)</u> Action would recommend that the TAC approve the proposed revisions to MTS Board Policy No. 34.	Approve
5. <u>Revision to MTS Ordinance No. 11 Sections 2.2(a), 2.2(j) and 2.3(h)</u> Action would recommend that the TAC approve the proposed revisions to MTS Ordinance No.11.	Approve
6. <u>Revisions to MTS Taxicab Administration Fee Schedule for 2020</u>	Informational
7. <u>Committee Member Communications</u> Brief comment on any taxicab related item not included in the Agenda	



8. Next Meeting: To Be Determined.

9. Adjournment

San Diego Metropolitan Transit System
Taxicab Advisory Committee Meeting (TAC)
Workshop on Regulatory Matters (WORM)

August 13, 2019

10:00 am

MTS Taxicab Administration Office
1501 National Avenue, San Diego, CA 92113

DRAFT MINUTES

1. Roll Call

Mr. Nelson, Chair of the Committee, called the Workshop on Regulatory Matters (WORM) meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. A roll call sheet listing WORM member attendance is attached.

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes – May 22, 2019

Mr. Tasem moved to approve the minutes of the May 22, 2019 WORM meeting. Mr. Tehrani seconded the motion, and the vote was 7 to 0 in favor with Mr. Nahavandian and Mr. Nichols absent, and 3 vacant seats.

3. Non-Agenda Public Comment

There were no non-agenda public comments.

4. Revisions to MTS Ordinance No. 11. Sections 2.3(h) and 1.8(r)

Mr. Nelson reviewed the proposed revisions to MTS Ordinance No. 11 section 2.3(h) and 1.8(r); the changes state that whichever electronic payment device is used, it must be connected to meter, directly available to the customer without driver touching card, and provide printed, or electronically conveyed, receipts.

Mr. Nelson explained that the primary reason for the proposed changes is due to customer complaints about not receiving receipts and overcharges. Mr. Tasem noted that this change seemed to go back to the prior VeriFone requirements and would no longer allow for the use of Square. Mr. Nelson stated that due to the increase in the number of complaints over the past two years related to the use of Square, or other devices not connected to the meter, a revision to the Ordinance is required. He reiterated that there is not a limitation to the device used. The Taxicab Administration is not trying to prevent, or promote, any particular device usage but it must meet the requirements of providing a machine printed or electronically conveyed receipt, must not require drivers to handle passenger credit cards and is directly connected to the meter. Mr. Tasem said he doesn't believe that Square has Bluetooth connection capabilities; Mr. Palmeri stated that it can be connected via Bluetooth. Mr. Palmeri stated that his primary concern is not with the proposed changes, but with the likelihood of enforcement of noncompliance.

Mr. Banks wanted clarification on the ability of connecting Square to the meter. Mr. Majid said that it is possible, but it is something that would require an IT Technician. Mr. Majid did clarify that there are some Radio Services that already have the capability to connect Square to the meter. Mr. Banks wanted to know if this change was going to force drivers to join Yellow, USA, or another service, as a way to meet the requirement. Mr. Banks feels this will be inconvenient and costly for drivers to meet this requirement.

Mr. Nelson stated that the changes are being proposed to bring the San Diego Taxi Industry up to current industry standard and not for the purpose of favoring one Dispatch Service over another.

Mr. Banks said he would like to see Permit Holders/Drivers that don't use Square properly held personally responsible and possibly further training providing. He suggested MTS Vehicle Inspector Tom Lee check Square functions at the time of the annual vehicle inspection. He doesn't feel all drivers should be penalized for others mistakes and thinks this is just going to push more drivers away from keeping permits.

Mr. Nelson acknowledged that the number of permits has gone down, which in turn means less revenue. He noted that in the past two years he has cut three Inspector positions and this has resulted in less available field enforcement to address such matters.

Mr. Nelson also acknowledged that the Industry has been negatively impacted by the TNC's but stated that one way to combat that is to provide a better level customer service. He stressed that payment convenience is one way to do that. He said that unfortunately there is not an app for taxis but MTS is working on seeing if they can provide a solution for that but that is further down the line in development.

Mr. Majid and Mr. Palmeri said this Ordinance change is not an issue for them as they are already in compliance through either VeriFone or application development. They don't believe it is their responsibility to figure out how Square may, or may not, be connected via Bluetooth for others. Mr. Majid, Mr. Palmeri and Mr. Nelson agreed that the drivers will need to organize, and research, on their own behalf to find viable solutions.

Mr. Tehrani asked how many complaints MTS has received, Mr. Nelson said there have been twenty (20) complaints this year related to credit cards. He said there have been at least one hundred (100) others related to behavior, unsafe drive, fare refusal and other items.

Mr. Tasem would like there to be a time frame for implementation of the changes, Mr. Nelson agreed and noted that it wouldn't go before the MTS Board until October. Mr. Nelson did say that drivers should start looking into solutions now so they have time for implementation. Mr. Banks asked Mr. Nelson to share more industry information from other states; Mr. Nelson explained that typically the experiences he refers to occur using taxi's while on vacation but will share any information he may receive.

Mr. Majid asked that the record reflect that he is not promoting VeriFone and that he, in fact, will be discontinuing use himself.

Action Taken

Mr. Tasem moved to approve the recommendation that the Taxicab Administration Committee (TAC) approve revisions to MTS Ordinance No. 11 regarding devices and software capable of electronically processing credit card transactions and issuance of

electronically printed or digitally conveyed receipts., Mr. Palmeri seconded the motion, and the vote was 6 to 1 in favor, with Mr. Nahavandian and Mr. Nichols absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Albert Suleymanov, Lease Driver- Mr. Suleymanov spoke in opposition of agenda item 4:

Mr. Suleymanov stated that he thinks that twenty (20) complaints in comparison to the number of trips provided is really nothing. He would like to see individual drivers penalized in the same way the airport handles the complaints. He shared that he has been using Square for two years and has had no problems because it is so simple to use. He had many problems with VeriFone in the past and that many drivers he knows that use Yellow Radio service are still using Square rather than VeriFone as they do not want to be charged 6.25% fee. He feels like this would be a move backwards.

Mr. Nelson reiterated that the use of VeriFone, or any specific device, is **not** a requirement; only that the equipment is able to meet the Ordinance specifications.

5. Appointment of Antonio Hueso and George Abraham to Taxicab Advisory Committee

Mr. Nelson reviewed the proposed appointment of Antonio Hueso and George Abraham to the TAC. The three (3) year required election was held beginning April 8, 2019 through May 20, 2019 according to the required guidelines, with the subcommittee vote count taking place on May 20, 2019.

Out of the three (3) seats available for Category B, only (2) permit holders submitted self-nomination forms with only one (1) nominee receiving votes, leaving two (2) seats vacant. TAC seat vacancies hamper the ability to obtain the 51% attendance needed to reach a committee quorum for members to be able to vote and take action on agenda items. To minimize the continued lack of quorum the interim appointment of Antonio Hueso and George Abraham is recommended. They have been recommended due to their previous experience as TAC members representing Permit Holders, their commitment to providing valuable feedback during TAC meetings, industry knowledge consistent participation and showing a continued interest in being actively involved on TAC.

Mr. Tasem did note that Mr. Hueso did not vote, and that Mr. Abraham did not self-nominate or vote. Mr. Palmeri clarified that Mr. Abraham did vote but it was outside the required time. Mr. Nelson noted that they were the only ones that fell in to Category B and that a possible revision to the categories would be addressed separately.

Action Taken

Mr. Majid moved to approve the recommendation that the TAC appoint Antonio Hueso and George Abraham for vacant Taxicab Advisory Committee Category B Permit Holder seats., Ms. Tanguay seconded the motion, and the vote was 7 to 0 in favor, with Mr. Nahavandian and Mr. Nichols absent.

6. Revisions to Taxicab Advisory Committee Guidelines

Mr. Nelson reviewed the proposed revisions to the TAC Guidelines. The proposed changes include removing one hotel industry seat, reducing the number of voting members from 17 to 16, the filling the driver representative vacancy with the appointment of United Taxi Workers of San Diego (UTWSD) representative. New additions to the guidelines include

allowing any member to appoint an alternate, as well as the formal process for removals and resignations. Both of these items have been recommended to deal with the continued problem of not having a quorum for TAC meetings. A formal process for subcommittees has also been proposed; standing subcommittees will require Board of Directors approval and ad hoc committees will require the approval of the Chief Executive Officer or designee.

Ms. Tanguay and Mr. Tehrani inquired who would be the United Taxi Workers of San Diego (UTWSD) representative. Mr. Nelson clarified that it would be either Mikaiil Hussein or his designee. Mr. Tasem asked if there might not be other organizations to fill the vacancy. Mr. Nelson responded that the UTWSD is the only organization that approached him, and currently are the most engaged in the Taxicab Industry.

Action Taken

Mr. Palmeri moved to approve the recommendation that the TAC approve the proposed revisions to TAC Guidelines. Mr. Banks seconded the motion, and the vote was 7 to 0 in favor, with Mr. Nahavandian and Mr. Nichols absent.

7. Taxicab Advisory Committee Permit Holder Categories

Mr. Nelson said he has heard from both permit holders and industry contacts that they would like to remove the current Permit Holder seat designations from two seats for owners of one to three cabs and three seats for owners of four or more cabs. The revision would allow for five permit holder seats total irrespective of the number of permits held. As the item is informational only, Mr. Nelson requested that subcommittee members take some time to formulate their thoughts and opinions about the item for future consideration.

Action Taken

Informational item only.

8. Changes to Payment Schedule for Taxicab Administration Regulatory Fee

Mr. Nelson stated MTS Taxicab Administration staff has received multiple requests from permit holders to allow alternate payment deadlines for the once a year vehicle regulatory fee. Trial payment options include allowing bi-annual payments for fiscal year 2020, and the possibility of quarterly payments for fiscal year 2021.

These alternatives are being discussed in an effort to facilitate payment options and provide relief to the financial impact resulting from the current and only available option of paying the regulatory fee in its entirety by the determined yearly deadline.

Mr. Majid, Mr. Banks and Ms. Tanguay recommended that the payment be optionally split in to two equal payments with the full payment due by June 10, 2019 rather than the proposed mandatory 1/2 payment by January 10, 2019 and half balance remaining due June 10, 2019. Mr. Majid also inquired about the ability to pay by credit card. Mr. Nelson said that he is currently working with MTS IT on the matter. He explained that this has been made a bit more difficult due to budget constraints and needing to ensure it will not be cost prohibitive.

Mr. Nelson did emphasize that there will not be any extension to payment deadlines this year. Mr. Palmeri inquired what would happen if someone made the first payment by the January deadline but had a problem with their vehicle or some other situation before the second payment deadline. Mr. Nelson clarified that there are no refunds, although if the 2nd payment is made, there are other alternatives to preventing permit loss-such as indefinite voluntary surrender.

Mr. Nelson and committee members agreed that the matter of the two payments being optional could be further discussed at the next TAC meeting.

Action Taken

Mr. Tasem moved to approve the recommendation that the TAC approve proposed changes to when the Taxicab Administration Regulatory Fee may be paid., Ms. Tanguay seconded the motion, and the vote was 6 to 1 in favor, with Mr. Nahavandian and Mr. Nichols absent.

9. Next Meeting – TBD

10. Management and Committee Member Communications

Mr. Palmeri asked if Mr. Nelson personally had any ideas of what would help the struggling industry; Mr. Nelson responded complaint reduction, better customer service-particularly with preventable complaints, TNC regulation (state or local), and reduction of insurance company rating. He also suggested that the industry meet with their local politicians and City Council representatives. Mr. Palmeri mentioned that there are many states where both TNC's and for-hire vehicles are regulated by the same entity and that perhaps that is a possibility with MTS lobbyists. Mr. Nelson said that MTS, as the "parent company", is not here to advance the Taxicab Industry cause; MTS is here to advance the cause of MTS, which is to provide public transportation efficiently and at a profit. The Taxicab Administration Department is currently the best example of something close to that due to the symbiotic relationship with the Taxi Industry. Mr. Palmeri asked if it wouldn't be in Taxi Administrations best interest to try and lobby for local TNC regulation. Mr. Nelson explained that all lobbying, and/or regulatory changes must be approved by the CEO. He said he did recently present the possibility of a City Charter change to take over driver regulation from the Sheriff's Department to MTS. Unfortunately, there was not a sponsor but there may still possibilities in the future for changes that may benefit both the Industry and Taxicab Administration.

11. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:58 am.

Accepted:

/s/Leonardo Fewell
Leonardo Fewell
Taxicab Administration Manager

Filed by:

/s/Jamila L Larkins
Jamila L Larkins, Clerk of the Committee
MTS Taxicab Administration

Attachment: Roll Call Sheet


SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM
 WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY MATTERS (WORM) MEETING
 ROLL CALL

MEETING OF (DATE): August 13, 2019

CALL TO ORDER (TIME): 10:00 a.m.

ADJOURN: 10:58 a.m.

COMMITTEE MEMBER (Alternate)	ORGANIZATION	PRESENT (TIME ARRIVED)	ABSENT (TIME LEFT)
Alfred Banks <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	10:00 am	10:58 am
Akbar Majid <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/SDYC Holdings, LLC	10:00 am	10:58 am
Guillermo Morquecho <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	10:07 am	10:58 am
Houshang Nahavandian <input type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/ESM Corporation		
Marc Nichols <input type="checkbox"/> Michael Anderson <input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego County Regional Airport Authority		
Tony Palmeri <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Michel Anderson <input type="checkbox"/>	San Diego Travelers Aid Society		
Margo Tanguay <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	10:20 am	10:58 am
David Tasem <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Lease Driver	10:00 am	10:58 am
Nasser Tehrani <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Taxicab Owner/N.A.T. Cab Co.	10:00 am	10:58 am
VACANT	Taxicab Lease Driver		
VACANT	Taxicab Owner		
VACANT	Taxicab Owner		
Sharon Cooney <input type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Chief of Staff		
Leonardo Fewell <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Taxicab Administration Regulatory Enforcement Supervisor	10:00 a.m.	10:58 am
Kenneth Nelson <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Taxicab Administration Manager	10:00 a.m.	10:58 am
Samantha Leslie <input type="checkbox"/> non-voting	MTS Staff Attorney/Regulatory Compliance		

CLERK OF THE TAC: 

TAXICAB ADMINISTRATION MANAGER: 



AGENDA ITEM NO.

14

REQUEST TO SPEAK FORM

ORDER REQUEST RECEIVED

1

PLEASE SUBMIT THIS COMPLETED FORM (AND YOUR WRITTEN STATEMENT) TO THE CLERK OF THE BOARD PRIOR TO DISCUSSION OF YOUR ITEM

1. INSTRUCTIONS

This Request to Speak form must be filled out and submitted in advance of the discussion of your item to the Clerk of the Board (please attach any written statement to this form). Communications on hearings and agenda items are generally limited to three minutes per person unless the Board authorizes additional time; however, the Chairperson may limit comment to one or two minutes each if there are multiple requests to speak on a particular item. General public comments on items not on the agenda are limited to three minutes. Please be brief and to the point. No yielding of time is allowed. Subjects of previous hearings or agenda items may not again be addressed under General Public Comments.

(PLEASE PRINT)

DATE	8/13/19
Name	ALBERT SULEYMANOV
Address	
Telephone	(619) 518 7979
Email	
Organization Represented	lease driver
Subject of Your Remarks	regarding meter requirements
Regarding Agenda Item No.	4
Your Comments Present a Position of:	<input type="checkbox"/> SUPPORT <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OPPOSITION

2. TESTIMONY AT NOTICED PUBLIC HEARINGS

At Public Hearings of the Board, persons wishing to speak shall be permitted to address the Board on any issue relevant to the subject of the Hearing.

3. DISCUSSION OF AGENDA ITEMS

The Chairman may permit any member of the public to address the Board on any issue relevant to a particular agenda item.

4. GENERAL PUBLIC COMMENTS ON MATTERS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Public comment on matters not on the agenda will be limited to five speakers with three minutes each, under the Public Comment Agenda Item. Additional speakers will be heard at the end of the Board's Agenda.

NOTE: Subjects of previous hearings or agenda items may not again be addressed under General Public Comments.



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Agenda Item No. 4

TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY MATTERS

November 18, 2019

SUBJECT:

REVISIONS TO MTS BOARD POLICY NO.34 (FOR HIRE VEHICLE SERVICES)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Workshop on Regulatory Matters (WORM) make a recommendation to the Taxicab Advisory Committee (TAC) to approve proposed revisions to MTS Board Policy No. 34 (For-Hire Vehicle Services).

Budget Impact:

None.

DISCUSSION:

In accordance with MTS Board Policy No. 34, MTS Taxicab Administration conducts annual calculations to determine the maximum rates of fare for trips originating from San Diego International Airport, and all other city, nonairport originated trips.

Currently, for city/nonairport originated trips, the maximum rate of fare may not exceed 20% more than the weighted average of fares. The fare structure consists of the dollar amounts charged by permit holders for the flag drop, the per-mile charge, and waiting time charge. The weighted average of fares is arrived by adding each segment of each respective charge and dividing it by the total number of taxicabs holding effective permits.

Airport originated trip fare calculations are made in accordance with the change in the Annual All Urban Western Transportation Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the San Diego region. Historically, airport rate calculations based on the CPI are generally stable and have been 10% to 15% lower than the city/nonairport trip fare rates calculated under the weighted average method.



Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) is a California public agency and is comprised of San Diego Transit Corporation and San Diego Trolley, Inc. nonprofit public benefit corporations, in cooperation with Chula Vista Transit and National City Transit. MTS is the taxicab administrator for eight cities and the owner of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway Company.

MTS member agencies include: City of Chula Vista, City of Coronado, City of El Cajon, City of Imperial Beach, City of La Mesa, City of Lemon Grove, City of National City, City of Poway, City of San Diego, City of Santee, and the County of San Diego.

On March 26, 2015, TAC recommended that the MTS Board of Directors use uniform rates of fare for both airport and city/nonairport trips. On April 16, 2015, the MTS Board of Directors approved unifying the rates of fare for both airport and city/nonairport trips at the current airport rate. Thus, although there are two separate rates of fare calculations listed in MTS Board Policy No. 34 depending on the trip origin, there is only one maximum rate of fare currently for taxicabs. Based on the meeting agendas from those meetings, it appears the reasoning was to reduce customer confusion with using two different rates and the concern that a dual rate of fare would not be generally good for the taxicab industry.

Due to the loss of market share and increased competition with Transportation Network Companies (TNCs), the TAC has recommended each year since (in 2016, 2017, and 2018) to stabilize and maintain the maximum rates of fare as they were in 2015. Therefore, the maximum rates of fare remain the same since 2015 and are as follows:

Current Maximum Rates of Fare
\$2.80 flag drop 1/10 of a mile
\$3.00 per mile
\$24.00 per-hour waiting time

Recently, a proposal was received to review whether to increase the maximum rates of fare to help offset costs experienced by taxicab drivers. No annual calculation of maximum rates of fare has occurred for 2019 as of yet. In order to ensure any change to the maximum rates of fare are appropriate, it is being recommended to waive a 2019 annual calculation and first review whether updates to the calculation methods required under MTS Board Policy No. 34 are necessary and conduct an annual maximum fare calculation in early 2020.

I. Proposed Revision – Calculating Maximum Rate of Fare using CPI

It is recommended that the current weighted average of fares calculation method for city/nonairport trips be replaced with the yearly change in the Annual All Urban Western Transportation CPI for the San Diego region. With this proposed change, there would no longer be two separate rates of fare calculations for city/nonairport trips and airport trips. Regardless of where the trip originated, the maximum rate of fare would be calculated based on CPI.

The CPI method, provided by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, is based on verifiable, up to date economic data related to the transportation industry. It provides for a more realistic maximum fare calculation method allowing the taxicab industry to better compete with TNC's and other types of for-hire transportation services.

In addition, the current weighted average method is no longer the most appropriate method. Due to the gradual attrition of taxicab permits since 2016, the number by which the rates are averaged continues to lower.

Also, as permit holders continue to adopt the maximum allowed rate for the applicable year, the weighted average exponentially increases for future calculations. Since the implementation of AB 1069 on January 1, 2019, taxicab operators have the discretion to continuously adjust trip fares, up or down, so long as lower than the maximum allowed rate. Taxicab operators need not inform MTS Taxicab Administration of these

adjustments. Since the calculation method uses the maximum rate of fare the permit holders file with MTS Taxicab Administration, and not the actual amount charged day to day by the taxicabs, the weighted average calculation provides imprecise results.

II. Proposed Revision – Provide a Separate Maximum Rate of Fare for Taxicabs Equipped with Point of Sale Devices Electronically Connected to the Taximeter Capable of Printing or Electronically Conveying Receipts

To incentivize the implementation of new technologies in taxicabs, it is recommended that an optional, higher maximum rate of fare offered for taxicabs equipped with point of sale devices that are connected to the taximeter that are capable of printing or electronically conveying receipts. The goal would be to have point of sale devices (e.g. Square, Apple Pay, Verifone, Curb) that: allow for secure payment options; allow for passengers to pay and select a tip amount without having to hand over their credit card to the driver; and that can either print a receipt or electronically send a receipt.

The proposed revisions would allow taxicabs equipped with such point of sale devices to charge a maximum rate of fare of 6% more than the maximum rates of fare for taxicabs without such point of sale devices. The additional 6% results in an approximately \$0.20 increase to both the flag drop and per mile rates and a \$2.00 increase for the waiting time.

For reference, taxicabs that are not equipped with the aforementioned point of sale equipment technologies still have to comply with the minimum standards set forth in MTS Ordinance No. 11. This includes, but is not limited to, the following: requiring a driver to offer a printed receipt upon request; requiring a permit holder to equip each permitted taxicab with a device capable of electronically processing credit card transactions; requiring the payment device be visible to all passengers; requiring that the passenger be able to operate the payment device independently of the driver; and requiring that the payment device be operational at all times.

III. Annual Calculation of Maximum Rate of Fare

Per MTS Board Policy No. 34, the Chief Executive Officer calculates annually the maximum rates of fare. Per MTS Ordinance No. 11, the Chief Executive Officer presents the annual calculations at a noticed, public meeting of TAC and the rates become effective immediately. No approval by TAC or MTS Board of Directors is necessary of the annual calculations. If the above proposed revisions to the calculation of the maximum rate of fare are approved by the MTS Board of Directors, the new 2020 Maximum Rate of Fare will be presented at the next TAC meeting (to be scheduled for early 2020).

The 2019 annual CPI data is not yet available until early next year. Below is the maximum rate calculation using 2018 annual CPI data as reference only. It is anticipated that the below maximum rates of fare calculation using 2018 annual CPI data will likely be the same using the 2019 annual CPI data, once available.

Current Maximum Rates of Fare

\$2.80 flag drop 1/10 of a mile
\$3.00 per mile
\$24.00 per-hour waiting time

Proposed Maximum Rates if
Using 2018 Annual CPI Rates

\$2.90 flag drop 1/10 of a mile
\$3.10 per mile
\$25.00 per-hour waiting time

Proposed Maximum Rates for
Taxicabs with Point of Sale Devices
if Using 2018 Annual CPI Rates

\$3.10 flag drop 1/10 of a mile
\$3.30 per mile
\$27.00 per-hour waiting time

If the above described proposed revisions to MTS Board Policy No. 34 are not approved by the MTS Board of Directors, the Chief Executive Officer will calculate the 2020 maximum rates of fare using the weighted average method for city/nonairport trips and CPI method for airport trips and present the calculation at the next TAC meeting in early 2020.

IV. Proposed Revision –Cities MTS Taxicab Administration Regulates

MTS began regulating taxicabs and other for-hire vehicles for the City of Chula Vista in 2018 and City of National City in 2017. The proposed revisions will reflect the addition of Chula Vista and National City to the cities for which MTS provides regulation of for-hire vehicle services.

/s/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell

Taxicab Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619-235-2643, Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com

Attachments: A. Redline Draft of MTS Board Policy No.34
B. Annual All Urban Western Transportation CPI / San Diego
C. 2019 CPI Maximum Fare Calculation (Reference)



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Policies and Procedures

No. 34

Board Approval: 04/16/15 12/12/2019

SUBJECT:

FOR-HIRE VEHICLE SERVICES

PURPOSE:

To establish a policy with guidelines and procedures for the implementation of MTS Ordinance No. 11.

BACKGROUND:

Regulation of for-hire vehicle service is in the interest of providing the citizens and visitors to the MTS region and particularly the Cities of Chula Vista, El Cajon, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City, Poway, San Diego, and Santee, with a good quality local transportation service. Toward this end, MTS finds it desirable to regulate the issuance of taxicab permits, to establish maximum rates of fare, and to provide for annual review of cost-recovery regulatory fees.

POLICY:

34.1 City of San Diego Entry Policy

New City of San Diego taxicab permits will be issued in accordance with San Diego City Council Policy No. 500-02, "Taxicab Permits".

34.2 Maximum Rates of Fare Policy

~~Pursuant to MTS Ordinance No. 11, Section 2.2(a) and after a duly noticed and open public hearing, MTS determined that the M~~ maximum rate of fare for exclusive ride and group ride hire of taxicabs shall be made that fare in accordance with the change in the Annual All Urban Western Transportation Consumer Price Index (CPI)/San Diego. that does not exceed twenty percent (20%) more than the weighted average of fares as established in accordance with this policy. The fare structure shall consist of the dollar amounts charged by permit holders for the flag drop, the per-mile charge, waiting-time charge, first zone, and each additional zone charge. The maximum rates of fare shall be computed annually by the Chief



Executive Officer and presented at a noticed public hearing of the Taxicab Advisory Committee.

34.2.1 Maximum Rates of Fare Determination

Unless Section 34.2.2 applies, the maximum fare determination shall be adjusted annually based on the 1990 Western transportation CPI/San Diego amounts of \$1.40 flag drop, \$1.50 per mile, and \$1.20 per hour. Adjustments shall be rounded up or down, as appropriate, to the nearest even \$0.10 increment.

34.2.24 Maximum Rates of Fare Determination— Only for Taxicabs Equipped with Point Of Sale Devices Electronically Connected to the Taximeter and Equipped with Printed or Electronically Conveyed Receipt Capability

Taxicabs equipped with point of sale devices electronically connected to the taximeter and capable of -printing or electronically conveying receipts may charge the an increase of 6% more than the Maximun Rates of Fare for Taxicabs without such devices, as determined pursuant to Section 34.2.1. Adjustments shall be rounded up or down, as appropriate, to the nearest \$0.10 increment.

~~34.2.21 ——— Maximum Fare Determination~~

~~The weighted average of fares shall be computed by the Chief Executive Officer and duly promulgated in writing upon the passage of this policy and thereafter each year by averaging each segment of the fare structure of all MTS taxicab permit holders. The fare structure shall consist of the dollar amounts charged by said permit holders for the flag drop, the per mile charge, waiting time charge, first zone, and each additional zone charge. The weighted average of these charges shall be arrived at by adding each segment of each respective charge and dividing it by the total number of taxicabs holding effective permits.~~

~~34.2.2 The Chief Executive Officer will use his discretion when the maximum rates of fare and the uniform rates of fare for trips from Lindbergh Field airport are incompatible. The Chief Executive Officer may adjust the maximum rates of fare so that the uniform rates of fare, based on the change in the Annual All Urban Western Transportation Consumer Price Index, do not exceed the maximum rates allowed in accordance with Section 34.2.1.~~

34.3 Airport Taxicab Fare Policy

~~Rates of fare for trips from Lindbergh Field Airport shall be uniform.~~

~~In the event an owner chooses a different rate for nonairport trips for taxicabs authorized to service the airport, two meters or a multirate meter shall be installed and identified. The meter(s) shall be activated according to the proper rate for the~~

~~trip's origin, and it shall be clearly visible to the passenger which rate is being charged.~~

~~34.3.1 The uniform rates of fare for taxicab trips from Lindbergh Field Airport are initially established at \$1.40 flag drop, \$1.50 per mile, and \$12.00 per hour, effective June 1, 1990.~~

~~The airport rates shall be reviewed annually, beginning in January 2009, by the Chief Executive Officer. Airport rates shall be adjusted based on the 1990 amounts, in accordance with the change in the Annual All Urban Western Transportation Consumer Price Index/ San Diego. Adjustments shall be rounded up or down, as appropriate, to the nearest even \$0.10 increment.~~

In addition to the applicable airport uniform maximum rate of fare described in Section 34.2.1, a taxicab operator may charge an "extra" equal to the Airport Trip Fee assessed against the individual taxicab operator by the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. The extra may not be charged on any trip that does not originate at the airport or on any trip where the taxicab operator does not pay the fee to the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. The extra charge may only be charged to the customer by utilizing the extra button on the taxicab meter. A driver may not verbally request payment.

34.4 Regulatory Fee Review

The following procedures will be utilized for the establishment of for-hire vehicle regulatory fees.

34.4.1 In accordance with State of California Public Utilities Code Section 120266, MTS shall fully recover the cost of regulating the taxicab and other for-hire vehicle industry. Pursuant to MTS Ordinance No. 11, Sections 1.3(b), 1.4(a), 1.4(~~d~~)(c), and 1.5(d), the Chief Executive Officer establishes a fee schedule to effect full-cost recovery and notify affected permit holders of changes in the fee schedule.

34.4.2 The procedure for establishing a regulatory fee schedule will include an annual review of the audited expenses and revenue of the previous fiscal year associated with MTS for-hire vehicle activities. The revised fee schedule will be available for review by interested parties in November each year and is subject to appeal as provided for in Ordinance No. 11, Section 1.5(d).

34.4.3 A fee schedule based on previous year expenses and revenue amounts will be put into effect each January.

POLICY.34.FOR-HIRE VEHICLE SERVICES

This policy was originally adopted on 12/8/88.
This policy was amended on 7/26/90.
This policy was amended on 5/9/91.
This policy was amended on 6/13/91.

This policy was amended on 1/28/93.
This policy was amended on 5/11/95.
This policy was amended on 10/31/02.
This policy was amended on 4/24/03.

This policy revised on 3/25/04.

This policy was amended on 4/26/07.

This policy was amended on 7/17/08.

This policy was amended on 4/19/12.

This policy was amended on 4/16/15.

This policy was amended on 12/12/2019.

Databases, Tables & Calculators by Subject



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Data extracted on: November 6, 2019 (5:30:06 PM)

CPI for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

Series Id: CUUSS49ESAT
 Not Seasonally Adjusted
Series Title: Transportation in San Diego-Carlsbad, CA, all urban consumers, not seasonally adjusted
Area: San Diego-Carlsbad, CA
Item: Transportation
Base Period: 1982-84=100

Download:  [.xlsx](#)

Year	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Annual	HALF1	HALF2
2009													184.717	177.071	192.364
2010													200.398	198.572	202.224
2011													222.685	222.913	222.457
2012													227.691	229.775	225.608
2013													225.570	227.028	224.112
2014													223.308	228.254	218.362
2015													214.442	213.587	215.297
2016													205.271	205.418	205.124
2017											216.601		213.424	213.765	213.083
2018	220.368		225.661		229.934		229.921		229.015		228.504		227.594	226.494	228.694
2019	225.073		225.313		240.940		234.757		234.106					232.005	

TOOLS

- Areas at a Glance
- Industries at a Glance
- Economic Releases
- Databases & Tables
- Maps

CALCULATORS

- Inflation
- Injury And Illness

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2019 CPI Maximum Fare Calculation (Reference)

Instructions on how calculate rates of fare:

EXAMPLE ONLY:

227.594 (Annual Consumer Price Index report value for 2018)
-121.000 (1990 Value)
 106.594 (Replace “Y” with the subtracted value)

Flag Drop

Step 1- $\$1.40 \times 106.594(Y) = 149.2316$ convert it into a dollar amount $\$1.492316$
 Step 2- $\$1.40 + 1.492316 = \2.892316 round up/down to the nearest .10 cent = **$\$2.90$ flag drop**

Per Mile

Step 1- $\$1.50 \times 106.594(Y) = 159.891$ convert it into a dollar amount $\$1.59891$
 Step 2- $\$1.50 + 1.59891 = \3.09891 round up/down to the nearest .10 cent = **$\$3.10$ per mile**

Wait Time

Step 1- $\$12.00 \times 106.594(Y) = 1279.128$ convert it into a dollar amount $\$12.79128$
 Step 2- $\$12.00 + 12.79128 = \24.79128 round up/down to the nearest \$1.00 = **$\25.00 wait time**

Fraction Calculation

Step 1- $\$3.10$ (per mile) / .10 cent (fraction in which the meter clicks) = 31 = 1/31st fraction

The Time It Takes For Each Fraction to Click the Meter

Step 1- $\$25.00$ / .10 cent (or 1/31st in which the meter clicks) = 250
 Step 2- 3600 (seconds per hour) / 250 = 14.4 seconds the meter will click 1/31st of a mile every 14.4 seconds the taxicab moves





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Agenda Item No. 5

TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY MATTERS

November 18, 2019

SUBJECT:

REVISION TO MTS ORDINANCE NO. 11, SECTIONS 2.2(a), 2.2(j) AND 2.3(h)

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Workshop on Regulatory Matters (WORM) make a recommendation to the Taxicab Advisory Committee (TAC) to approve proposed revisions to MTS Ordinance No. 11.

Budget Impact:

None.

DISCUSSION:

MTS Ordinance No. 11 provides for the licensing and regulation of transportation services. The proposed revisions to MTS Ordinance No. 11 are as follows:

MTS Ordinance No. 11, Section 2.2(a)

Currently, MTS Ordinance No. 11, Section 2.2(a) states that MTS shall establish the maximum rates of fare for for-hire vehicles but will not establish the maximum rates of fare for trips originating from San Diego International Airport. The proposed revisions will remove that exception, as MTS Taxicab Administration calculates the maximum rates of fare for both trips originating from the airport and trips originating from city/nonairport.

MTS Ordinance No. 11, Section 2.2(j)

Currently, MTS Ordinance 11, Section 2.2(j) precludes a permit holder or driver from agreeing with prospective passenger(s) to a rate of fare which is less than the permit holder's posted rates of fare if the agreement is entered into in advance of the passenger(s) hiring the taxicab for the trip.



Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) is a California public agency and is comprised of San Diego Transit Corporation and San Diego Trolley, Inc. nonprofit public benefit corporations, in cooperation with Chula Vista Transit and National City Transit. MTS is the taxicab administrator for eight cities and the owner of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway Company.

MTS member agencies include: City of Chula Vista, City of Coronado, City of El Cajon, City of Imperial Beach, City of La Mesa, City of Lemon Grove, City of National City, City of Poway, City of San Diego, City of Santee, and the County of San Diego.

The proposed revisions would expressly allow for dispatch services, in addition to permit holders and drivers, to provide up-front trip pricing to prospective passengers so long as equal to or less than the maximum rates of fare. The proposed revisions would also require the taximeter flag to remain recording at the termination of each and every trip, for the purpose of allowing the passenger(s) to verify the up-front trip or agreed fare price is lower than the fare under the maximum rate.

MTS Ordinance No. 11, Section 2.3(h)

Currently, MTS Ordinance No. 11, Section 2.3(h) only allows the permit holder or dispatch service to be the merchant of record associated with the vehicle's electronic credit card acceptance device. The proposed revision would also allow the licensed lease driver operating the taxicab to be the merchant of record associated with the credit card acceptance device.

/s/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell

Taxicab Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619-235-2643, Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com

Attachments: A. Redline of Ordinance No. 11 proposed revisions

SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM

CODIFIED ORDINANCE NO. 11

(as amended through ~~October 10~~December 12, 2019)

An Ordinance Providing for the Licensing and the Regulating of
Transportation Services Within the City and County by the Adoption of
a Uniform Paratransit Ordinance

MTS CODIFIED ORDINANCE NO. 11

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SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM

CODIFIED ORDINANCE NO. 11

(as amended through ~~October, 10~~December 12, 2019)

An Ordinance Providing for the Licensing and the Regulating
of Transportation Services Within the City and County By the Adoption of
a Uniform Paratransit Ordinance

SECTION 1.0 - GENERAL REGULATIONS

Section 1.1 - Definitions

The following words and phrases, wherever used in this section, shall be construed as defined in this section, unless from the context a different meaning is intended, or unless a different meaning is specifically defined and more particularly directed to the use of such words or phrases.

(a) "Board" shall mean the Board of Directors of the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System.

(b) "Charter vehicle" shall mean every vehicle which:

(1) Transports passengers or parcels or both over the public streets of the City;

(2) Is routed at the direction of the hiring passenger;

(3) Is prearranged in writing for hire;

(4) Is not made available through "cruising"; and

(5) Is hired by and at the service of a person for the benefit of himself or herself or a specified group.

(c) "Chief Executive Officer" shall mean the Chief Executive Officer of MTS or his or her designated representative.

(d) "City" and "Cities" shall mean the incorporated areas of the Cities of Chula Vista, El Cajon, Imperial Beach, La Mesa, Lemon Grove, National City, Poway, San Diego, Santee and any other City that has entered into a contractual agreement with MTS for the licensing and regulation of transportation services.

(e) "Compensation" shall mean any money, thing of value, payment, consideration, reward, tip, donation, gratuity or profit paid to, accepted, or received by the driver or owner of any vehicle in exchange for transportation of a person, or persons; whether paid upon solicitation, demand or contract, or voluntarily, or intended as a gratuity or donation.

(f) "County" shall mean the unincorporated area of the County of San Diego located within MTS's jurisdictional boundaries. Only the sections of MTS Ordinance No. 11 that apply to taxicab permit holders and taxicab drivers shall be applicable to the County of San Diego.

(g) "Cruising" shall mean the movement over the public streets of a taxicab or low-speed vehicle (LSV) in search of prospective passengers; except the term does not include either the travel of a taxicab or LSV proceeding to answer a call for service received by telephone or radio

from an intended passenger or the travel of such a vehicle, having discharged a passenger or passengers, returning to the owner's place of business or to its established point of departure.

(h) "Days" shall mean working days, exclusive of weekends and holidays for which MTS offices are closed.

(i) "Doing business" shall mean accepting, soliciting or transporting passengers for hire or compensation in a City or County.

(j) "Driver" shall mean every person operating any for-hire vehicle.

(k) "Driver's identification card" shall mean license, issued pursuant to this Ordinance, which permits a person to drive a for-hire vehicle within the City or County.

(l) "Employ" as used in this Ordinance includes any form of agreement or contract under which the driver may operate the permit holder's for-hire vehicle.

(m) "Exclusive ride" shall mean exclusive use of a for-hire vehicle by one or more related passengers at a time.

(n) "For-hire vehicle" shall mean every vehicle, other than public transit vehicles or vehicles involved in an organized carpool not available to the general public, which is operated for any fare for compensation and used for the transportation of passengers over public streets, irrespective of whether such operations extend beyond the boundary limits of said City or County. Such for-hire vehicles shall include taxicabs, vehicles for charter, jitneys, nonemergency medical vehicles, sightseeing vehicles, and LSVs.

(o) "Group ride" shall mean shared use of a taxicab or LSV where a group of related passengers enter at the same point of origin and disembark at the same destination and pay a single fare for the trip.

(p) "Hearing officer" shall mean any person or entity that meets the requirements of this Ordinance and that has been retained to conduct administrative hearings.

(q) "Jitney" shall mean every vehicle which:

(1) Transports passengers or parcels or both over the public streets of the City;

(2) Follows a fixed route of travel between specified points with the fare based on a per capita charge established in its permit; and

(3) Is made available to boarding passengers at specified locations along its route on a variable schedule.

(r) A "low-speed vehicle" or "LSV" is a motor vehicle, other than a motor truck, having four wheels on the ground and an unladen weight of 1,800 pounds or less, that is capable of propelling itself at a minimum speed of 20 miles per hour and a maximum speed of 25 miles per hour, on a paved level surface. For the purposes of this section, a "low-speed vehicle" or "LSV" is not a golf cart, except when operated pursuant to California Vehicle Code Section 21115 or 21115.1.

(s) "Medallion" shall mean the numbered plate, sticker, or decal issued by MTS to the permit holder which is displayed on a for-hire vehicle to indicate the authorized use or uses of that vehicle.

(t) "MTS" shall mean the San Diego Metropolitan Transit System, a public agency created pursuant to Public Utilities Code Section 120050 et seq.

(u) "MTS inspector" shall mean those individuals, regardless of job title, who are authorized by the Board, by ordinance, to enforce the provisions of this Ordinance.

(v) "Nonemergency medical vehicle" shall mean every vehicle which: transports persons, regardless of whether specialized transportation equipment or assistance is needed, for primarily medical purposes, over the public streets of the City. Medical purposes is defined as providing transportation services to or from the following places: hospitals, convalescent homes, retirement homes, homes receiving funding for the board and care of residents living in those homes, medical or rehabilitation clinics, senior citizen centers, and any other like social service category, over the public streets of the City. It shall be the responsibility of the transportation provider to determine if the service is primarily for medical purposes.

(w) "Operate" or "Operating" shall refer to the solicitation or acceptance of a fare within City or County for compensation or providing passenger transportation for compensation, regardless if such compensation is obtained from the passenger or a third party. It shall also include, as the context may require, the act of driving, managing or directing the utilization of one or more for-hire vehicles.

(x) "Owner" shall mean the person, partnership, association, firm or corporation that is the registered owner of any for-hire vehicle and that holds the right to use the vehicle for its advantage.

(y) "Passenger" shall mean every occupant other than the driver of the for-hire vehicle.

(z) "Permit" shall mean the authority under which a person, firm, partnership, association, or corporation may operate a for-hire vehicle as a business.

(aa) "Permit holder" shall mean any person or approved entity operating a business under a for-hire vehicle permit.

(bb) "Shared ride" shall mean nonexclusive use of a for-hire vehicle by two or more unrelated passengers traveling between different points of origins and/or destination, and traveling in the same general direction.

(cc) "Shifts" shall mean the minimum number of hours a permit holder or driver operates a for-hire vehicle.

(dd) "Sightseeing vehicle" shall mean every vehicle which:

(1) Transports passengers for sightseeing purposes of showing points of interest over the public streets of the City; and

(2) Charges a fee or compensation therefor; regardless of whether any fee or compensation is paid to the driver of such sightseeing vehicle, either by the passenger or by the owner or by the person who employs the driver or contracts with the driver or hires such sightseeing vehicle with a driver to transport or convey any passenger; and irrespective of

whether or not such driver receives any fee or compensation for his or her services as driver.

(ee) "Stands" shall mean public areas designated for specific use of for-hire vehicles.

(ff) "Street" shall mean any place commonly used for the purpose of public travel.

(gg) "Substantially Located" shall mean where the primary business address of the taxicab permit holder is located and/or the jurisdiction where the largest share of the taxicab permit holder's total number of prearranged and non-prearranged trips originate over the previous calendar year, as determined annually. Trip logs and/or other documentation shall be used to substantiate the jurisdiction where the largest share of taxicab permit holder's total number of originating trips occur over the applicable time period.

(hh) "Taxicab" shall mean every vehicle other than a vehicle-for-charter, a jitney, a nonemergency medical vehicle, a sightseeing vehicle, or LSV which:

(1) Carries not more than eight (8) passengers excluding the driver;

(2) Transports passengers or parcels or both over City or County public streets;

(3) Is made available for hire on call or demand through "cruising," at taxi stands or by telephone or other communication devices to destination(s) specified by the hiring passenger; and

(4) Is Substantially Located within the jurisdiction of City and/or County.

(ii) "Taximeter" shall mean any instrument, appliance, device, or machine by which the charge for hire of a passenger-carrying vehicle is calculated, either for distance traveled or time consumed, or a combination of both, and upon which such charge is indicated by figures. Includes both a Hard Meter and a Soft Meter.

(1) A Hard Meter is a Taximeter that has a prefixed fare with an external seal approved by the County of San Diego Agriculture, Weights and Measures and mileage is calculated based on distance and time.

(2) A Soft Meter is a Taximeter that is provided through a smartphone or tablet that uses GPS or other on-board diagnostics approved by the California Department of Food and Agriculture Division of Measurement Standards to calculate distance and rates.

(jj) "Vehicle" is a device by which any person or property may be propelled, moved, or drawn upon a street, excepting a device moved exclusively by human power or used exclusively upon stationary rails or tracks.

(kk) "Vehicle for Developmentally Disabled Persons (VDDP) driver certificate" shall mean certificate issued by California Highway Patrol pursuant to Vehicle Code section 12523.6, which is required for any driver who primarily transports persons with developmental disabilities on a for-hire basis. A VDDP driver certificate with a commercial driver's license may be used in lieu of a driver identification card to drive a for-hire vehicle within the City or County, unless for a taxicab.

(Section 1.1 amended 10/10/2019)

(Section 1.1 amended 2/14/2019)

(Section 1.1 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)
(Section 1.1 amended 9/20/2018)
(Section 1.1 amended 12/14/2017)
(Section 1.1 amended 5/12/2016)
(Section 1.1 amended 8/7/2003)
(Section 1.1 amended 11/14/2002)
(Section 1.1 amended 6/24/1999)
(Sections 1.1(d), 1.1(R)(1) amended 6/22/1995)
(Section 1.1 amended 1/12/1995)
(Section 1.1 amended 6/27/1991; effective 7/27/1991)
(Section 1.1 amended 5/23/1991; effective 6/23/1991)

Section 1.2 - Operating Permits

(a) No person shall engage in the business of operating any for-hire vehicle or in the business of providing any vehicle for the operation of vehicle for-hire services within the Cities or County without first having obtained an operating permit from the Chief Executive Officer or designated representative, which permit has not been revoked, suspended or otherwise canceled or terminated by operation of law or otherwise. A separate permit is required for each for-hire vehicle operated or provided for operation.

(b) An operating permit represents the granting of a privilege to operate a for-hire vehicle within the Cities, County or zones specified by the permit for the purpose of the public convenience and necessity. This privilege may be rescinded at any time by operation of law or otherwise.

(c) A person who obtains an operating permit shall be responsible for the provision of vehicle-for-hire services in accordance with the provisions of this Ordinance and shall exercise due diligence to assure that drivers of the permitted vehicles adhere to all pertinent requirements of this ordinance.

(Section 1.2 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)
(Section 1.2 amended 12/14/2017)
(Section 1.2 amended 8/7/2003)
(Section 1.2 amended 11/14/2002)
(Section 1.2 amended 6/24/1999)

Section 1.3 - Application for Permit

(a) All persons applying to the Chief Executive Officer for new permit(s) for the operation of one or more for-hire vehicles shall file with the Chief Executive Officer a proposal to meet San Diego City Council Policy 500-02 requirements, and a sworn application therefore on forms provided by the Chief Executive Officer, stating as follows:

(1) The applicant name, company name, doing business as (“DBA”) name if different than company name, mailing and business address (a business address or mailing address is not a Post Office [PO] Box or dispatch service address), and business telephone number of the permit applicant. If a taxicab permit applicant, the business address will also serve the purpose of establishing where Substantially Located;

(2) The number of permitted vehicles actually owned and operated by such owner on the date of application, if any;

- (3) The name and address of all legal and registered owner(s) of the vehicle(s);
- (4) The name and address of each person with a financial interest in the business which operates the vehicle;
- (5) Data sufficient to establish the applicant's financial responsibility;
- (6) The number of vehicle(s) for which a permit(s) is desired;
- (7) Proof that vehicle(s) meet California Air Resources Board criteria for zero emissions/low emissions, are ADA-compliant, are no older than 10 years of the model age and do not have a "salvage" title, and are equipped with a Global Positioning System (GPS);
- (8) The rates of fare which the applicant proposes to charge for vehicle-for-hire services. This requirement does not apply to taxicab permit applicants;
- (9) A description of the proposed vehicle design;
- (10) Where the application is for a limited permit or LSV, a detailed description of the geographic area in which said permit shall be in existence;
- (11) Such other information as the Chief Executive Officer may in his or her discretion require;
- (12) Provide evidence of at least six-months' experience driving a taxicab, transportation network vehicle, charter party carrier services, or similar service oriented transportation or managing a demand responsive transportation service, or similar service oriented business;
- (13) Provide a customer service and a customer complaint plan;
- (14) Provide a plan for administrative functions, vehicle maintenance, and off-street storage for vehicle when not in use; and
- (15) Provide a dispatch service plan incorporating 24 hour staffing and computerized dispatch utilizing GPS technology, if a taxicab permit applicant.

(b) The applicant shall also submit, with the application, a nonrefundable application fee prior to the permit approval. Upon issuance of the permit, the applicant shall also pay an initial nonrefundable permit vehicle regulatory fee to be determined by the Chief Executive Officer in order to recover the cost of processing such applications.

(Section 1.3 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 1.3 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 1.3 amended 2/12/2015)

(Section 1.3 amended 11/15/2012)

(Section 1.3 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 1.3 amended 11/14/2002)

Section 1.4 - Issuance of Permit

(a) Based on San Diego City Council Policy 500-02 requirements, the Chief Executive Officer shall determine the number of permits to be granted any applicant(s) and approve permits

for any applicant(s) subject to such conditions as the Board and San Diego City Council Policy 500-02 may deem advisable or necessary in the public interest. Before a permit may be approved, the applicant shall pay an initial regulatory fee in an amount to be determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

(b) The Chief Executive Officer shall deny the approval of a permit upon making a finding:

(1) That the applicant is under twenty-one (21) years of age; or

(2) That within the five (5) years immediately preceding the processing of the application, the applicant has been convicted of, or held by any final administrative determination to have been in violation of any statute, ordinance, or regulation reasonably and rationally pertaining to the same or similar business operation which would have resulted in suspension or revocation of the permit in accordance with Section 1.13 of this Ordinance. For purposes of this section, a plea or verdict of guilty, a finding of guilty by a court, a plea of nolo contendere or a forfeiture of bail shall be deemed a conviction; or

(3) That the applicant provided false information of a material fact in an application within the past five (5) years.

(c) All permits issued after April 1, 2015 shall be renewable annually upon evidence San Diego City Council Policy 500-02 requirements are being met, that if a taxicab permit holder they are Substantially Located within City or County, and payment of a regulatory fee in an amount and on a date to be determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

(d) No permit issued after April 1, 2015 shall be approved or renewed for any person who has not fully complied with all of the requirements of this Ordinance, San Diego City Council Policy 500-02, and all other applicable laws and/or regulations necessary to be complied with before commencement of the operation of the proposed service.

(e) Permits held prior to April 1, 2015 by corporations and LLCs shall meet all of the screening criteria included in San Diego City Council Policy 500-02 by February 12, 2020. However, upon issuance of any new permits to said corporation or LLC, or upon the transfer of a permit to said corporation or LLC, the corporation or LLC shall need to be in compliance with requirements of this Ordinance and San Diego City Council Policy 500-02 for the new permit(s).

(f) When the permit has been approved and upon determination by the Chief Executive Officer that the for-hire vehicle, after appropriate inspection, meets the requirements of this Ordinance, the Chief Executive Officer will issue a numbered medallion(s) to be affixed to the for-hire vehicle.

(Section 1.4 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 1.4 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 1.4 amended 2/12/2015)

(Section 1.4 amended 11/15/2012)

(Section 1.4 amended 11/14/2002)

Section 1.5 - Transfer and Administration of Permits

(a) Each permit issued pursuant to the provisions of this section is separate and distinct and shall be transferable from the permit holder to another person or entity only with the approval of

the Chief Executive Officer, and upon meeting the requirements of this Ordinance and San Diego City Council Policy 500-02 including, but not limited to:

(1) Provide evidence of at least six-months' experience driving a taxicab, transportation network vehicle, charter party carrier services, or similar service oriented transportation or managing a demand responsive transportation service, or similar service oriented business.

(2) Vehicle(s) must meet California Air Resources Board criteria for zero emissions/low emissions, be ADA-compliant, be equipped with a Global Positioning System (GPS), be no older than 10 years of the model age and not have a "salvage" title, if a taxicab.

(3) Provide a customer service plan that demonstrates, a requirement for drivers to accept credit cards, detailed record keeping of all calls for service, trips provided, and a customer service complaint resolution plan.

(4) Provide a plan for administrative functions, vehicle maintenance, and off-street storage for vehicle when not in use.

(5) Provide a Dispatch service plan incorporating 24 hour staffing and computerized dispatch utilizing GPS technology, if a taxicab.

(b) Permits held prior to April 1, 2015 shall be in compliance with San Diego City Council Policy 500-02 Screening Criteria by February 12, 2020. Whenever a corporation or LLC is issued any new permits, then it shall be in compliance with requirements of this Ordinance and San Diego City Council Policy 500-02.

(c) The proposed transferee shall file with the Chief Executive Officer a sworn application for the transfer and shall comply with the requirements of Section 1.3. The permit holder shall certify in writing that the permit holder has notified the proposed transferee of the requirements of this section pertaining to the transfer of a permit. Whenever an application for a transfer of permit is filed, the Chief Executive Officer shall process the application for transfer in accordance with Section 1.4 of this Ordinance.

(d) The Chief Executive Officer shall charge regulatory fees to affect the full cost recovery of activities associated with the administration, regulation, issuance, or transfer of for-hire vehicle permits and associated records.

(1) Changes in fee schedules affecting permits shall be mailed to all permit holders. Changes shall be effective thirty (30) calendar days thereafter.

(2) Any person objecting to a particular fee or charge may file, within ten (10) days of the mailing of such changes, an appeal for review with the Chief Executive Officer who shall thereafter process it in accordance with Section 1.17; provided, however, that the sole issue to be determined on review is whether the fee or charge exceeds the reasonable costs for personnel salaries and administrative overhead associated with the particular administrative service or function.

(Section 1.5 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 1.5 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 1.5 amended 2/12/2015)

(Section 1.5 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 1.5 amended 11/14/2002)

Section 1.6 - Blank

The text of Section 1.6 is deleted in its entirety effective February 12, 2015.

(Section 1.6 deleted 2/12/2015)

(Section 1.6 amended 11/14/2002)

Section 1.7 - Blank

The text of Section 1.7 is deleted in its entirety effective October 24, 1998.

(Section 1.7 was deleted 9/24/1998)

Section 1.8 - Equipment and Operating Regulations

(a) No medallion shall be issued for a vehicle unless the vehicle conforms to all the applicable provisions of this Ordinance.

(b) The privilege of engaging in the business of operating a for-hire vehicle in a City or County granted in the permit is personal to the permit holder, who must be the owner of the for-hire vehicle. The rights, requirements, and responsibilities which attach to the permit remain with the holder at all times the for-hire vehicle is operated under the authority of the permit. These rights, requirements and responsibilities, which include, but are not limited to, the requirements of this Ordinance, will remain unaffected by any agreement or contractual arrangement between the permit holder and those persons who operate for-hire vehicles, irrespective of the form or characterization of the agreement under which the driver operates the for-hire vehicle.

(c) The permit holder shall maintain a business address, a mailing address where he or she can accept mail directed to his or her company, and a business telephone in working order which must be answered during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, and during all hours of operation. A post office box or dispatch service address shall not be used for the business address or mailing address. The permit holder shall, in the case of any change in his or her business address, mailing address, or business telephone, notify the Chief Executive Officer in writing of such change within forty-eight (48) hours of the effective date of this change.

(d) Before a for-hire vehicle is placed in service and at least annually thereafter, the for-hire vehicle shall be delivered to a place designated by the Chief Executive Officer for inspection. All new permit holders are required to observe at least one full vehicle inspection as part of the initial permit issuance. MTS inspectors shall inspect the for-hire vehicle and its equipment to ascertain whether the vehicle complies with the provisions of this Ordinance. Failure to produce the vehicle for inspection shall be cause for suspension or revocation of the permit for such vehicle.

(e) Any MTS inspector or peace officer, after displaying proper identification, may make reasonable and periodic inspections of any for-hire vehicle operating under an MTS permit for the purpose of determining whether the vehicle is in compliance with the provisions of this Ordinance.

(f) Any for-hire vehicle which fails to meet the requirements of the California Vehicle Code or this section after inspection shall be immediately ordered out-of-service by an MTS inspector or peace officer if it is unsafe for service. Ordering a vehicle out-of-service does not constitute a suspension or revocation of the permit. A vehicle is deemed unsafe for service when any of the following conditions exists:

- (1) Tires fail to meet the requirements of the California Vehicle Code;
- (2) Headlights, taillights or signal lights are inoperable during hours of darkness (sunset to sunrise);
- (3) Windshield wipers are inoperable during rainy conditions;
- (4) Taximeter is not working, the Taximeter displays signs of tampering, the seal of a Hard Meter is broken, the County of San Diego seal of a Hard Meter is more than thirteen (13) months old from the date of issuance, a Service Agent's temporary seal of a Hard Meter is more than ninety (90) days old from the date of issuance, or a Soft Meter displays technology not approved by the California Department of Food and Agriculture Division of Measurement Standards or does not appear to be operating as is intended or approved;
- (5) Brakes, brake lights or brake system are inoperable or otherwise fail to meet the requirements of the California Vehicle Code;
- (6) Excessive play in steering wheel exceeding three (3) inches;
- (7) Windshield glass contains cracks or chips that interfere with driver's vision;
- (8) Any door latch is inoperable from either the interior or exterior of the vehicle;
- (9) Any seat is not securely fastened to the floor;
- (10) Seat belts, when required, fail to meet requirements of the California Vehicle Code;
- (11) Either side or rearview mirrors are missing or defective;
- (12) Any vehicle safety system light is activated; and
- (13) Any other condition which reasonably and rationally pertains to the operating safety of the vehicle or to passenger or pedestrian safety.

(g) If the vehicle is not unsafe but is unsuitable or otherwise in violation of this Ordinance or any vehicle condition/equipment section of the California Vehicle Code, the operator or permit holder, as appropriate, shall be subject to a seventy-two (72) hours correction notice.

(1) Failure to correct such violation within the seventy-two (72) hours shall then be cause to order the vehicle out-of-service. When a vehicle is ordered out-of-service, the medallion shall be immediately removed.

(2) Before the vehicle may again be placed in service, the violation shall be corrected and the vehicle shall be inspected by an MTS inspector.

(3) The medallion shall be reaffixed when the MTS inspector finds that the vehicle meets prescribed standards.

(h) The interior and exterior of the for-hire vehicle shall be maintained in a safe and efficient operating condition, and meet California Vehicle Code requirements and the requirements

of this Ordinance at all times when in operation. The following minimum vehicle standards must be maintained to comply with this section:

(1) Wheels. Hubcaps or wheel covers shall be on all wheels for which hubcaps or wheel covers are standard equipment.

(2) Body Condition. There shall be no tears or rust holes in the vehicle body and no loose pieces hanging from the vehicle body. Fenders, bumpers, and light trim shall be securely fixed to the vehicle. No extensive unrepaired body damage shall be allowed and exterior paint shall be free from excessive fading. The vehicle shall be equipped with front and rear bumpers. The exterior of the vehicle shall be maintained in a reasonably clean condition so as not to obscure approved vehicle markings.

(3) Lights. Headlights shall be operable on both high and low beam. Taillights, parking lights, signal lights, and interior lights shall all be operable.

(4) Wipers. Each vehicle shall be equipped with adequate windshield wipers maintained in good operating condition.

(5) Brakes. Both the parking and hydraulic or other brake system must be operable.

(6) Steering. Excessive play in the steering mechanism shall not exceed three (3) inches free play in turning the steering wheel from side to side.

(7) Engine. The engine compartment shall be reasonably clean and free of uncontained combustible materials.

(8) Mufflers. Mufflers shall be in good operating condition.

(9) Windows. The windshield shall be without cracks or chips that could interfere with the driver's vision. All other windows shall be intact and able to be opened and closed as intended by the manufacturer. The windows and windshield shall be maintained in a reasonably clean condition so as not to obstruct visibility.

(10) Door Latches. All door latches shall be operable from both the interior and exterior of the vehicle.

(11) Suspension. The vehicle's suspension system shall be maintained so that there are no sags because of weak or broken springs or excessive motion when the vehicle is in operation because of weak or defective shock absorbers.

(12) Seats. All seats shall be securely fastened. Seat belts, when required by the California Vehicle Code, shall be installed. The upholstery shall be free of grease, holes, rips, torn seams, and burns.

(13) Interior. The interior of each vehicle and the trunk or luggage area shall be maintained in a reasonably clean condition, free of foreign matter, offensive odors, and litter. The seats shall be kept reasonably clean and without large wear spots. The door handles and doors shall be intact and clean. The trunk or luggage area shall be kept empty except for spare tire and personal container for the driver not exceeding one (1) cubic foot in volume and emergency equipment, to allow maximum space for passenger luggage and belongings.

(i) Each for-hire vehicle, except taxicabs and Low Speed Vehicles, shall contain:

(1) A fire extinguisher of the dry chemical or carbon dioxide type with an aggregate rating of at least 5 B/C units and a current inspection card affixed to it.

(2) A minimum of three (3) red emergency reflectors.

(3) A first-aid kit containing medical items to adequately attend to minor medical problems.

(j) In the event that a for-hire vehicle for which a permit has been approved is taken out of service, by the permit holder for maintenance or any purpose, other than a violation of any provision of this Ordinance, a spare vehicle operating permit may be granted. The spare vehicle operating permit shall only be valid for the vehicle for which it was issued. The permit holder may only utilize a spare for-hire vehicle which has been duly inspected by an MTS inspector and approved prior to use. The permit holder must immediately inform an MTS inspector when a spare for-hire vehicle is in use and the location of the disabled vehicle. The spare vehicle will be issued a "spare vehicle" sticker which must be affixed to the left rear portion of the for-hire vehicle for which it is approved, in plain view from the rear of the for-hire vehicle. The permit holder may utilize one (1) spare for-hire vehicle for a period not to exceed thirty (30) calendar days from the date of issuance. This subsection shall not be construed, nor deemed to replace, those provisions in this Ordinance which apply to permanent replacement of a for-hire vehicle.

(k) The medallion issued to the permit holder must be affixed by an MTS inspector on the for-hire vehicle for which the permit is approved in plain view from the rear of the for-hire vehicle. The permit holder must immediately report the loss, destruction, or defacing of a medallion to the Chief Executive Officer. Except as provided in Subsection (j), it shall be unlawful to operate a for-hire vehicle without the medallion affixed and visible.

(l) There shall be displayed in the passenger compartment of each for-hire vehicle between the sun visors, in full view of the passengers in the front and rear seats, a card not less than ten (10) inches wide by six (6) inches high in size. Posted on this card, utilizing "Universe" font in black ink on white background, shall be:

1) The first line of the card, 3/4 inch in height, shall say one of the following according to permit type: TAXICAB, SIGHTSEEING, CHARTER, NONEMERGENCY, LOW-SPEED VEHICLE, OR JITNEY LOST AND FOUND.

2) Below this, the card shall include the vehicle medallion number in three-inch numerals.

3) Below the medallion number, the name, address, and phone number of the MTS Taxicab Administration and the permit holder and/or permit holder trade name shall be printed, 1/4-inch in height.

4) Without approval from MTS, no other signs, markings, lettering, decals, or any type of information shall be displayed within 18 inches around the card.

(m) Advertisements, whether displayed on the inside or outside of the vehicle, shall be posted in accordance with MTS Board Policy No. 21, Revenue-Generating Display Advertising, Concessions, and Merchandise, any guidelines developed by the Chief Executive Officer, and the

provisions of this Ordinance. Advertisements shall not be displayed without prior approval from MTS.

(n) The driver of each for-hire vehicle may either carry: a map of the City or County, published within the past two (2) years; or an electronic device equipped with a GPS enabled map, which shall be displayed to any passenger upon request.

(o) The maximum rates of fare charged for for-hire vehicle services shall be clearly and conspicuously displayed in the passenger compartment, unless if a taxicab which shall be in compliance with Section 2.2(d) of this Ordinance.

(p) Each for-hire vehicle licensed to operate in the City or County shall have located on the passenger side dashboard area a driver identification card provided by the County of San Diego Sheriff or provide upon a request a valid VDDP driver certificate with a commercial driver's license. The driver identification card shall have no alterations or information covered. The driver identification card shall be visible to passengers, peace officers and MTS inspectors so they can easily view the driver identification card from either inside or outside the vehicle. The driver identification card issued by the Sheriff shall bear the following information:

- (1) The number of the license of the driver;
- (2) The name and business address of the driver;
- (3) The name of the owner of the vehicle; and
- (4) A small photograph of the driver.

(q) Each for-hire vehicle shall be equipped with a rearview mirror affixed to the right side of the vehicle, as an addition to those rearview mirrors otherwise required by the California Vehicle Code.

(r) The driver shall offer each passenger a printed receipt upon payment of the fare. The receipt shall accurately show the date, the amount of the fare, the driver's name and ID number, the taxicab number, the company (DBA) name, and the dispatch service name with phone number if a taxicab.

(s) All disputes to fare shall be determined by the peace officer or MTS inspector most readily available where the dispute is had. It shall be unlawful for any person to fail or refuse to comply with such determination by the peace officer or MTS inspector.

(t) It is unlawful for any person to refuse to pay the lawful fare of a for-hire vehicle after employing or hiring the same.

(u) The driver of any for-hire vehicle shall promptly obey all lawful orders or instructions of any peace officer, fire fighter, or MTS inspector.

(v) No driver of any for-hire vehicle shall transport any greater number of persons, including the driver, than the manufacturer's rated seating capacity for the vehicle.

(w) It shall be unlawful for any person to solicit business for a for-hire vehicle by making a contract or agreement with any owner of any hotel, apartment house, motel, inn, rental units, restaurant, or bar, or with the agent or employees of such owner, by which the owner, agent or employee receives any type of payment or commission for recommending or directing any

passenger to a specific for-hire vehicle or company. It shall be unlawful for any permit holder, association, or driver to have or make a contract or agreement with any owner of any hotel, apartment house, motel, inn, rental units, restaurant, or bar, or with the agents or employees of such owner, by which the permit holder, association or driver receives any type of payment or commission for recommending or directing any passenger to an establishment operated by a specific owner.

(x) The driver of a for-hire vehicle shall wear, in a manner clearly visible on their person, an identification card approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

(y) The Board specifically finds that the dress, grooming, and conduct of for-hire vehicle drivers affect the public health and safety, particularly as it relates to visitors and the tourist industry. Therefore, while driving or operating a for-hire vehicle, drivers shall be hygienically clean, well-groomed, and neat and suitably dressed. Violations of this subsection are administrative in nature and shall not be the subject of criminal prosecution.

(1) The term "hygienically clean" shall refer to that state of personal hygiene, body cleanliness, and absence of offensive body odor normally associated with bathing or showering on a regular basis.

(2) The term "well-groomed" shall mean that male drivers shall be clean-shaven, except for those parts of the face where a beard or mustache is worn and their hair shall be neatly trimmed; beards or mustaches shall be groomed and neatly trimmed at all times in order not to present a ragged appearance. For all drivers, it shall mean that scalp or facial hair shall be combed or brushed and that all clothing is clean, free from soil, grease and dirt, and without unrepaired rips or tears.

(3) The term "neat and suitably dressed" shall be interpreted to require that a driver shall be fully covered by clothing at a minimum from a point not to exceed four (4) inches above the center of the kneecap to the base of the neck, excluding the arms. Drivers shall wear shoes. It shall not be permissible for any driver to wear as an outer garment any of the following: undershirt or underwear, tank tops, body shirts (see-through mesh), swim wear, jogging or warm-up suits or sweatshirts or similar attire, jogging or bathing shorts or trunks, or sandals. Trouser-type shorts that are no shorter than four inches above the center of the kneecap are permissible.

(z) For-hire vehicles shall comply with the California Vehicle Code, e.g., not impede traffic, and, where applicable, not operate on streets where posted speed limits are above 35 miles per hour. For-hire vehicle drivers, including taxicab, shall not load or unload passengers in traffic lanes.

(aa) Smoking is not permitted at any time inside a MTS-permitted vehicle.

(bb) A driver or permit holder shall not prejudice, disadvantage, or require a different rates or provide different service to a person because of race, national origin, religion, color, ancestry, physical disability, medical condition, occupation, marital status or change in marital status, sex or any characteristic listed or defined in Section 11135 of the Government Code.

(cc) A driver shall not use rude or abusive language toward a passenger(s) or conduct any physical action that a reasonable person would construe as threatening or intimidating.

(dd) A driver may refuse a fare if it is readily apparent that the prospective or actual fare is a hazard to the driver or operator. A driver is not obligated to transport any person who is verbally

or otherwise abusive to the driver. Such incidents shall also be noted on the trip log and notification shall be immediately sent to the dispatch service organization, if a taxicab, which shall record the incident and keep the record for the minimum of 6 months.

(ee) No driver shall stop, park, or otherwise leave standing any MTS permitted vehicle within fifteen (15) feet of any fire plug except as modified in Section 2.5 of this Ordinance.

(ff) No driver shall stop, park or otherwise leave standing any MTS permitted vehicle in a disabled parking zone except as authorized per California Vehicle Code section 22507.8.

(Section 1.8 amended 10/10/2019)

(Section 1.8 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 1.8 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 1.8 amended 10/13/2016)

(Section 1.8 amended 5/12/2016)

(Section 1.8 amended 2/12/2015)

(Section 1.8 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 1.8 amended 11/14/2002)

(Section 1.8 amended 9/24/1998)

(Section 1.8 amended 2/13/1997)

(Section 1.8 amended 6/24/1993)

Section 1.9 - Public Liability

(a) It shall be unlawful to operate a for-hire vehicle unless the permit holder establishes and maintains in effect one of the forms of financial responsibility specified in this section.

(1) This requirement may be met by maintaining a valid policy of insurance executed and delivered by a company authorized to carry on an insurance business, the financial responsibility of which company has been approved by the Chief Executive Officer. The terms of the policy shall provide that the insurance company assumes financial responsibility for injuries to persons or property caused by the operation of the for-hire vehicle in an amount determined by the Chief Executive Officer.

(2) The permit holder may also meet this requirement by obtaining a certificate of self-insurance for a specified amount approved by the Board and pursuant to the applicable provisions of the California Vehicle Code.

(b) A valid proof of insurance issued by the company providing the insurance policy required under Subsection (a) (1) of this section shall be filed with and approved by the Chief Executive Officer. This certificate shall provide that MTS is a named certificate holder and shall be placed in each vehicle, per California Vehicle Code Section 16020. It shall also provide that the insurer will notify MTS of any cancellation and that the cancellation notice shall be in writing and shall be sent by registered mail at least thirty (30) days prior to cancellation of the policy. The certificate shall also state:

- (1) The full name of the insurer;
- (2) The name and address of the insured;
- (3) The insurance policy number;
- (4) The type and limits of coverage;
- (5) The specific vehicle(s) insured;
- (6) The effective dates of the certificate; and
- (7) The certificate issue date.

(Section 1.9 amended 9/17/2015)
(Section 1.9 amended 11/14/2002)

Section 1.10 - Financial Ownership and Operating Records: Reporting Requirements

(a) Every person engaged in the business of operating a for-hire vehicle within the City under a permit granted by the Chief Executive Officer shall maintain:

(1) Financial records, including but not limited to the current executed taxicab driver lease agreement that includes all aspects of the business relationship between the permit holder and the lessee, and written receipts of all payments from lessee in accordance with good accounting practices;

(2) Ownership records; and

(3) Operating records in a form, and at intervals, which shall be determined from time to time by the Chief Executive Officer.

(b) Ownership and operating records shall be made available to the Chief Executive Officer upon demand at any reasonable time. The permit holder shall retain operating records for a minimum of six (6) months from the date the records are created.

(c) For purposes of this section, ownership records shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Copies of the Articles of Incorporation as filed with the Secretary of State of California;

(2) Records identifying all corporate officers and members of the corporation's Board of Directors. A corporation shall report any change in corporate officers or members of its Board of Directors to MTS within ten (10) days of the effective date.

(3) A stock register recording the issuance or transfer of any shares of the corporate stock; and

(4) The registration cards issued by the State of California Department of Motor Vehicles to the vehicle owner for all for-hire vehicles operated under the authority of an MTS for-hire vehicle permit. Valid proof of registration shall be maintained in the vehicle at all times.

(d) For purposes of this section, operating records shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

(1) Typed or written dispatch records for taxicab companies which operate their own dispatch service;

(2) Any logs which a for-hire vehicle driver keeps describing the trips carried by a for-hire vehicle other than a taxicab;

(3) Copies of the daily trip log required by taxicab or LSV drivers under Section 2.4 (o); and

(4) Any other similar records.

(e) Between January 1 and December 31 of each calendar year, every permit holder shall file with the Chief Executive Officer a signed statement which shall report and attest to the accuracy of the following information:

(1) The individual name(s), business name, business address, and telephone number of the permit holder(s);

(2) The name and address of all legal and registered owner(s) of the for-hire vehicle(s);

(3) The name and address of each person with a financial interest in the business which operates the vehicle(s); and

(4) The year, manufacturer, model, vehicle identification number, license plate, and medallion number affixed to the permitted vehicle(s).

(f) If the permit holder is an individual, the permit holder must email, mail or appear in person in the offices of MTS to file the statement; if the permit holder is a partnership, one of the partners must email, mail or appear in person in the offices of MTS to file the statement; if the permit holder is a corporation or LLC, an officer of the corporation, or a member of the LLC, authorized to represent the company, must email, mail or appear in person in the offices of MTS to file the statement and provide evidence San Diego City Council Policy 500-02 requirements are being met. If email or mail is used, the email address or mailing address used by the permit holder must be an email address or mailing address that is on file with the Chief Executive Officer.

(Section 1.10 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 1.10 amended 5/12/2016)

(Section 1.10 amended 2/12/2015)

(Section 1.10 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 1.10 amended 11/14/2002)

(Section 1.10 amended 6/24/1993)

Section 1.11 - Destruction, Permanent Replacement, Retirement or Inactive Status of For-Hire Vehicles

(a) Whenever a for-hire vehicle is destroyed, rendered permanently inoperative, is sold, or the permit holder is no longer the owner of the for-hire vehicle, the permit holder shall notify the Chief Executive Officer in writing within forty-eight (48) hours.

(b) If a taxicab permit holder plans to change where it is Substantially Located, the permit holder shall notify the Chief Executive Officer and the new jurisdiction in which it will become Substantially Located within six (6) months or as soon as practicable prior to making that change.

(c) A permit holder may place a for-hire vehicle under inactive status after written permission is obtained from the Chief Executive Officer. The following guidelines are to be used in granting permission for a for-hire vehicle to be placed and kept on inactive status:

(1) No laps in payment of annual regulatory fees during any time of inactive status;

(2) Permit must be in good standing (e.g. no pending disciplinary or enforcement action); and

(3) Annual statement must be filed in accordance with Section 1.10(e).

(d) At any time a permit holder may bring a for-hire vehicle under inactive status back into service after written permission is obtained from the Chief Executive Officer. The following guidelines are to be used in granting permission to return a for hire vehicle under inactive status back to service:

- (1) Permit holder must notify Chief Executive Officer in writing of their intent to place their vehicle back into service;
- (2) Permit holder must show proof of a valid vehicle insurance policy as required by Section 1.9;
- (3) Permit holder must show proof of current vehicle registration;
- (4) Permit holder must show proof of current subscription to a dispatch service organization, if a taxicab; and
- (5) Vehicle must pass MTS required inspection.

(e) The Chief Executive Officer shall, as a matter of owner right, allow the replacement of a vehicle which is destroyed, rendered inoperative, sold or transferred, provided that the permit holder has complied with, and the for-hire vehicle is in conformance with, all applicable provisions of this Ordinance. An owner must remove the markings from the vehicle that indicate it is a taxicab or LSV before the owner disposes of it.

(Section 1.11 amended 2/14/2019)
(Section 1.11 amended 10/13/2016)
(Section 1.11 amended 8/7/2003)
(Section 1.11 amended 11/14/2002)
(Section 1.11 amended 2/13/1997)

Section 1.12 - Driver's Identification Cards

(a) No person shall drive or operate any for-hire vehicle under the authority of a permit granted under this Ordinance unless such person: displays a valid driver's identification card obtained annually through the Sheriff of the County of San Diego; or provides upon request a VDDP driver certificate with a commercial driver's license.

(b) No permit holder shall employ as a for-hire vehicle driver or operator any person who has not obtained a for-hire vehicle driver's identification card through the Sheriff of the County of San Diego or VDDP driver certificate with a commercial driver's license.

(c) No permit holder shall employ as a driver or operator any person whose privilege to operate a for-hire vehicle within the City has expired, or has been revoked, denied or suspended or prohibited.

(d) A driver may drive for more than one permit holder. The driver must, however, have on file with and accepted by the Sheriff of the County of San Diego, a separate application on forms provided by the Sheriff, for each permit holder with whom he has a current driving agreement. A

driver may have on file with the Sheriff a maximum of four (4) such applications at any one time. It shall be unlawful for a driver to accept or solicit passengers for hire in the City or County while operating the taxicab or LSV of any permit holder for whom the driver does not have such an application on file with the Sheriff.

(e) No person shall drive or operate any for-hire vehicle, under the authority of a permit granted under this Ordinance unless such person has successfully completed an MTS-approved driver safety training course concerning driver safety rules and regulations, map reading, crime prevention, courtesy and professionalism, compliance with ADA, and a corresponding qualification examination.

(f) No person who has received a notice of prohibition pursuant to Section 1.14, or whose privilege to operate a for-hire vehicle within the City has expired, or has been suspended, revoked or denied by the Sheriff, California Highway Patrol, or the Chief Executive Officer shall drive or operate a for-hire vehicle within the City.

(g) No for-hire vehicle driver's identification card shall be issued or renewed by the Sheriff to any of the following persons:

(1) Any person under the age of twenty-one (21) years.

(2) Any person who has been convicted of a felony involving a crime of force or violence against any person, or the theft of property, unless five (5) years have elapsed since his or her discharge from a penal institution or satisfactory completion of probation for such conviction during which period of time his or her record is good.

(3) Any person who has been convicted of assault, battery, resisting arrest, solicitation of prostitution, any infraction, misdemeanor, or felony involving force and violence, or any crime reasonably and rationally related to the paratransit industry or any similar business operation which bears upon the integrity or ability of the driver to operate a for-hire vehicle business and transport passengers, unless five (5) years shall have elapsed from the date of discharge from a penal institution or the satisfactory completion of probation for such conviction.

(4) Any person who, within the five (5) years immediately preceding the processing of the application, has been convicted of or held by any final administrative determination to have been in violation of any statute, ordinance, or regulation reasonably and rationally related to the for-hire vehicle industry or any similar business operation which would have authorized the suspension or revocation of the driver's identification card in accordance with Section 1.14 of this Ordinance.

(5) Any person who is required to register as a sex offender pursuant to the California Penal Code.

(6) Any person who has provided false information of a material fact in their application within the past five (5) years.

(7) No person shall obtain or renew a driver's identification card unless such person has successfully completed a driver safety training course approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

(8) When a driver permanently no longer drives for an MTS Taxicab Administration permit holder, the permit holder shall report this to the Sheriff's Department within ten (10) calendar days.

(h) The Sheriff is authorized to issue temporary for-hire vehicle driver identification cards pending the approval or denial of an application for a regular for-hire vehicle driver identification card. No temporary for-hire vehicle driver identification card shall be issued without the satisfactory completion of a local law enforcement agency record check of the applicant. Any temporary identification card so issued shall be valid for a period not to exceed ninety (90) days or until the date of approval or denial of the application for a regular for-hire vehicle driver identification card, whichever shall occur first. The issuance of a temporary identification card hereunder shall not authorize the operation of a for-hire vehicle following the denial of the application while pending the resolution of any appeal otherwise provided for in Section 1.16 of this Ordinance. The Sheriff or the Chief Executive Officer shall establish nonrefundable filing fees to defray the costs of processing regular and temporary driver identification cards.

(Section 1.12 amended 10/10/2019)

(Section 1.12 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 1.12 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 1.12 amended 5/12/2016)

(Section 1.12 amended 11/15/2012)

(Section 1.12 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 1.12 amended 11/14/2002)

(Section 1.12 amended 9/24/1998)

(Section 1.12 amended 10/30/1997)

(Section 1.12 amended 11/9/1995)

Section 1.13 - Suspension and Revocation of Permit

(a) Permits may be suspended or revoked by the Chief Executive Officer at any time in case:

(1) The Chief Executive Officer finds the permit holder's past record to be unsatisfactory with respect to satisfying the provisions of this Ordinance.

(2) The permit holder fails to comply with the applicable provisions of this Ordinance.

(3) The drivers of the for-hire vehicle or vehicles fail to act in accordance with those provisions of this Ordinance which govern driver actions. The permit holder shall have strict liability in this regard; however, this provision shall not restrict the Chief Executive Officer's ability to penalize a driver for violations of those provisions of this Ordinance which govern driver actions.

(4) The owner ceases to operate a for hire vehicle without having obtained written permission from the Chief Executive Officer.

(5) The permit holder is found to be operating a for-hire vehicle that is under inactive status.

(6) The for-hire vehicle or vehicles, if operated as other than a taxicab, are operated at a rate of fare other than those fares on file with the Chief Executive Officer.

(7) The for-hire vehicle or vehicles, if operated as a LSV, are operated at a rate of fare greater than those fares on file with the Chief Executive Officer or posted on the taxicab or LSV pursuant to Section 2.2 (b) of this Ordinance.

(8) The for-hire vehicle or vehicles, if operated as a taxicab, are operated at a rate of fare greater than current maximum rate established by the Board pursuant to Section 2.2(a) of this Ordinance or the applicable rate provided to passenger pursuant to Section 2.4 (q) of this Ordinance.

(9) The permit holder fails to begin operating the for-hire vehicle for which the permit is first approved within ninety (90) days after the approval date.

(10) The permit holder has been convicted of assault, battery, resisting arrest, solicitation of prostitution, any infraction, misdemeanor, or felony involving force and violence, or any crime reasonably and rationally related to the paratransit industry or any similar business operation which bears upon the integrity or ability of the applicant or permit holder to operate a for-hire vehicle business and transport passengers, unless five (5) years shall have elapsed from the date of discharge from a penal institution or the satisfactory completion of probation for such conviction.

(11) The permit holder has been convicted of a crime that would require a person to register as a sex offender under the California Penal Code. For purposes of this section, a plea or verdict of guilty, a finding of guilt by a court, a plea of nolo contendere or a forfeiture of bail shall be considered a conviction.

(b) A permit holder shall be notified in writing within 10 working days when a credible complaint has been filed with the Chief Executive Officer by a member of the public where such complaint involves the permit holder, the driver of the permitted for-hire vehicle, or the dispatch service to which the permit holder is subscribed. It shall be the responsibility of the permit holder to investigate the complaint and report in writing to the Chief Executive Officer within 30 days the result of the investigation and any corrective action taken or proposed. Where the complainant has agreed to the sharing of their identity, the results of the investigation, findings, and actions shall be communicated to the complainant.

(c) In the event the Chief Executive Officer finds a permit holder has failed to responsibly respond to notification of complaints or to initiate corrective action, the Chief Executive Officer shall issue a notice of proposed adverse action to the permit holder. If the circumstances of the complaint or subsequent investigation so warrant, the Chief Executive Officer may issue a notice of adverse action to a driver independently of or in conjunction with any adverse action proposed to the permit holder. The Chief Executive Officer shall refer to the Administrative Penalty Guidelines in determining a proposed adverse action.

(d) The permit holder or driver in receipt of a notice of proposed adverse action shall be given the opportunity to appear for an informal hearing before the Chief Executive Officer or designated representative. Failure to appear will constitute waiver of the hearing. Following the hearing or waiver thereof, the Chief Executive Officer shall issue the notice of adverse action if justified by the facts. If the Chief Executive Officer determines that the performance of the permit holder or driver involves criminal activity or constitutes a serious degradation of the public safety, convenience, or necessity, a notice of adverse action may be issued and the action effected without hearing.

(e) Upon a finding by the Chief Executive Officer that a permit holder falls within the provisions of this section, the permit holder or driver shall be notified that his or her permit has been subjected to an adverse action and that the matter is such that the action may be appealed. In lieu of an action provided for in the Administrative Penalty Guidelines, the Chief Executive Officer may impose a fine or a fine and a period of suspension for any violation(s) of this Ordinance.

(Section 1.13 amended 2/14/2019)

(Section 1.13 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 1.13 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 1.13 amended 10/13/2016)

(Section 1.13 amended 5/12/2016)

(Section 1.13 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 1.13 amended 11/14/2002)

(Section 1.13 amended 6/24/1999)

Section 1.14 - Suspension and Revocation of Driver's Identification Cards

(a) Driver's identification cards issued by the Sheriff may be suspended or revoked by the Chief Executive Officer at any time in case:

(1) The Chief Executive Officer finds the driver's past record to be unsatisfactory with respect to satisfying the provisions of this Ordinance; or

(2) The driver fails to comply with the applicable provisions of this Ordinance; or

(3) Circumstances furnish grounds for the denial, suspension, revocation or refusal to renew the driver's identification card by the Sheriff under the terms of the applicable Ordinance of the County of San Diego; or

(4) His/her California Driver's License is revoked or suspended; or

(5) The driver is convicted of reckless driving or driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquors and/or narcotics; or

(6) The driver has been convicted of assault, battery, resisting arrest, solicitation of prostitution, any crime involving force and violence, or reasonably and rationally is related to the ability or integrity of the driver to operate a for-hire vehicle or transport passengers; or

(7) The driver has ever been convicted of a crime that requires registration under the California Penal Code as a sex offender.

(b) For purposes of Subsections (a) (1) through (a) (6) of this section, a plea of nolo contendere, or a forfeiture of bail shall be considered a conviction if it occurred within the five (5) years immediately preceding the date of application for a permit or identification card.

(c) Notwithstanding a driver's possession of a valid taxicab or LSV driver identification card, the Chief Executive Officer may deny, suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew the driver's privilege to operate a for-hire vehicle in the City if the driver falls within the provisions of this section. The Chief Executive Officer shall send a notice of prohibition the date postmarked to operate a taxicab or LSV to any holder of a Sheriff's driver identification card who is ineligible under Subsection (a) to operate a for-hire vehicle within the City limits. The notice of prohibition shall be appealable in accordance with Section 1.16.

(Section 1.14 amended 10/10/2019)

(Section 1.14 amended 5/12/2016)

(Section 1.14 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 1.14 amended 11/14/2002)

(Section 1.14 amended 6/24/1999)

Section 1.15 - Surrender of Medallion

(a) When a permit has been suspended or revoked, the operation of any for-hire vehicle authorized by such permit shall cease, and its medallion surrendered immediately to the Chief Executive Officer.

(Section 1.15 amended 11/14/2002)

Section 1.16 - Right of Administrative Appeal from Denial, Suspension or Revocation of Permit or Driver's Identification Card or Related Adverse Action

(a) The permit holder or driver shall be notified that he or she may file with the Chief Executive Officer a written administrative appeal ten (10) days after delivery of the notice of revocation or suspension, or the denial of a license, permit, or driver's identification card issued by the Sheriff, the notice of prohibition to operate or the imposition of a fine. The permit holder or driver shall set forth in the appeal the reasons why such action is not proper.

(b) If no administrative appeal is filed within the proper time, the permit or driver's identification card issued by the Sheriff shall be considered revoked, suspended or denied, and shall be surrendered, the fine be imposed, as applicable, or the notice of prohibition to operate take effect.

(c) Except as provided in Subsection (d), once an administrative appeal is filed, the revocation or suspension of the permit or driver's identification card issued by the Sheriff, the effect of the notice of prohibition to operate, or the imposition of the fine shall be stayed pending the final determination of the administrative appeal.

(d) If, in the Chief Executive Officer's opinion, the continued operation of a for-hire vehicle or possession of a driver's identification card issued by the Sheriff represents an unsafe condition for any passenger or pedestrian, the revocation or suspension of the related permit, driver's identification card, or the effect of any notice of prohibition to operate shall not be stayed. A revocation or suspension of a permit imposed for failure to comply with Section 1.8 (f) or Section 1.9 is rebuttably presumed to represent an unsafe condition pending the determination of the appeal or the correction of the violation, whichever shall occur first. Notwithstanding, no medallion shall be reattached to a vehicle until the violation under Sections 1.8 (f) or 1.9 has been corrected.

(Section 1.16 amended 10/10/2019)

(Section 1.16 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 1.16 amended 11/14/2002)

Section 1.17 - Procedure Upon Administrative Appeal

(a) When an appeal is filed, the Chief Executive Officer shall review the appeal, and based on additional information provided therein, may revise the findings and penalty; in accordance with the additional information provided; or cause the appeal to be assigned to a Hearing Officer, who shall expeditiously schedule the hearing before him/her.

(1) The Chief Executive Officer shall use California Department of General Services, Office of Administrative Hearings Administrative Law Judges as Hearing Officers. The assignment of Administrative Law Judges as Hearing Officers shall be determined by the California Department of General Services, Office of Administrative Hearings.

(2) The Hearing Officer shall be a member of the California State Bar and shall not be an MTS employee.

(b) The appellant and the Chief Executive Officer or designate shall each have the right to appear in person and be represented by legal counsel, to receive notice, to present evidence, to call and cross-examine witnesses under oath, and to present argument.

(c) An appellant may select an individual to interpret for them. MTS will not pay any costs or be held responsible for any aspect of the interpreter's ability to accurately interpret the hearing.

(1) The Hearing Officer shall have the power to compel attendance of witnesses and documents by subpoena, in accordance with state law.

(2) The formal rules of evidence need not apply, and any relevant evidence that is the sort of evidence upon which responsible persons are accustomed to rely in the conduct of serious affairs shall be admissible. Hearsay evidence may be considered by the Hearing Officer, but no findings may be based solely on hearsay evidence unless supported or corroborated by other relevant and competent evidence. The formal exceptions to the hearsay rule shall apply.

(d) The Chief Executive Officer shall promulgate supplementary rules and procedures for the conduct of the hearing, the forms of notice and proceedings, and the preparation and submission of the record.

(e) The decision of the Hearing Officer shall be the final administrative remedy and shall be binding upon the parties to the appeal.

(f) If the Hearing Officer decides to suspend or revoke a permit or driver's identification card, the appellant shall immediately surrender the medallion or driver's identification card to the Chief Executive Officer.

(Section 1.17 amended 5/12/2016)
(Section 1.17 amended 11/15/2012)

Section 1.18 - Exceptions to Provisions

(a) The provisions of this Ordinance do not apply to:

(1) a vehicle properly licensed under the jurisdiction of the California Public Utilities Commission (CPUC) unless such vehicle also provides transportation services regulated by MTS under this Ordinance;

(2) public transit vehicles owned, operated, or contracted for by MTS and operators and drivers of such vehicles;

(3) a vehicle properly licensed by the State or County as an ambulance, and its driver if properly licensed by the California Highway Patrol pursuant to Vehicle Code section 12527 (i.e. for-hire driver for an ambulance); or

(4) a vehicle properly regulated by the California Highway Patrol pursuant to Vehicle Code sections 34500 et seq. (i.e. bus, schoolbuses, school pupil activity buses, or youth buses), and its driver if properly licensed by the California Highway Patrol pursuant to Vehicle Code sections 12523.6 (i.e. for-hire driver of vehicles for developmentally disabled) or 12517.3 (i.e. for-hire driver for a schoolbus, school pupil activity bus, or youth bus).

(b) For compliance purposes, MTS inspectors may inspect all vehicles listed in Section 1.18 (a) to ensure they are not exceeding the authority granted by their license or operating as unlicensed private-hire transportation provider.

(Section 1.18 amended 10/10/2019)
(Section 1.18 amended 12/14/2017)
(Section 1.18 amended 5/12/2016)
(Section 1.18 amended 11/15/2012)
(Section renumbered to 1.18 9/24/1998)
(Section 1.17 amended 1/12/1995)
(Section 1.17 amended 6/24/1993)

Section 1.19 - Chief Executive Officer's Authority to Adopt Rules and Promulgate a Schedule of Fines

(a) Except where Board action is specifically required in this Ordinance, the Chief Executive Officer may adopt any rules and regulations reasonable and necessary to implement the provisions of this Ordinance. The Chief Executive Officer shall promulgate a schedule of administrative fines and penalties for violations of this Ordinance in lieu of the revocation or suspension of a permit or identification card issued by the Sheriff, a copy of which schedule shall be filed with the Clerk of the Board.

(Section 1.19 amended 10/10/2019)
(Section renumbered to 1.19 9/24/1998)

Section 1.20 - Americans with Disabilities Act

(a) Permit holders, vehicles, and drivers are required to comply with the requirements of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), and ADA regulations are hereby incorporated into MTS Ordinance No. 11 by reference. A violation of ADA requirements is a violation of this Ordinance and subject to a fine or suspension or revocation or a combination.

(Section renumbered to 1.20 9/24/1998)
(Section 1.19(a) was added 4/10/1997)

SECTION 2.0 - TAXICABS AND/OR LSVs

Section 2.1 - Types of Service

(a) A taxicab or LSV is authorized to provide exclusive ride and group ride service.

(Section 2.0 and 2.1 amended 8/7/2003)

Section 2.2 - Rates of Fare

(a) After a noticed and open public hearing of the Taxicab Advisory Committee, MTS shall establish a maximum rate of fare for exclusive ride and group ride hire of taxicabs and/or LSVs ~~except for trips from San Diego International Airport~~. A permit holder may petition the Board for any desired change in the maximum taxicab or LSV rates for exclusive ride and/or zone rates and group ride hire.

(b) Taxicab trips from San Diego International Airport shall not be charged more than the authorized maximum rate of fare. Notwithstanding, rates for trips originating at the airport may include an extra charge equal to the Airport Access Fee assessed against the individual taxicab operator by the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. The extra may not be charged on any trip that does not originate at the airport or on any trip where the taxicab operator does not pay the fee to the San Diego County Regional Airport Authority. The extra charge may only be charged to the passenger by visually identifying the Airport Access Fee on the taxicab meter. A driver may not verbally request payment. All taxicabs utilizing the Airport Access Fee must have a decal, approved by the Chief Executive Officer and the County of San Diego Office of Weights and Measures. The decal shall identify and accurately describe the extra charge consistent with regulatory requirements.

(c) All taxicabs shall accept major credit cards including, but not limited to, VISA, MasterCard, American Express, and Discover. Credit Card fees shall not be passed onto passengers.

(d) The taxicab permit holder or taxicab driver shall disclose fares, fees or rates to the passenger. The taxicab permit holder or taxicab driver may disclose by website, mobile telephone application or telephone orders.

(e) It shall be unlawful for a permit holder or driver to operate any taxicab in the City or County, unless the vehicle is equipped with a Taximeter that meets the requirements of the State of California.

(1) If Hard Meter, each taxicab permit holder shall have the Taximeter set by properly licensed personnel for the rate that he/she will charge and have the Taximeter sealed and inspected.

(2) If Soft Meter, a certificate of approval must be provided by the California Department of Food and Agriculture Division of Measurement Standards

(3) The Taximeter shall calculate fares upon the basis of a combination of mileage traveled and time elapsed. When operative with respect to fare indication, the fare-indicating mechanism shall be actuated by the mileage mechanism whenever the vehicle is in motion at such a speed that the rate of mileage revenue equals or exceeds the time rate, and may be actuated by the time mechanism whenever the vehicle speed is less than this, and when the vehicle is not in motion.

(4) Waiting time shall include all time when a taxicab occupied or engaged by a passenger is not in motion or is traveling at a speed which is slow enough for the time rate to exceed the mileage rate. Waiting time will also include the time consumed while standing at the direction of the passenger or person who has engaged the taxicab.

(5) It shall be the duty of every permit holder operating a taxicab to keep the Taximeter in proper condition so that the Taximeter will, at all times, correctly and accurately

indicate the charge for the distance traveled and waiting time. The Taximeter shall be at all times subject to the charge for the distance traveled and waiting time.

(6) The Taximeter shall be at all times subject to inspection by an MTS inspector or any peace officer. The MTS inspector or peace officer is hereby authorized at his or her instance or upon complaint of any person to investigate or cause to be investigated the Taximeter, and upon discovery of any inaccuracy in the Taximeter, or if the Taximeter is unsealed, to remove or cause to be removed the vehicle equipped with this taximeter from the streets of the City until the Taximeter has been correctly adjusted and sealed. Before being returned to service, the vehicle and Taximeter must be inspected and approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

(7) Any device repairperson who places into service, repairs, or recalibrates a Taximeter shall record the tire size and pressure of the drive wheels of that vehicle, as tested, on the repair person's sticker.

(8) It shall be the duty of the permit holder to ensure the proper device repair person's sticker is affixed to the Taximeter and to ensure the tires are the proper size.

(f) It shall be unlawful for any driver of a taxicab, while carrying exclusive or group ride passengers, to display the flag or device attached to the Taximeter in such a position as to denote that the vehicle is for hire, or is not employed, or to have the flag or other attached device in such a position as to prevent the Taximeter from operating. It shall be unlawful for any driver to throw the flag into a position which causes the Taximeter to record when the vehicle is not actually employed, or to fail to throw the flag or other device into non-recording position at the termination of each and every service.

(g) The Taximeter shall be so placed in the taxicab that the reading dial showing the amount of fare to be charged shall be well-lighted and easily readable by the passenger riding in such taxicab.

(h) It shall be unlawful for any permit holder and/or driver of a taxicab or LSV to demand of a passenger a charge for hire which is greater than the current maximum rate approved by the Board pursuant to Section 2.2 (a) or (b) of this Ordinance.

(i) Except as provided in this section, it shall be unlawful for any permit holder and/or driver to demand of a passenger a charge for hire which is greater than the permit holder's meter rate pursuant to Sections 2.1 (a), or 2.2 (c) of this Ordinance.

(j) Nothing in this Ordinance shall preclude a dispatch service, permit holder, or driver from agreeing with prospective passenger(s) to a rate of fare which is equal to or less than the permit holder's posted rates of fare if the agreement is entered into in advance of the passenger(s) hiring the taxicab for the trip.

(Section 2.2 amended 12/12/2019)

-(Section 2.2 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 2.2 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 2.2 amended 5/12/2016)

(Section 2.2(c)(2)amended 11/15/2012)

(Section 2.2(b) amended 4/19/2012)

(Section 2.2 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 2.2 amended 5/8/2003)

(Section 2.2 amended 11/14/2002)

(Section 2.2 amended 6/24/1999)

(Section 2.2 amended 9/24/1998; Section 2.2c operative May 1, 1999)

(Section 2.2 amended 10/30/1997)

(Section 2.2 amended 4/10/1997)

Section 2.3 - Equipment and Specifications

(a) No taxicab shall be operated until the taximeter thereon has been inspected, tested, approved and sealed, if applicable, by an authorized representative of the State of California, and thereafter so maintained in a manner satisfactory to the Chief Executive Officer.

(b) Each taxicab may be equipped with a device which plainly indicates to a person outside the taxicab whether the taximeter is in operation or is not in operation.

(c) Mandatory Exterior Markings: The permit holder must display one of the following exterior markings schemes on each taxicab:

(1) Exterior Marking Scheme 1: The following must be displayed if in use of Exterior Marking Scheme 1:

(A) The permit holder's trade name shall be painted or permanently affixed in letters and numerals four (4) inches high all on one line on the upper third part of both rear doors or both rear quarter panels utilizing "Univers" or other Chief Executive Officer pre-approved font in black or white lettering to produce maximum contrast adequately spaced for maximum readability. In the event the trade name does not fit on one line utilizing four (4) inch lettering, the trade name lettering must be as large as possible, up to four (4) inches in height, to enable the trade name to fit on one line.

(B) The medallion number shall be painted or permanently affixed, on both rear doors or both rear quarter panels, one (1) inch below the permit holder's trade name, six (6) inches high, utilizing "Univers" or other Chief Executive Officer pre-approved font in black or white lettering to produce maximum contrast adequately spaced for maximum readability.

(2) Exterior Marking Scheme 2: The following must be displayed if in use of Exterior Marking Scheme 2:

(A) The permit holder's trade name shall be painted or permanently affixed in letters and numerals four (4) inches high all on one line on the upper third part of both front doors utilizing "Univers" or other Chief Executive Officer pre-approved font in black or white lettering to produce maximum contrast adequately spaced for maximum readability. In the event the trade name does not fit on one line utilizing four (4) inch lettering, the trade name lettering must be as large as possible, up to four (4) inches in height, to enable the trade name to fit on one line.

(B) The medallion number shall be painted or permanently affixed, on both front doors, one (1) inch below the permit holder's trade name, six (6) inches high, utilizing "Univers" or other Chief Executive Officer pre-approved font in black or white lettering to produce maximum contrast adequately spaced for maximum readability.

(C) The permit holder's trade name and medallion number shall be painted or permanently affixed on the rear of the taxicab, four (4) inches high, utilizing "Univers" or other Chief Executive Officer pre-approved font in black or white lettering to produce maximum contrast adequately spaced for maximum readability. In the event the rear of the vehicle does not have four inches of vertical space for the trade name and medallion number, the rear lettering may be less than four inches, provided that it is easily readable from a distance of 50 feet.

(d) Optional Exterior Vehicle Markings. The permit holder has the option of choosing to post any combination of the below-listed five options on his or her taxicab which must be posted only at the specific location and in the size noted.

(1) Trade Name Logo. If the permit holder chooses to display his or her trade name logo, the trade name logo shall be posted only on the rear portion of both side rear quarter panels.

(2) Dispatch Service Provider. If the permit holder chooses to display the dispatch service provider name or logo, the dispatch service provider name or logo cannot utilize the words "cab" or "taxi." The dispatch service provider name or logo must be displayed only on the rear portion of both side rear quarter panels.

(3) Telephone Number. If permit holder chooses to display a telephone number, the telephone number must be no more than three (3) inches in height and posted only on the top front portion of both front side quarter panels.

(4) "Driver Carries Only \$_____ Change". If the permit holder chooses to post "Driver Carries only \$_____ Change", postings must be located only on rear quarter panels near the rear door but clear of the rates of fare.

(5) "Leased to Driver". If permit holder chooses to post "Leased to Driver," it must be posted only on both side rear quarter panels near the rear door but clear of the rate of fares in lettering no larger than 1 inch.

(6) Body Numbers. If the permit holder chooses to post an internally assigned body number, different from the medallion number, the body number shall be posted in one (1) inch numerals on the front and rear bumpers.

(e) All other exterior vehicle markings are prohibited unless they are directly related to the permit holder's business and pre-approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

(f) All taxicabs shall be equipped and operated so that they may be dispatched by two-way radio or two-way electronic communication, monitored by a dispatcher, in response to a telephone or other request for service by a prospective passenger.

(1) Means of dispatch device must be turned on, and audible to driver, at all times the taxicab is in service.

(2) Dispatch equipment, such as a two-way radio, cellular phone or tablet, shall be securely mounted within the vehicle in such a way to be visible to peace officers and MTS inspectors and allow for hands-free operation while the vehicle is in motion.

(g) If radio dispatch capability is utilized, the dispatch service must abide by the following: the radio dispatch capability described in paragraph (d) of this section must be provided

so as to conform to the regulations of the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) pertaining to Land Transportation Radio Services. Failure to conform to those regulations will additionally constitute a failure to meet the requirements of this section.

(1) The current valid FCC license shall be on file with MTS.

(2) Taxicab permit holder shall provide current proof the radio or electronic device has passed inspection by an MTS-approved inspector.

(3) Taxicab radios shall have the capability to receive or transmit only on frequencies specified in the FCC license of the radio service subscribed to by the permit holder.

(h) Each permit holder shall equip each permitted taxicab with a device capable of electronically processing credit card transactions. The device must be visible to all passengers and must allow the passenger to operate the payment device independently of the driver, without having to hand the credit card to the driver. The device must be fully operational at all times. The permit holder ~~or~~ dispatch service, or driver shall be the merchant of record associated with the device. Any means of electronic credit card acceptance is acceptable so long as it complies with the provisions set forth in Section 1.8 (r).

(Section 2.3 amended 12/12/2019)

(Section 2.3 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 2.3 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 2.3 amended 10/13/2016)

(Section 2.3 amended 5/12/2016)

(Section 2.3 amended 2/12/2015)

(Section 2.3 amended 11/15/2012)

(Section 2.3 amended 6/27/2002)

(Section 2.3 amended 9/24/1998; Section 2.3c operative May 1, 1999)

(Section 2.3 amended 6/27/1991; effective 7/27/1991)

(Section 2.3 amended 4/10/1997)

Section 2.4 - Operating Regulations

(a) Operating regulations shall be promulgated and adopted from time to time by resolution of the Board. These resolutions will have the force of law and will be published and processed as though set forth in this Ordinance.

(b) Any driver employed to transport passengers to a definite point shall take the most direct route possible that will carry the passenger to the destination safely and expeditiously.

(c) A failure of the driver of any taxicab or LSV to assist a passenger with the loading or unloading of a reasonable size, number, and kind of passenger luggage or other items, when requested to do so, shall be specifically defined as a violation of this section.

(1) A driver is not required to lift any single piece of passenger luggage or other item that exceeds 25 pounds in weight. The requirement for loading or unloading assistance shall be limited to retrieval from or deposit onto the nearest curbside adjacent to the legally parked taxicab or LSV. A sign in the form of a transparent decal may be affixed to the rear-door, side window stating that, "DRIVER IS NOT REQUIRED TO LOAD LUGGAGE IN

EXCESS OF 25 POUNDS PER ITEM OR OF A SIZE OR KIND THAT WILL NOT SAFELY FIT IN THE DESIGNATED LUGGAGE AREA OF THIS VEHICLE.”

(2) A driver with a lawful disability that prevents him/her from handling items as defined in subsection (2) above is, upon submission of proof of such disability, relieved of responsibility for the requirements of subsection (2). A driver so situated may affix a small sign either in the passenger section of the vehicle to be clearly visible to a rear seat passenger or on the inside of the trunk cover lid stating that, “DRIVER HAS DISABILITY THAT PREVENTS HANDLING OF LUGGAGE.”

(d) It shall be unlawful for taxicab operators to refuse or discourage a prospective or actual fare based upon trip length within City or County, or method of payment. Driver shall not refuse payment by credit card.

(1) A vehicle designated as an LSV may refuse a prospective or actual fare if the trip distance is outside allowed areas of operations.

(2) A failure to promptly dispatch (within the standards required by Sections 2.6(a)(1), (2), and (3) of this Ordinance), or any action by a driver of any taxicab or LSV to refuse or discourage a prospective or actual passenger who must transport foodstuffs or who must meet a medical appointment, irrespective of trip length, shall be specifically defined as a violation of this section so long as that prospective passenger has notified the dispatch service of this circumstance at the time a request for taxi service was made.

(e) No driver of any taxicab or LSV shall stop, park, or otherwise leave standing a taxicab or LSV on the same side of the street in any block in which taxicabs or LSVs are already stopped, parked, or otherwise standing except the taxicab or LSV may actively unload in a passenger loading zone or be parked in a marked taxi/LSV stand.

(f) No driver shall stop, park or otherwise leave standing a taxicab or LSV within one-hundred (100) feet of any other taxicab or LSV except in a marked taxi/LSV stand or while actively loading or unloading passengers.

(g) An out-of-service sign must be displayed when the taxicab or LSV is not available for hire and is being operated or is lawfully parked for purposes of maintenance, inspection, or personal use. The sign must be placed in a location in the vehicle that is clearly visible from the exterior of the vehicle. The sign must be of durable material and written in block letters in black ink and easily readable from a distance of not less than ten (10) feet.

(h) A taxicab driver may seek passengers by driving through any public street or place without stops, other than those due to obstruction of traffic, and at such speed as not to interfere with or impede traffic.

(i) It shall be unlawful, however, for the driver to seek passengers by stopping at or driving slowly in the vicinity of an entertainment center or transportation center or any other location of public gathering, in such a manner as to interfere with public access to or departure from that center or location, or so as to interfere with or impede traffic.

(j) It shall also be unlawful for a taxicab or LSV driver, having parked and left his or her taxicab or LSV, to solicit patronage among pedestrians on the sidewalk, or at any entertainment center, transportation center, or other location of public gathering.

(k) No person shall solicit passengers for a taxicab or LSV other than the driver thereof; however, the Chief Executive Officer may authorize a dispatcher to solicit passengers and assist in loading passengers at such times and places as, in his or her discretion, public service and traffic conditions require.

(l) It shall be unlawful for the driver or operator of any taxicab or LSV to remain standing in any established taxicab or LSV stand or passenger loading zone, unless the driver or operator remains within twelve (12) feet of his or her taxicab or LSV, except when the driver or operator is actually engaged in assisting passengers to load or unload.

(m) Only paying passengers and persons specifically authorized by the Chief Executive Officer may occupy a taxicab or LSV that is already occupied by a paying passenger. No driver, once a paying passenger has occupied the taxicab or LSV, shall permit any other nonpaying passenger to occupy or ride in the taxicab or LSV.

(n) It shall be unlawful to respond to a call for service dispatched to another operator except when an LSV refers service to another operator because the trip distance is outside of the approved area of jurisdiction.

(o) The taxicab or LSV driver shall maintain a daily trip log which shall be available for inspection upon request by any peace officer or MTS inspector. The trip log will accurately show the driver's name, taxicab or LSV number, date, time, beginning odometer reading, starting and ending locations, type of service provided, and fare paid for each trip provided.

(1) The daily trip log shall consist, at a minimum, of a five- by seven-inch paper form retained on a stiff-board writing surface with ruled lines and columns sufficient to contain the required information. All entries will be in black or dark blue ink, block letters, and be clearly legible. Colored paper that is lightly shaded is allowed provided there is sufficient contrast for entries to be easily read. Onboard electronically generated reports that meet the legibility requirements are acceptable.

(2) The driver shall deliver trip logs to the permit holder upon request or at a weekly interval, whichever is less.

(3) If a taxicab, the trip log shall be retained for at least 18 months.

(p) All operating regulations set forth in Section 1.8 apply.

(q) The permit holder or the driver of the taxicab shall notify the passenger of the applicable rate prior to the passenger accepting the ride for walkup rides and street hails. The rate may be provided on the exterior of the vehicle, with an application of a mobile phone, device, or other internet-connected device, or be clearly visible in either print or electronic form inside the taxicab.

(Section 2.4 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 2.4 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 2.4 amended 10/13/2016)

(Section 2.4 amended 5/12/2016)

(Section 2.4 amended 2/12/2015)

(Section 2.4 amended 11/15/2012)

(Section 2.4 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 2.4 amended 11/14/2002)

(Section 2.4 amended 6/24/1999)

(Section 2.4 amended 2/13/1997)
(Section 2.4 amended 6/27/1991; effective 7/27/1991)

Section 2.5 - Stands

(a) The Chief Executive Officer may establish, locate and designate shared use taxicab/LSV stands for one or more taxicabs/LSVs, which stands when so established shall be appropriately designated "Taxis/LSVs Only." The operating regulations of this Ordinance shall apply to such stands and to taxicab/LSV stands established by the San Diego Unified Port District in areas under its jurisdiction within the City.

(b) Each taxicab or LSV stand established hereunder may be in operation twenty-four (24) hours of every day, unless otherwise specified by the Chief Executive Officer.

(c) Any individual, partnership, association, or other organization may petition MTS requesting that a new taxicab/LSV stand be established, or that the location of an existing taxicab/LSV stand be changed to another location. A nonrefundable filing fee to be determined by the Chief Executive Officer must be paid at the time the petition is submitted.

(d) It shall be unlawful for a vehicle other than a taxicab or LSV with a proper MTS taxicab or LSV permit to occupy a taxi/LSV stand.

(e) LSVs may only occupy taxicab stands that are specially signed, designated their approved use.

(Section 2.5 amended 11/15/2012)
(Section 2.5 amended 8/7/2003)

Section 2.6 - Dispatch Services

(a) In order to provide taxicab dispatch service required by Section 2.3(d, e), the dispatch service organization adding or changing subscribers after July 1, 1991 shall establish and conform to written policies and procedures concerning the following:

- (1) Standard time elapse for answering the telephone service-request line(s).
- (2) Standard time elapse for the taxicab's arrival at requested pick-up location.
- (3) Passenger's request for a specific driver ("personals").
- (4) Additional two-way communication devices (mobile or cellular phones) in taxicabs
- (5) Lost and found for passengers' items.
- (6) Assignment of vehicle body numbers.
- (7) Immediately notify the permit holder of all lost items and inquiries.

Current written policies and procedures shall be available to subscribers from the radio dispatch organization, and on file with MTS.

(b) Taxicab service organizations shall, 24 hours a day, have dispatch staff on duty at the business location, which must be a preapproved physical address, answer telephone- request line(s), properly dispatch those requests to all members, provide radio response to all licensed radio frequencies/channels, and respond to direct requests from drivers, permit holders, and MTS as well as law enforcement and local regulatory agencies.

(c) Taxicab dispatch services shall keep written records of all requests for taxi service, calls dispatched, and the time(s) each taxicab goes in and out of service. These records shall be kept on file for a minimum of six (6) months, and made available to MTS, upon request.

(d) No person, partnership, corporation, association, other organization providing radio or other dispatch service shall dispatch a request for service to a driver, owner, or vehicle unless the driver, owner, and vehicle are properly licensed to provide the service requested.

(e) The Chief Executive Officer may, at any time, revoke or suspend the taxicab privileges of or fine any person, partnership, corporation, association, other organization providing radio or other dispatch service that violates a provision of this ordinance.

(Section 2.6 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 2.6 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 2.6 amended 10/13/2016)

(Section 2.6 amended 11/15/2012)

(Section 2.6 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 2.6 amended 9/24/1998)

(Section 2.6 added 6/27/1991; effective 7/27/1991)

Section 2.7 - Driver Safety Requirements

(a) No taxicab vehicle shall be operated unless such vehicle is equipped with an emergency signaling device approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

(b) No taxicab vehicle may be operated with window tinting, shades, or markings that could interfere with a clear view of the cab interior from the outside, unless equipped by the vehicle manufacturer and approved by an MTS inspector.

(c) Taxicab dispatch services required by Section 2.3 shall at all times have a dispatch staff person on duty who has successfully completed a driver safety training course approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

(d) The use of a cellular phone or other similar electronic device by drivers is prohibited at all times when the vehicle is in motion. Otherwise, California Vehicle Code rules apply.

(Section 2.7 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 2.7 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 2.7 amended 10/13/2016)

(Section 2.7 amended 5/12/2016)

(Section 2.7 amended 11/15/2012)

(Section 2.7 amended 8/7/2003)

(Section 2.7 added 9/24/1998)

Section 2.8 – Prearranged Trips by Taxicabs

(a) A Prearranged Trip shall mean a trip using an online enabled application, dispatch or Internet Web site.

(b) A MTS taxicab permit holder may provide Prearranged Trips anywhere within San Diego County.

(c) A taxicab not permitted by MTS, but permitted by another authorized agency within San Diego County, may provide Prearranged Trips within City or County. MTS will not require such a taxicab to apply for a permit with MTS if the taxicab is not Substantially Located in City or County. MTS will require such a taxicab to comply with mechanical safety regulations within Section 1.8 (f) as a public health, safety and welfare measure.

(Section 2.8 amended 2/14/2019)

(Section 2.8 added 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

SECTION 3.0 - CHARTER VEHICLES

Section 3.1 - Rates of Fare

(a) Within thirty (30) calendar days following the issuance of a permit by the Chief Executive Officer, each permit holder shall file a document with the Chief Executive Officer reflecting the rates of fare being charged by said permit holder for charter services.

(b) If a permit holder desires to change the rates of fare being charged for charter services during any calendar year, he shall first file a document with the Chief Executive Officer indicating said changes, and no change shall be effective until fourteen (14) days following the filing of said change.

(c) No permit holder shall charge any rate of fare for charter services unless said rates are on file with the Chief Executive Officer as aforesaid, and duly displayed.

(d) The rates of fare shall be established by a prearranged written contract on a per-mile or per-hour basis.

(Section 3.1 amended 4/10/1997)

Section 3.2 - Operating Regulations

(a) It shall be unlawful for any charter vehicle to remain standing on any public street in the City, except such reasonable time necessary when enabling passengers to load or unload.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person, either as owner, driver, or agent, to approach and solicit patronage upon the streets, sidewalks, in any theater, hall, hotel, public resort, railway or airport, or light rail transit station.

(c) The charter for-hire vehicle driver shall maintain a daily trip log which shall be available for inspection upon request by any peace officer or MTS inspector. The trip log will accurately show the driver's name and the medallion number on the vehicle. In addition, the trip log shall identify the scheduling parties by name, date, and time of the prearranged hire. If the trip is medical in nature, the passenger's name may be omitted.

(d) All other operating regulations defined in Section 1.8 apply.

(Section 3.2 amended 12/14/2017)
(Section 3.2 amended 11/14/2002)

SECTION 4.0 - SIGHTSEEING VEHICLES

Section 4.1 - Rates of Fare

(a) Within thirty (30) calendar days following the issuance of a permit by the Chief Executive Officer, each permit holder shall file a document with the Chief Executive Officer reflecting the rates of fare being charged by said permit holder of sightseeing vehicle services.

(b) If a permit holder desires to change the rates of fare being charged for sightseeing services during any calendar year, the permit holder shall first file a document with the Chief Executive Officer indicating said changes, and no change shall be effective until fourteen (14) days following the filing of said changes.

(c) No permit holder shall charge any rate of fare for sightseeing services unless said rates are on file with the Chief Executive Officer as aforesaid, and duly displayed.

(d) The rate of fare shall be established on a per capita or per event basis.

(Section 4.1 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)
(Section 4.1 amended 4/10/1997)

Section 4.2 - Operating Regulations

(a) It shall be unlawful for any sightseeing vehicle to remain standing on any public street in the City, except such reasonable time necessary when enabling passengers to load or unload.

(b) It shall be unlawful for any person, either as owner, driver, or agent, to approach and solicit patronage upon the streets, sidewalks, in any theater, hall, hotel, public resort, railway or airport, or light rail transit station.

(c) All other operating regulations defined in Section 1.8 apply, except Section 1.8 (v).

SECTION 5.0 - NONEMERGENCY MEDICAL VEHICLES

Section 5.1 - Rates of Fare

(a) Within thirty (30) calendar days following the issuance of a permit by the Chief Executive Officer, each permit holder shall file a document with the Chief Executive Officer reflecting the rates of fare being charged by said permit holder for nonemergency medical vehicle services.

(b) If a permit holder desires to change the rates of fare being charged for nonemergency medical vehicle services during any calendar year, he shall first file a document with the Chief Executive Officer indicating said changes, and no change shall be effective until fourteen (14) days following the filing of said change.

(c) No permit holder shall charge any rate of fare for nonemergency medical vehicle services unless said rates are on file with the Chief Executive Officer as aforesaid.

(d) The rate of fare for exclusive ride service shall be established on a per capita plus per mile basis.

(e) The rates of fare for shared ride service shall be established on a per capita plus per mile basis, or on a per capita plus per zone basis.

(Section 5.1 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 5.1 amended 4/10/1997)

Section 5.2 - Operating and Equipment Regulations

(a) It shall be unlawful for any nonemergency medical vehicle to remain standing on any public street in the City, except when enabling passengers to load or unload.

(b) All other operating regulations defined in Section 1.8 apply.

(c) Special equipment on a nonemergency medical vehicle shall, at all times the vehicle is in operation, be in proper working order. Such vehicles equipped with wheelchair ramps or lifts shall have proper device(s) to secure each wheelchair on board.

(d) The permit holder is responsible for ensuring that the driver of a nonemergency medical vehicle is properly trained:

(1) in the use of any of the vehicle's special equipment;

(2) concerning supervision of or assistance to the disabled passengers whom the driver is to transport.

(Section 5.2 amended 6/22/1995)

(Section 5.2 amended 6/24/1993)

Section 5.3 - Driver Identification Cards

In addition to the requirements set forth in Section 1.12, nonemergency medical vehicle drivers shall acquire and maintain valid proof of proper first-aid and CPR training.

(Section 5.3 added 6/24/1993)

SECTION 6.0 - JITNEY VEHICLES

Section 6.1 - Rates of Fare

(a) Within thirty (30) calendar days following the issuance of a permit by the Chief Executive Officer, each permit holder shall file a document with the Chief Executive Officer reflecting the rates of fare being charged by said permit holder for jitney services.

(b) If a permit holder desires to change the rates of fare being charged for jitney services during any calendar year, he shall first file a document with the Chief Executive Officer indicating said changes, and no change shall be effective until fourteen (14) days following the filing of said change.

(c) No permit holder shall charge any rate of fare for jitney services unless said rates are on file with the Chief Executive Officer and duly displayed.

- (d) The rates of fare shall be established on a per capita basis.

(Section 6.1 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)
(Section 6.1 amended 4/10/1997)

Section 6.2 - Jitney Routes

(a) A permit holder who wishes to provide a fixed route service shall apply to the Chief Executive Officer for authorization to serve a defined route with a specific vehicle. No for-hire vehicle may be operated as a jitney until it has met all other requirements of this Ordinance and has been approved for service on a specific fixed route. A jitney may be authorized to serve more than one route; however, a jitney may provide fixed route service on only those routes which the Chief Executive Officer has approved in writing for that vehicle.

(b) The application for a fixed route shall be in writing and shall contain the following information:

- (1) A description of the vehicle(s) which will be utilizing the route;
- (2) A detailed written description of the route, to include starting location, ending location, and the street name and direction of travel for all streets to be used in the route;
- (3) A map in sufficient detail to clearly indicate the proposed route;
- (4) The fare to be charged; and
- (5) Such other information as the Chief Executive Officer may, in his or her discretion, require.

(c) Upon approval of a fixed route by the Chief Executive Officer, the permit holder shall display a representation of the route, the fare, and the permit holder's trade name on each side of the vehicle in letters large enough to be easily read by potential customers in accordance with the standards established by the Chief Executive Officer under Section 6.5 of this Ordinance. Only one (1) route may be displayed on a vehicle at any time.

(d) If a permit holder wishes to alter his or her approved fixed route(s), he or she must apply in writing to the Chief Executive Officer, submitting the information required in Section 6.2 (b).

(e) The Chief Executive Officer may, in his or her discretion, place conditions on the approval of fixed routes.

(f) The Chief Executive Officer may change a route that has been approved previously when the Chief Executive Officer finds it necessary to do so. A change of route may be necessary when a street has been closed temporarily or permanently because of construction, or the direction of a street has been changed, or a street has been vacated, or for similar reasons as determined by the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer shall notify in writing any permit holder whose route has been changed. The Chief Executive Officer's change of a route is subject to appeal under Section 1.16 of this Ordinance.

(g) Except as provided for within this subsection, an approved fixed route may not be transferred to another vehicle or permit holder. A permit holder may receive approval for a vehicle that is replacing a jitney already in service to use the approved fixed routes of the replaced vehicle.

(Section 6.2 amended 11/14/2002)

Section 6.3 – Operating Regulations

(a) It is unlawful for any jitney to remain standing on any public street in the City, except when enabling passengers to load or unload, or except when standing in a jitney holding zone for the time period established by MTS.

(b) It is unlawful for any person including, but not limited to, a jitney owner, driver, or agent thereof, to approach and solicit patronage upon the streets, sidewalks, in any theater, hall, hotel, public resort, railway, airport, or light rail transit station.

(c) A peace officer or MTS inspector may authorize a dispatcher to solicit passengers and assist with loading passengers at such times and places as, in his/her discretion, public service and traffic conditions require.

(d) Except when a driver or operator is actually engaged in assisting passengers to load or unload, a jitney driver or operator must remain within twelve (12) feet of his/her jitney while the jitney is in service.

(e) It is unlawful for a jitney vehicle to operate a fixed route service on other than that route designated by the Chief Executive Officer.

(f) It shall be unlawful for a jitney driver to load or unload passengers in any place other than an authorized jitney stop, bus stop, or passenger loading zone.

(g) All other operating regulations defined in Section 1.8 apply.

(Section 6.3 amended 11/14/2002)

Section 6.4 - Jitney Holding Zones

(a) The Chief Executive Officer may, by resolution, locate and designate holding zones for one (1) or more jitneys, which holding zones when so established, shall be designated by appropriate signs. The operating regulations of Section 6.3 shall apply to any holding zones so established, and to holding zones established by the San Diego Unified Port District in areas under its jurisdiction. The Chief Executive Officer may, by his or her discretion, establish the maximum number of jitneys permitted to remain standing at one time in a holding zone.

(b) Each holding zone established hereunder shall be in operation twenty-four (24) hours of every day, unless otherwise specified by the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer shall adopt written standards to determine whether to allow holding zones to be in operation fewer than twenty-four (24) hours every day. If a holding zone is to be in operation fewer than twenty-four (24) hours every day, the Chief Executive Officer shall cause signs to be posted at or near the holding zone indicating the hours and days of operation.

(c) The Chief Executive Officer may, on his or her own motion, establish holding zones.

(d) Any individual, partnership, corporation, association or other organization may petition MTS requesting that a new holding zone be established. The petition must be filed in

writing with the Chief Executive Officer or his/her designee. The petition must state the reason for the request and the proposed location(s). The Board may approve, deny, or modify the request.

(e) Whether initiated by the Chief Executive Officer under Subsection (c) of this section or by persons described in Subsection (d) of this section, before any holding zone is established, the proposed location of any holding zone must be reviewed by the Traffic Engineer of the City. The Traffic Engineer shall report his/her recommendations to approve, deny, or modify the proposed location in writing to the Chief Executive Officer. The Traffic Engineer's report shall include a statement of reasons supporting the recommendation to the Chief Executive Officer.

(f) The Chief Executive Officer shall, by resolution, establish a maximum time limit for individual jitneys to remain standing in any holding zone. The time limit shall apply uniformly to all holding zones.

(g) It shall be unlawful for a vehicle other than a jitney with a proper MTS jitney permit to occupy a jitney holding zone.

(Section 6.4 amended 11/15/2012)

Section 6.5 - Equipment and Specifications

(a) Each jitney shall bear on the outside, signs clearly designating the route which it serves. The specifications of the sign are subject to the approval of the Chief Executive Officer. The Chief Executive Officer shall adopt written standards for approval or denial of the size of the signs, the location of the signs on the vehicle, the size of the lettering or graphics on the signs, and other specifications that the Chief Executive Officer finds necessary.

(b) All jitney vehicles must bear a trade name and shall be assigned a body number by the permit holder. The trade name and body number so assigned shall be placed on the vehicle in accordance with written standards adopted by the Chief Executive Officer.

Any violation of this Ordinance shall constitute an infraction unless otherwise specified.

SECTION 7.0 – LOW-SPEED VEHICLES

Section 7.1 – Low-Speed Vehicle (LSV) Definition

Low-Speed Vehicles (LSV) shall mean every vehicle that is designated per the requirements of Ordinance No. 11, Section 1.1(r). LSVs may operate by zones and/or a prearranged basis as set forth in Section 1.1 (b) (1)-(5).

(Section 7.1 amended 2/14/2019)

(Section 7.1 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 7.0 and 7.1 added 8/7/2003)

Section 7.2 – Establishment of Zones

The Chief Executive Officer shall establish and authorize the use of zones of operation.

(Section 7.2 added 8/7/2003)

Section 7.3 – Zone Rates of Fare

(a) All vehicles permitted as LSV may use two methods of seeking compensation, either by zone rates or on a prearranged basis. Either method may be used when working inside of an approved zone. However, when operating on a prearranged charter basis, within an approved zone, no operator may exceed the maximum number of vehicles that are permitted.

(b) Within thirty (30) calendar days following the issuance of a permit by the Chief Executive Officer, each permit holder shall file a document with the Chief Executive Officer reflecting the rates of fare being charged by said permit holder for LSV services.

(c) When a permit holder desires to change the rates of fare being charged for LSV services during any calendar year, he shall first file a document with the Chief Executive Officer indicating said changes, and no change shall be effective until fourteen (14) days following the filing of said change.

(d) No permit holder shall charge any rate of fare for LSV services unless said rates are on file with the Chief Executive Officer as aforesaid, and duly displayed.

(e) The rates of fare shall be established by a zone and/or prearranged written contract on a per-mile or per-hour basis.

(f) The maximum rates of fare shall be established pursuant to Section 2.2.

(Section 7.3 amended 10/13/2016)
(Section 7.3 added 8/7/2003)

Section 7.4 – Spare Vehicle Policy

(a) The following sets out procedures for LSV permit holders to place a spare vehicle into service as either a temporary replacement for a permitted vehicle that is out of service for recharging or mechanical problems.

(1) Spare LSVs must be marked with the approved company markings.

(2) In place of the medallion number, the spare LSV must be marked "Spare LSV." Where more than one spare LSV is being requested, under the provisions of paragraph 9, the LSVs will be marked "Spare LSV 1," "Spare LSV 2," and so on. The "Spare LSV" marking should be sized to fit in approximately the same space as the medallion number would otherwise be placed with legibility and visibility being the primary criteria.

(3) Spare LSVs must be inspected upon initial issuance and annually thereafter.

(4) All spare LSVs must meet all MTS insurance requirements.

(5) To use a spare LSV that meets the requirements of 1 through 4 above, the permit holder must communicate in writing (facsimile is acceptable), a request to place a spare LSV into service.

The request must state:

(A) the medallion number of the LSV being taken out of service, the reason for being out of service, and the location of the out-of-service LSV; and

(B) the estimated time the spare LSV will be in use.

(6) When the out-of-service LSV is ready to re-enter service, the permit holder must immediately notify MTS in writing (facsimile is acceptable).

(7) The out-of-service LSV may not be required to be reinspected to be placed back into service.

(8) The spare LSV must be removed from service at the time the LSV it has been replacing is placed back into service.

(9) Under normal circumstances, a permit holder may utilize spare LSVs. Permit holders may utilize spare LSVs in a ratio of 3:1 permits held.

(10) Spare LSVs that are placed in service may only operate inside of the MTS-approved zone or zones. A permit holder shall not operate more spare vehicles than he/she has regular permitted vehicles.

(11) A permit holder found to have operated a spare LSV in deliberate violation of these procedures will be subject to immediate suspension/revocation of the permit and the loss of the spare LSV utilization privilege.

(Section 7.4 amended 10/13/2016)

(Section 7.4 amended 10/16/2003)

(Section 7.4 added 8/7/2003)

Section 7.5 – LSV Driver Identification Cards

(a) Refer to Section 1.12 of this Ordinance to reference driver and permit holder ID requirements.

(Section 7.5 added 8/7/2003)

Section 7.6 - Equipment and Specifications

(a) Each LSV shall display whether out of service in accordance with section 2.4 (g) of this Ordinance, which shall indicate to a person outside the LSV whether the LSV is in operation or is not.

(b) Exterior Markings

(1) Mandatory Exterior Vehicle Markings. The medallion number shall be painted or permanently affixed, on the front of the vehicle, one (1) inch below the permit holder's trade name, two (2) inches high, utilizing "Univers" or other Chief Executive Officer pre-approved font in black or white lettering to produce maximum contrast adequately spaced for maximum readability.

(2) Optional Exterior Vehicle Markings. The permit holder has the option of choosing to post any combination of the below-listed five options on his or her LSV which must be posted only at the specific location and in the size noted and are subject to the Chief Executive Officer's approval.

(A) Trade Name Logo. If the permit holder chooses to display his or her trade name logo, the trade name logo shall be posted only on the rear portion of both side rear quarter panels.

(B) Radio Service Provider. If the permit holder chooses to display the radio service provider name or logo, the radio service provider name or logo cannot utilize the words "cab" or taxi." The radio service provider name or logo must be displayed only on the rear portion of both side rear quarter panels.

(C) Telephone Number. If permit holder chooses to display a telephone number, the telephone number must be no more than two (2) inches in height and posted only on the top front portion of both front side quarter panels.

(D) "Driver Carries Only \$_____ Change". If the permit holder chooses to post "Driver Carries only \$_____ Change", postings must be located only on panels near the rear door but clear of the rates of fare.

(E) "Leased to Driver". If permit holder chooses to post "Leased to Driver," it must be posted only on both rear quarter panels near the rear door area but clear of the rate of fares in lettering no larger than 1 inch.

(3) All other exterior vehicle markings are prohibited unless they are directly related to the permit holder's business and pre-approved by the Chief Executive Officer.

(c) All LSVs shall be equipped and operated so that they have adequate means of electronic communication during business hours. The LSV company business address shall serve as the storefront for the purpose of handling lost and found items. All other operational requirements she be met as set forth in section 1.8 (c).

(Section 7.6 amended 11/8/2018, effective 1/1/2019)

(Section 7.6 amended 12/14/2017)

(Section 7.6 amended 10/4/2016)

(Section 7.6 added 8/7/2003)

SECTION 8 - EFFECTIVE DATE OF ORDINANCE

This Ordinance shall be effective 30 days after adoption, and before the expiration of 15 days after its passage, this Ordinance shall be published once with the names of the members voting for and against the same in a newspaper of general circulation published in the County of San Diego.

Amended:12/12/2019

Amended: 10/10/2019

Amended: 2/14/2019

Amended: 11/8/2018

Amended: 9/20/2018

Amended: 12/14/2017

Amended: 10/13/2016

Amended: 5/12/2016

Amended: 9/17/2015

Amended: 2/12/2015

Amended: 11/15/2012

Amended: 4/19/2012

Amended: 10/16/2003
Amended: 8/7/2003
Amended: 5/8/2003
Amended: 11/14/2002
Amended: 6/27/2002
Amended: 5/23/2002
Amended: 6/24/1999
Amended: 9/24/1998
Amended: 10/30/1997
Amended: 4/10/1997
Amended: 2/13/1997
Amended: 11/9/1995
Amended: 6/22/1995
Amended: 1/12/1995
Amended: 6/24/1993
Amended: 6/27/1991
Amended: 5/23/1991
Amended: 10/11/1990
Repealed & Readopted: 8/9/1990
Amended: 4/12/1990
Amended: 4/27/1989
Adopted: 8/11/1988



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Agenda Item No. 6

TAXICAB ADVISORY COMMITTEE WORKSHOP ON REGULATORY MATTERS

November 18, 2019

SUBJECT:

REVISIONS TO SAN DIEGO METROPOLITAN TRANSIT SYSTEM (MTS) TAXICAB
ADMINISTRATION FEE SCHEDULE FOR 2020

INFORMATIONAL ONLY:

Budget Impact:

To be Determined.

DISCUSSION:

Per MTS Board Policy No. 34, the Chief Executive Officer may establish fees. MTS Taxicab Administrative Fees are calculated to recover MTS's expenses for the administration and enforcement of taxicab and for hire vehicle permit requirements and the processing of permit applications. The following revisions are recommended by MTS Taxicab Administration. These revisions will be presented to the MTS Chief Executive Officer for final approval. Upon recommendation from the Chief Executive Officer, these changes will be presented at the next Taxicab Administration Committee meeting on December 2, 2019 and will be put into effect on January 1, 2020.

The following is a summary of the proposed revisions:

- 1) Section 2.1 and Section 2.2 - Currently the Fee Schedule provides that for initial permit application, transferring applications, and adding of vehicle applications, permit holders with less than two years' experience and permit holders with more than two years' experience must pay 100% of prorated regulatory fee. The proposed revisions would remove the experience distinction and unify the prorated fee of 100% for all applicants, regardless of experience.
- 2) Section 2.2 - Currently the Fee Schedule states how much it would cost to add a vehicle if you already have a taxicab permit. However, there is no language regarding how much a current permit holder for a non-taxicab (e.g. non-emergency medical vehicles) would pay to acquire an additional permit



Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) is a California public agency and is comprised of San Diego Transit Corporation and San Diego Trolley, Inc. nonprofit public benefit corporations, in cooperation with Chula Vista Transit and National City Transit. MTS is the taxicab administrator for eight cities and the owner of the San Diego and Arizona Eastern Railway Company.

MTS member agencies include: City of Chula Vista, City of Coronado, City of El Cajon, City of Imperial Beach, City of La Mesa, City of Lemon Grove, City of National City, City of Poway, City of San Diego, City of Santee, and the County of San Diego.

to their existing fleet. The proposed revisions would clarify that all for hire vehicles pay the same fee as if were a taxicab.

- 3) Section 3 - Upon completion of driver training class, drivers are provided a certificate of completion. Drivers are required to maintain these records and provide to inspectors upon request. The proposed revisions will add a new regulatory fee category of \$10 if a driver requests a replacement.
- 4) Section 4.1 - One year transfer fees of \$200 apply to all original taxicab permits prior to April 2015. The proposed revisions remove a five year transfer fee of \$250 that was once was applicable to Wheelchair Accessible Taxicab Permits issued in 2007. This five-year restriction from when wheelchair accessible taxicab permits could transfer expired in 2012. We also currently only have one Wheelchair Permits left.
- 5) Section 4.5 - Proposed revisions would reduce a dispatch service change fee of \$100 to \$50 due to the low frequency of permit holders changing dispatch services.
- 6) Section 4.6 - Proposed revision would reduce the rate of fare filing per company fee from \$100 to \$50. The number of filings for rates of fare have decreased over the years due to the adoption of stabilized rate of fare and the ability to charge any amount so long as under the maximum rate of fare.
- 7) Section 4.9 - Some permit holders are owned by corporations or LLCs with stockholders. Currently there is a \$250 fee when adding, deleting or changing stockholders. In an effort to incentive permit holders to update their company stockholder list with MTS Taxicab Administration, the proposed revisions would reduce the fee from \$250 to \$100.

All other changes are minor and non-substantive.

/s/ Leonardo Fewell

Leonardo Fewell

Taxicab Administration Manager

Key Staff Contact: Leonardo Fewell, 619-235-2643, Leonardo.Fewell@sdmts.com

Attachments: A. MTS Taxicab Administration proposed 2020 Fee Schedule



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MTS TAXICAB ADMINISTRATION

TAXI 510.7

20~~2019~~ FEE SCHEDULE

TAXICAB AND OTHER FOR-HIRE VEHICLES AND DRIVERS

FEE AMOUNTS

1. Annual Regulatory Fee per Vehicle \$ 600
If not paid by 12:00 noon, ~~Fri~~Monday, ~~May June10 8, 2019~~20, the permit(s) is not renewed.

2. Permit Application

2.1 Permit application, all except one-year transferable taxicab \$ 1,500

2.1.1 Plus each permit in excess of one \$ 200

2.1.2 Plus additional charge if applicant is a corporation \$ 300

2.1.3 Initial permit issuance per vehicle regulatory fee
(in lieu of Item No. 1)

~~2.1.4 Prorated Regulatory Fee if proprietor or executive officer has less than two years as MTS/city permit holder~~ 100% of Item No. 1 prorated

~~2.1.5 If more than two years' experience~~ 100% of Item No. 1 prorated

2.2 Permit application, current permit holder of for-hire vehicle and one-year transferable taxicab \$ 875

2.2.1 Plus each permit in excess of one \$ 200

2.2.2 Plus additional charge if applicant is a corporation \$ 200

2.2.3 Initial permit issuance per vehicle regulatory fee
(in lieu of Item No. 1): See below

~~2.2.4 Prorated Regulatory Fee if proprietor or executive officer has less than two years as MTS/city permit holder~~ 100% of Item No. 1 prorated

~~2.2.5 If more than two years' experience~~ 100% of Item No. 1 prorated

3. Driver Training Class Class/Test Fee \$30

Certificate

Replacement \$10

~~Proposed 2020 2019~~ FEE SCHEDULE
Taxicab and Other For-Hire Vehicles and Drivers

4. *Operational Requests*

4.1	Transfer clearance	
4.1.1	Transfer clearance (one-year transferable taxicab permit)	\$ 200
	4.1.2 Transfer clearance (five-year transferable taxicab permit)	\$ 250
4.2	Jitney route change or additional route request	\$ 250
4.3	Taxicab stand request or jitney zone, if installed	\$ 250
4.4	Fictitious name change	\$ 100
	Plus per-vehicle fee	\$ 10
4.5	Color scheme and radio <u>Dispatch</u> service change	\$ 50400
	Plus per-vehicle fee	\$ 10
4.6	Rate of fare filing per company	\$ 50400
	Plus per-vehicle fee	\$ 10
4.7	Replacement vehicle (more than one per permit per year)	\$ 50
4.8	Add corporation officer (each)	\$ 100
4.9	Addition, deletion, or change of stockholder (each)	\$ 100250

5. *Vehicle Inspection*

5.1	As a result of failing scheduled inspection	\$ 100
5.2	Reschedule inspection appointment with less than 24-hour notice	\$ 50
5.3	No-show for inspection appointment	\$ 100
5.4	Supplemental scheduled inspection (Out of Service)	\$ 50
5.5	Re-inspection pursuant to a 72-hour notice	\$ 25
5.6	MTS Regulated Vehicle Reflective Decals	\$ 10

6. *Dispatch Services*

6.1	Initial review of new dispatch service organization	\$ 150
6.2	Name change	\$ 50

Proposed 2020 2019 FEE SCHEDULE
 Taxicab and Other For-Hire Vehicles and Drivers

7. *Medallion and Permit Reassignment (same permit holder)*

- 7.1 Reassigning a permit from one existing vehicle to a different existing vehicle in the same company (doing business as {DBA}), or to a different existing company of the same permit holder, or permit type reassignment between existing or new vehicles in the same company (includes vehicle inspection). \$ 250

This does not apply to the replacement of an existing vehicle; i.e. when all permits are reassigned from an existing vehicle to a new vehicle. Replacement vehicle fees remain as stated in Item No. 4.7.

- 7.2 Permit transfer request from original permit holder~~one person~~ to a prospective permit holder~~a different person~~: \$200

In addition, transferee pays fee schedule Item No. 2 (application fee) and Item No. 1 (initial regulatory fee) based on number of vehicles.

PAYMENT

- The ~~2020~~ 2019 annual vehicle fee is due for each permit held as of January 1, ~~2020~~ 2019, irrespective of whether the permit is later transferred, abandoned, or revoked. The permit is considered not renewed if the fee is not paid by 12:00 noon on ~~June 8~~ May 8, 2019.
- For permits issued after January 1, ~~2020~~ 2019, the initial regulatory fee is payable in full when the permit is issued.
- Other fees are due when the request is made.

BASIS FOR FEES

- These fees have been calculated to recover MTS's expenses for the administration and enforcement of taxicab and for-hire vehicle permit requirements and the processing of permit applications.

REFERENCES

- California Public Utilities Commission Section 120266
- MTS Ordinance No. 11, Sections 1.3(b), 1.4(a) and 1.5(d)
- MTS Policy No. 34, Section ~~46~~

 Paul C. Jablonski

 Date

F- 2019 FEE SCHED