

25 February 2011



City Council Committee Report

To: Mayor & Council

Fr: Joanne L. McMillin, City Clerk

Re: Amendments to Taxi By-law Number 88-2009

Recommendation:

That further to consultation with the local taxi companies, Council hereby approves an increase to the Rates & Fares Schedule to Taxi By-law Number 88-2009, effective April 18, 2011; and further

That as required under Notice By-law Number 144-2007, public notice is hereby given that Council intends to give three readings to a by-law at its March 21 meeting to amend the Rates & Fares Schedule for this purpose.

Background:

Further to a recent deputation by Co-ot Taxi regarding rates under the Taxi By-law, I convened a meeting with Co-ot Taxi and Blue Taxi, Mike Mostow, Fleet Supervisor, and Councillor McMillan to discuss their concerns and recommendations. At the conclusion of our meeting it was agreed to provide for a small change in rates and the also had to reflect HST which prior to the harmonizing of taxes was not applicable to taxi fares. The change in fares is as follows: from \$3.83 (first 1/10th k/m) to \$4.30 (which includes the required HST). Each additional 1/10th k/m is reduced from \$.22 to \$.10 and the waiting time remains at \$.40 while the hourly waiting time is increased from \$44.12/hr. to \$48.00/hr. (all including HST). It was contemplated these rates would be in effect until June, 2012, based on further changes to fuel costs, otherwise these rates will continue until or unless the City is approached by the Taxi Companies. Another identified change to the by-law is an adjustment to the taxi meter 'tolerances' from 17 to 15 meters.

A couple of other minor housekeeping changes were made such as the removal of the fee for additional passengers in a taxi, as well as a revised definition for "Limousine."

Following our meeting a copy of the Draft By-law was forwarded to the Taxi Companies for comment and they have both advised they are in agreement with the amended by-law as it stands.

It was suggested the amending by-law be adopted by Council at the March meeting, in order to provide sufficient notice to patrons of the April 18th effective date for the rate changes.

Budget:

N/A

Communication Plan/Notice By-law Requirements:

Under the Notice By-law, public notice is to be provided on the March Agenda(s) of the effective date for the rate change on April 18, 2011.