

4/5/79  
4/27/79

Proposed No. 79-566

ORDINANCE NO. 4232

AN ORDINANCE relating to Taxis--Businesses and Drivers; amending procedures and fees charged for applying for various licenses implementing a new policy by which the schedule of rates and charges shall be set; amending Ordinance 1120, Sections 1, 2, 5, 6, 10, 29, and 30 and KCC 6.64.010, 6.64.020, 6.64.050, 6.64.060, 6.64.100, 6.64.290 and 6.64.300; repealing Ordinance 1120, Section 3 and KCC 6.64.030; adding a new section to provide for other jurisdictions or public agencies to contract for services with King County.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Ordinance 1120, Section 1 and KCC 6.64.010 are hereby amended as follows:

Definitions. For purposes of this chapter and unless the context plainly requires otherwise, the following definitions apply:

(a) (~~"Director of the King County Public Safety Department" means the director and any of his duly authorized representatives.~~) "Affiliated taxicab" means a taxicab associated with a group of taxicabs having multiple owners and operating under the same color or other identification scheme, all of which must operate under an identical schedule of rates and charges.

(b) (~~"Enforcement officer" means the director and his duly authorized representatives, or the director of the King County Public Safety Department and his duly authorized representatives.~~) "Affiliation representative" means the individual or organization who has the authority to file rates for a group of affiliated taxicabs.

(c) (~~"For-hire driver" means any person in charge of or driving a taxicab or for-hire vehicle carrying passengers or baggage for hire, as hereinafter further defined, provided, however, that the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to drivers of motor vehicles operated by any municipal or privately owned, licensed transit system.~~) "Director of the King County

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1 Public Safety Department" means the director and any of his duly  
 2 authorized representatives.

3 (d) ("For-hire-vehicle," wherever used in this  
 4 chapter, means and includes every motor vehicle other than a  
 5 "sightseeing-car-or-charter-bus" having a seating capacity of  
 6 seven passengers or more, as per manufacturer's rating, used for  
 7 the transportation of passengers for hire, and not operated  
 8 exclusively over a fixed and definite route; provided, however,  
 9 that this definition does not include a motor vehicle with a  
 10 seating capacity, including the driver, not exceeding fifteen  
 11 persons which operates to transport passengers between their  
 12 places of abode, or termini near such places, and their places of  
 13 employment, in a single, daily round-trip where the driver is  
 14 also on the way to or from his/her place of employment.))

15 "Enforcement officer" means the director and his duly authorized  
 16 representatives or the director of the King County Public Safety  
 17 Department and his duly authorized representatives.

18 (e) ("Taxicab" means every motor vehicle having a  
 19 seating capacity of six passengers or less as per manufacturer's  
 20 rating, used for the transportation of passengers for hire, and  
 21 not operated over a fixed and definite route.)) "For-hire  
 22 driver" means any person in charge of or driving a taxicab or  
 23 for-hire vehicle carrying passengers or baggage for hire, as  
 24 hereinafter further defined; provided, however, that the  
 25 provisions of this chapter shall not apply to drivers of motor  
 26 vehicles operated by any municipal or privately owned, licensed  
 27 transit system.

28 (f) ("Taximeter" means any instrument or device by  
 29 which the charge for hire of a passenger-carrying vehicle is  
 30 mechanically measured or calculated either for the distance  
 31 traveled by such vehicle or for waiting time, or for both, and  
 32 upon which such calculated charges shall be indicated by means of  
 33 figures.)) "For-hire vehicle," wherever used in this chapter,

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1 means and includes every motor vehicle other than a "sightseeing  
 2 car or charter bus" having a seating capacity of seven passengers  
 3 or more, as per manufacturer's rating, used for the  
 4 transportation of passengers for hire, and not operated  
 5 exclusively over a fixed and definite route; provided, however  
 6 that this definition does not include a motor vehicle with a  
 7 seating capacity, including the driver, not exceeding fifteen  
 8 persons which operates to transport passengers between their  
 9 places of abode, or termini near such places, and their places  
 10 of employment, in a single, daily round trip where the driver is  
 11 also on the way to or from his/her place of employment.

12 (g) (~~"Meter-vehicle"-means-every-self-propelled~~  
 13 ~~vehicle-by-or-upon-which-any-person-may-be-transported-or~~  
 14 ~~carried-upon-a-public-street,-highway-or-alley;-provided,-that~~  
 15 ~~vehicles-used-exclusively-upon-stationary-rail-tracks-or~~  
 16 ~~propelled-by-the-use-of-overhead-electric-wires,-or-for-hotel-or~~  
 17 ~~metel-keepers-conveying-their-guests-to-and-from-hotels-or-metels~~  
 18 ~~free-of-charge-or-reward-and-used-exclusively-for-that-purpose~~  
 19 ~~only,-shall-not-come-under-the-provisions-of-this-chapter-))~~  
 20 "Licensee" shall mean all applicants, including affiliation  
 21 representative, required to license taxicabs or for-hire vehicles  
 22 under the provisions of this chapter.

23 (h) (~~"Engage-in-the-business-of-operating-any-taxicab~~  
 24 ~~or-vehicle-for-hire"-means-the-pickup-and-transportation-of-any~~  
 25 ~~fare-paying-passenger-from-a-point-within-the-geographical~~  
 26 ~~confines-of-unincorporated-King-County,-whether-or-not-the~~  
 27 ~~vehicle-is-dispatched-from-a-taxicab-stand-or-office-wihtin-any~~  
 28 ~~other-municipal-corporation,-and-whether-or-not-the-ultimate~~  
 29 ~~destination-or-route-of-travel-is-within-the-confines-of~~  
 30 ~~unincorporated-King-County;-provided,-that-nothing-in-this~~  
 31 ~~chapter-shall-be-construed-to-apply-to-taxicabs-or-for-hire~~  
 32 ~~vehicles-licensed-by-any-other-municipal-corporation-and~~  
 33 ~~transporting-passengers-from-a-point-within-the-licensing~~

1 ~~municipality-to-a-destination-outside-thereof,-whether-or-not-the~~  
2 ~~ultimate-destination-or-route-traveled-is-within-unincorporated~~  
3 ~~King-County-))~~ "Taxicab" means every motor vehicle used for the  
4 transportation of passengers for hire, where the route traveled  
5 or destination is controlled by a customer and the fare is based  
6 on an amount recorded and indicated on a taximeter.

7 (i) "Taximeter" means any instrument or device by which the  
8 charge for hire of a passenger-carrying vehicle is measured or  
9 calculated either for the distance traveled by such vehicle or  
10 for waiting time, or for both, and upon which such calculated  
11 charges shall be indicated by means of figures.

12 (j) "Motor vehicle" means every self-propelled vehicle by  
13 or upon which any person may be transported or carried upon a  
14 public street, highway or alley; provided, that vehicles used  
15 exclusively upon stationary rail tracks or propelled by the use  
16 of overhead electric wires, or for hotel or motel keepers con-  
17 veying their guests to and from hotels or motels free of charge  
18 or reward and used exclusively for that purpose only, shall not  
19 come under the provisions of this chapter.

20 (k) "Engage in the business of operating any taxicab or  
21 vehicle for hire" means the pickup and transportation of any  
22 fare-paying passenger from a point within the geographical  
23 confines of unincorporated King County, whether or not the  
24 vehicle is dispatched from a taxicab stand or office within any  
25 other municipal corporation, and whether or not the ultimate  
26 destination or route of travel is within the confines of  
27 unincorporated King County; provided, that nothing in this  
28 chapter shall be construed to apply to taxicabs or for-hire  
29 vehicles licensed by any other municipal corporation and  
30 transporting passengers from a point within the licensing  
31 municipality to a destination outside thereof, whether or not  
32 the ultimate destination or route traveled is within unincor-  
33 porated King County.

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1            SECTION 2. Ordinance No. 1120, Section 2 and KCC 6.64.020  
2 are hereby amended as follows:

3            License--Applications. It is unlawful to own, operate,  
4 or engage in the business of operating a taxicab or for-hire car  
5 in the unincorporated areas of King County without first having  
6 obtained, for each and every vehicle so used, a license from the  
7 director, to be known as a for-hire or taxicab license. Licenses  
8 shall be obtained in the following manner and under the following  
9 conditions:

10            (a) The applicant for such license, in a manner  
11 approved by the director shall show in his application: the true  
12 name and address of the applicant, and if a corporation, the  
13 names and addresses of the principal officers and shareholders  
14 thereof, the classification under which the vehicle will be  
15 operated, whether as taxicab or other vehicle for hire; the year  
16 for which the license is sought; and shall furnish full, true and  
17 accurate information concerning the ownership, identification,  
18 company vehicle number, the name of the business, fictitious or  
19 otherwise under which the vehicle is to be operated, the  
20 distinguishing color scheme, design or dress, including any  
21 monogram or insignia to be used on such vehicle or vehicles,  
22 ~~((the-number-of-days-and-the-mileage-for-each-day-of-operation~~  
23 ~~for-any-or-all-vehicles-operated-by-the-applicant-under-any~~  
24 ~~license-issued-under-the-provisions-of-this-chapter-or-any-prior~~  
25 ~~ordinance-of-King-County-regulating-taxicabs-and-for-hire~~  
26 ~~vehicles-for-the-year-preceding-the-yearly-period-specified-in~~  
27 ~~the-application,))~~ whether he has been convicted of any violation  
28 within ten years preceding the date of application related to the  
29 sale or possession of intoxicating liquor, gambling or any law or  
30 ordinance relating to public morality and decency, or for  
31 violating any law or ordinance involving an intent to defraud, or  
32 whether the applicant has ever been convicted of any law or  
33 ordinance relating to the use, sale or possession of narcotic

1 drugs or barbituates, or any such other information the director  
2 may require, which he deems reasonably necessary to aid in the  
3 enforcement of this chapter.

4 (b) The director shall inquire into the correctness of  
5 the information furnished, and if so satisfied, after due inves-  
6 tigation, that the applicant is the reliable and bona fide owner  
7 of the motor vehicle, has met the various requirements of this  
8 chapter, that the name under which the applicant is to operate  
9 and the color scheme used upon the motor vehicle does not conflict  
10 with others so used, or tend to deceive the public, that the  
11 motor vehicle is equipped with proper state license and City of  
12 Seattle license, if applicable, and is properly insured for the  
13 protection of the public as required by law, (~~and that there is~~  
14 ~~a bona fide need for taxicab or for hire service in the unincor-~~  
15 ~~porated area of King County,~~) a license may thereupon be issued  
16 in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, authorizing  
17 the operation of the motor vehicle under the classification  
18 applied for. (~~provided, however, that a reciprocal license may~~  
19 ~~be issued, granting the authority to operate the same taxicab~~  
20 ~~in unincorporated King County, to a person who has a valid taxi-~~  
21 ~~cab license issued by the City of Seattle, for a fee of twenty-~~  
22 ~~five dollars. Such reciprocal license is to be valid for one~~  
23 ~~year, expiring August 31st of each year or until joint or~~  
24 ~~reciprocal licensing and enforcement is formally adopted by King~~  
25 ~~County and the City of Seattle)).~~

26 (c) A license may be denied to any person if the director,  
27 after due investigation, has reason to believe that the applicant  
28 is dishonest or immoral, or desires such license to enable him  
29 to engage in a dishonest, unlawful, or immoral act, practice or  
30 enterprise. Wilful falsification or omission of any information  
31 required in the application shall constitute grounds for denial  
32 of the license.

33 (~~d~~) No license shall be transferable to any person.

1 except-in-case-of-a-bona-fide-sale-of-the-business-of-the-owner  
 2 or-operator-of-the-motor-vehicle,-and-no-license-shall-be-trans-  
 3 ferred-to-any-other-motor-vehicle-without-approval-of-the  
 4 director-and-then-only-in-cases-where-the-motor-vehicle-for-which  
 5 the-license-is-issued-shall-be-sold,-become-obsolete,-unsafe-or  
 6 unfit-for-further-use.--Such-determination-shall-be-made-by-the  
 7 director-and-his-determination-shall-be-conclusive.--All-County  
 8 licensed-taxicabs-shall-be-operated-for-at-least-ten-miles-per  
 9 day-for-two-hundred-thirty-days-of-the-licensed-year,-nor-shall  
 10 any-new-taxicab-license-be-issued-to-any-person-holding-a-license  
 11 which-lapses-because-of-failure-to-meet-the-foregoing-requirement  
 12 in-the-next-preceeding-licensed-year,-provided,-however,-that-the  
 13 director,-upon-good-cause-shown,-may-waive-the-foregoing  
 14 requirement.))

15 SECTION 3. Ordinance 1120, Section 5 and KCC 6.64.050 are  
 16 hereby amended as follows:

17 Color scheme. The director shall, in the interest of  
 18 protecting the public from being deceived or confused, have the  
 19 exclusive control in the granting of permission to use any color  
 20 scheme, design or monogram by any taxicab, affiliated taxicab or  
 21 vehicle for hire. It is unlawful to use or change any color,  
 22 design, monogram or insignia on any taxicab, affiliated taxicab  
 23 or vehicle for hire without the prior permission and approval of  
 24 the director. Failure to comply with this provision shall be  
 25 grounds for revocation of any taxicab, affiliated taxicab or  
 26 for-hire vehicle license.

27 SECTION 4. Ordinance 1120, Section 6 and KCC 6.64.060 are  
 28 hereby amended as follows:

29 Expiration of licenses and license fees. All licenses  
 30 issued under this chapter shall expire on August 31st of each  
 31 year. Such licenses may be renewed by the license holder for the  
 32 succeeding year by making application therefor with the director  
 33 at least ten days prior to the expiration date. ((The-expiration

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1 date-for-licenses-issued-pursuant-to-section-6.64.020(b)-shall-be-that-date  
 2 as-stated-in-Section-6.64.020(b).))

3 SECTION 5. Ordinance 1120, Section 10 and KCC 6.64.100 are hereby  
 4 amended as follows:

5 Rate Schedule. Every licensee shall, before commencing operation,  
 6 have its affiliation representative file with the director his or her  
 7 proposed schedule of rates and charges ((~~\*~~)); PROVIDED THAT, such schedule  
 8 of rates and charges shall become effective fifteen days after they have  
 9 been filed with the director in a form deemed appropriate by the director;  
 10 PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, no new schedule of rates and charges may be filed  
 11 with the director unless such are filed during the months of February,  
 12 May, August, November of any year; PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, for calendar year  
 13 1979, schedules of rates and charges may be filed for the first thirty  
 14 days following the legally effective date of this ordinance and during the  
 15 months of August and November; PROVIDED FURTHER THAT, the schedule of rates  
 16 and charges filed with the director shall be identical in their content  
 17 with the schedule of rates and charges filed with other jurisdictions  
 18 having license issuance authority. It is unlawful for any licensee to  
 19 charge any greater or lesser sum than is specified by such filed schedule  
 20 of rates, except as herein provided, and it is unlawful to make any dis-  
 21 criminatory charges to any person, or to make any rebate or in any manner  
 22 reduce the charge to any person unless such reduction is in conformity with  
 23 the schedule, and rates and charges shall be conspicuously displayed in the  
 24 taxicab so as to be readily discernible to the passenger. Operation of any  
 25 taxicab or for-hire vehicle without the filing and display of rate schedules  
 26 shall be a prima facie grounds for the suspension or revocation of the  
 27 license.

28 ~~((a)--To-facilitate-cooperation,-the-rate-schedule-for-taxicabs~~  
 29 ~~shall-be-temporarily-the-same-as-that-set-by-the-City-of-Seattle-as-follows:~~



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1 For one passenger for the first one-seventh  
2 mile, or fraction thereof, -----\$.90

3 Thereafter for each additional one-seventh  
4 mile, or fraction thereof, -----\$.10

5 For every one minute of waiting time, -----\$.12

6 No additional passenger shall be picked up without the  
7 express consent of the original passenger.)

8 ((b)) (a) The rate schedule for for-hire vehicles  
9 shall be determined for each licensee by the director, who shall  
10 take into account, among other things, and with the objective of  
11 prescribing a just and reasonable rate, the following factors:

12 (1) The public need for adequate for-hire vehicles  
13 service at the lowest level of charges consistent with the  
14 provision, maintenance and renewal of such service;

15 (2) The rates of other licensees operating in the same  
16 or similar areas;

17 (3) The effect of such rates upon transportation of  
18 passengers by other modes of transportation;

19 (4) The licensee's need for revenue of a level which  
20 under honest, efficient and economical management is sufficient  
21 to cover the cost (including all operating expenses, depreciation  
22 accruals, rents, license fees and taxes of every kind) of  
23 providing adequate for-hire vehicles service; plus an amount  
24 equal to such percentage of the cost as a reasonably necessary  
25 for the replacement of deteriorated for-hire vehicles and a  
26 reasonable profit to the licensee. The relation of revenues to  
27 expenses may be deemed the proper test of a reasonable profit.

28 ((e)) (b) The rates specified in this section for  
29 taxicabs and for-hire cars shall not apply to transportation of  
30 persons provided pursuant to a written contract which establishes  
31 a fare at a different rate for specified transportation services  
32 of the contracting taxicab company or for-hire car. The contract  
33 period shall not exceed one year ((and a copy of the contract

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1 signed-by-all-parties,-must-be-filed-with-the-director-of  
 2 licenses-at-least-three-days--excluding-Saturdays,-Sundays,-and  
 3 holidays,-prie-as-commencement-of-such-transportation-services)).

4 SECTION 6. Ordinance 1120, Section 29 and KCC 6.64.290 are  
 5 hereby amended as follows:

6 Licensing fees. It is unlawful to engage in the  
 7 business of operating a taxicab or for-hire vehicle as defined in  
 8 this chapter without first having obtained a valid and subsisting  
 9 license to do so. This license shall be known as and the fee  
 10 shall be as follows:

11 (a) Taxicab license . . . ~~(((\$100.00))~~ \$60.00 per  
 12 vehicle. ~~((prerated-semiannually;-\$25.00-per-vehicle,-prerated~~  
 13 ~~semiannually-for-reciprocal-licenses.))~~

14 (b) For-hire vehicle license . . . \$100.00 per vehicle.  
 15 ~~((,prerated-semiannually.))~~

16 SECTION 7. Ordinance 1120, Section 30 and KCC 6.64.300 are  
 17 hereby amended as follows:

18 For-hire driver's license required--Application. It is  
 19 unlawful for any person to drive or operate a taxicab or for-hire  
 20 vehicle in the unincorporated areas of King County without first  
 21 having obtained a valid and subsisting license to do so, which  
 22 license shall be known as a for-hire driver's license; provided  
 23 that this shall not apply to any person validly licensed by the  
 24 City of Seattle to drive a taxicab or for-hire vehicle if such  
 25 person registers such valid license with the director; provided,  
 26 however, that this section shall not apply to drivers of taxicab  
 27 and for-hire vehicles licensed by King County pursuant to Section  
 28 6.64.020(b); further provided, that this shall not relieve any  
 29 such for-hire or taxicab driver from complying with the  
 30 provisions of this chapter; and failure to comply may result in  
 31 the suspension or revocation of authority to drive a for-hire  
 32 vehicle or taxicab within the unincorporated areas of King County.  
 33 The license shall be obtained in the following manner:

1           The applicant shall file an application on a form furnished by  
2 the director, which shall be signed and sworn to by the applicant and shall  
3 contain: Name, height, weight, color of hair and eyes, residence address,  
4 place and date of birth, length of time a resident of the state of Washington,  
5 whether a citizen or noncitizen, last place of employment, whether or not the  
6 license was ever suspended or revoked and for what cause, and such other  
7 information as may reasonably be required. The applicant shall on the  
8 application give the names and mailing addresses of four persons, not rela-  
9 tives, who have known the applicant for at least two years past.

10           SECTION 8. Ordinance 1120, Section 3 and KCC 6.64.030 are each  
11 repealed.

12           NEW SECTION. SECTION 9. Scope of authority. Unless otherwise  
13 specifically stated, binding provisions shall apply to all licensees operating  
14 in the unincorporated areas of King County and other jurisdictions or public  
15 agencies authorized to contract for services with King County under the  
16 authorities provided in the Interlocal Agreement Act, RCW 39.34, as amended,  
17 provided that, should provisions herein conflict with those contained in any  
18 such interlocal agreement, the interlocal agreement shall supercede in all  
19 cases.

20           NEW SECTION. SECTION 10. Sufficiency of need for service required as  
21 license issuance criteria, for one year from effective date.

22           For one year from the effective date of this ordinance any applicant  
23 for a taxicab or for-hire license, other than those vehicles currently  
24 licensed, shall continue to be required to show that there is a bona fide  
25 need for taxicab or for-hire service in the unincorporated area of King  
26 County. The deletion of this requirement in Section 2(b) is therefore delayed  
27 one year from the effective date of this ordinance, provided that current  
28 license holders shall upon renewal of said licenses pay the fee of \$60.00  
29 per taxicab vehicle licensed and \$100.00 per for-hire vehicle licensed,  
30 regardless of whether the prior license was a regular taxicab license or a  
31 reciprocal taxicab license.

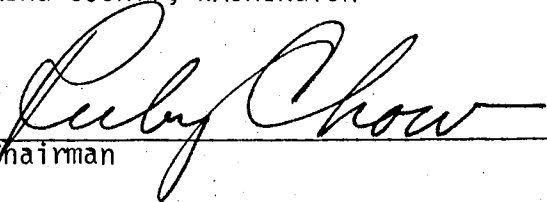
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1            NEW SECTION. SECTION 11. The King County Council shall review this  
2 ordinance no later than one year after its effective date to consider and  
3 act upon any proposed amendments.

4            INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 16<sup>th</sup> day of  
5 April, 1979.

6            PASSED this 7<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1979.

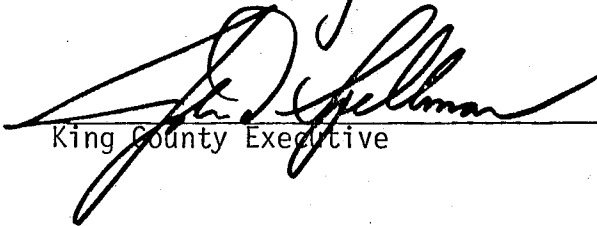
7            KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
8            KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

9              
10            Chairman

11            ATTEST:

12  
13              
14            Deputy Clerk of the Council

15            APPROVED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of May, 1979.

16  
17              
18            King County Executive