

February 20, 1987
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Introduced By: Ron Sims

Proposed No.: 86-778

ORDINANCE NO. 7964

AN ORDINANCE relating to taxicab licensing and enforcement and amending Ordinance 1120, Sections 1, 2, 12, 20, 24, 31, and 37, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.64.010, 6.64.020, 6.64.110, 6.64.180, 6.64.230, 6.64.300, and 6.64.360; amending Ordinance 6887, Section 16, as amended and K.C.C. 6.64.670; repealing Ordinance 1120, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.64.030, and repealing Ordinance 4232, Sections 10 and 11, and K.C.C. 6.64.450 and 6.64.460 and adding new sections.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Ordinance 1120, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.64.010 are hereby amended to read as follows:

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

A. "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. "Affiliation representative" means the individual or organization who has the authority to file rates for a group of affiliated taxicabs.

C. "Audit" means verification of reported costs and revenues by review of business records, including but not limited to accounts, receipts, and reports filed with other governmental agencies.

D. "City" means the city of Seattle or an authorized representative of the city of Seattle.

((G-)) E. "Director" means the director of the King County department of executive administration.

((B-)) F. "Enforcement officer" means the director and his/her duly authorized representatives.

1 ((E-)) G. "For-hire driver" means any person in charge of
2 or driving a taxicab or for-hire vehicle carrying passengers or
3 baggage for hire, as hereinafter further defined; provided,
4 however, that the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to
5 drivers of motor vehicles operated by any municipal or privately
6 owned, licensed transit system.

7 ((F-)) H. "For-hire vehicle" means and includes every motor
8 vehicle other than a "sightseeing car," "charter bus" or one used
9 by hotel or motel keepers exclusively to convey their guests to
10 and from hotels or motels free of charge or reward, used for the
11 transportation of passengers for-hire, and not operated
12 exclusively over a fixed and definite route; provided, however,
13 that this definition does not include a motor vehicle with a
14 seating capacity, including the driver, not exceeding fifteen
15 persons which operates to transport passengers between their
16 places of abode or termini near such places, and their places of
17 employment, in a single, daily round trip where the driver is
18 also on the way to or from his/her place of employment.

19 I. "Labor costs" means salaries or wages paid by taxi owners
20 to taxi drivers or the portion of the draw taken by a taxi owner
21 to represent his or her compensation for driving the taxicab.
22 If, in the opinion of the director labor costs are under
23 reported, this information may be supplemented by the director
24 with an index of wages in comparable industries.

25 ((G-)) J. "Licensee" means all applicants, including
26 affiliation representative, required to license taxicabs or
27 for-hire vehicles under the provisions of this chapter.

28 ((H-)) K. "Special rate" means discounted rates for the
29 elderly and handicapped.

30 ((I-)) L. "Special services vehicle" means a vehicle
31 equipped to accommodate and which is used for the transportation
32 of handicapped persons as herein defined:
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1 The term handicapped means any person who is physically or
2 mentally disabled who has an identification card issued by a
3 governmental agency which describes the handicap and also has
4 medical certification that the handicap limits the person's
5 activities, functioning and ability to use public transportation
6 facilities.

7 ((J-)) M. "Taxicab" means every motor vehicle used for the
8 transportation of passengers for-hire, where the route traveled
9 or destination is controlled by a customer and the fare is based
10 on an amount recorded and indicated on a taximeter, or on a
11 special fare rate or contracted agreement as permitted by this
12 chapter.

13 ((K-)) N. "Taximeter" means any instrument or device by
14 which the charge for hire of a passenger carrying vehicle is
15 measured or calculated either for the distance traveled by such
16 vehicle or for waiting time, or for both, and upon which such
17 calculated charges shall be indicated by means of figures.

18 ((L-)) O. "Motor vehicle" means every self-propelled
19 vehicle by or upon which any person may be transported or carried |
20 upon a public street, highway or alley; provided, that vehicles
21 used exclusively upon stationary rail tracks or propelled by the
22 use of overhead electric wires shall not come under the
23 provisions of this chapter.

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

6 SECTION 2. Ordinance 1120, Section 2, as amended, and K.C.C.
7 6.64.020 are hereby amended as follows:

8 Taxicab and For-Hire Vehicle License - Applications. It is
9 unlawful to own or operate a motor vehicle, or engage in the
10 business of operating as a taxicab or for-hire vehicle in the
11 unincorporated areas of King County without first having
12 obtained, for each and every vehicle so used, a license from the
13 director, to be known as a for-hire or taxicab license. Licenses
14 shall be obtained in the following manner and under the following
15 conditions:

16 A. The applicant for a taxicab or for-hire vehicle license
17 shall show in the application:

- 18 1. the true name and address of the applicant;
- 19 2. if a corporation, the names and addresses of the
20 principal officers and shareholders thereof;
- 21 3. the classification under which the vehicle will be
22 operated, whether as taxicab or other vehicle for hire;
- 23 4. the year for which the license is sought;
- 24 5. true and accurate information concerning the ownership,
25 identification, company vehicle number, the name of the business,
26 fictitious or otherwise under which the vehicle is to be operated;
- 27 6. the distinguishing color scheme, design or dress,
28 including any monogram or insignia to be used on such vehicle or
29 vehicles;
- 30 7. whether he/she or any of the principal officers or
31 share-holders have been convicted of any crimes within three
32 years preceding the date of application;

1 8. after June 1, 1988, a copy of a certificate of
2 completion of a training program offered or approved by the
3 county as described in Section 18 of this ordinance shall be
4 attached;

5 9. his/her agreement to comply with all requirements of
6 Section 13 of this ordinance;

7 ((8-)) 10. such other information the director may
8 require, which he/she deems reasonably necessary to aid in the
9 enforcement of this chapter.

10 B. The director shall inquire into the correctness of the
11 information furnished, and if so satisfied that the applicant has
12 successfully completed a written examination, testing the
13 applicant's knowledge of ordinance requirements dealing with
14 ownership responsibilities, prerequisites to licensing,
15 vehicle/equipment requirements and satisfactory geographic
16 knowledge of King County, the content of which will be prescribed
17 by the director, that the applicant is the bona fide owner of the
18 motor vehicle, has met the various requirements of this chapter,
19 that the name under which the applicant is to operate and the
20 color scheme used upon the motor vehicle does not conflict with
21 others so used, or tend to deceive the public, that the motor
22 vehicle is equipped with proper state license and city of Seattle
23 license, if applicable, and is properly insured for the
24 protection of the public as required by law, a license may
25 thereupon be issued in accordance with the provisions of this
26 chapter, authorizing the operation of the motor vehicle under the
27 classification applied for.

28 C. A license may be denied to any person if the director,
29 after due investigation, finds that the applicant/owner has:

- 30 1. Made any false statement on the application;
31 2. Had a conviction or bail forfeiture involving crimes
32 pertaining to alcohol, controlled substances, prostitution,
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1 gambling, physical violence, or other crimes directly related to
2 the applicant's honesty and integrity (fraud, larceny, extortion)
3 and ability to properly operate a taxicab business, within three
4 years of the date of application;

5 3. Fails to pass the written examination required in
6 K.C.C. 6.64.020 B. of this chapter;

7 4. Exhibited conduct within the past three years in
8 driving, operating or engaging in the business of operating any
9 taxicab or for-hire vehicle which would lead the director to
10 reasonably conclude that the applicant/owner will not comply with
11 chapter requirements relating to vehicle safety and sanitation
12 standards, insurance requirements, and vehicle and driver
13 licensing requirements;

14 5. Been refused a taxicab or for-hire vehicle license or
15 had such license revoked under the provisions of this chapter;
16 provided, however, that any applicant denied a license under the
17 provisions of this chapter may reapply after one year from the
18 denial if the basis for denial no longer exists;

19 6. Engaged in the business of operating any taxicab or
20 vehicle for-hire for which a license is required, while
21 unlicensed or on a license suspension.

22 Willful falsification or omission of any information required
23 in the application shall constitute grounds for denial of the
24 license.

25 D. If the number of licenses issued and currently pending
26 applications for licenses is less than the maximum number of
27 licenses authorized pursuant to Section 12 of this ordinance,
28 then all new applications shall be processed as described in
29 K.C.C. 6.64.020 A-C. If the number of licenses issued and
30 applications for licenses is equal to or greater than the maximum
31 number of licenses authorized pursuant to Section 12 of this
32 ordinance, all new pending applications found by the director to
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1 satisfy other requirements of this chapter shall be eligible to
 2 be drawn by lot to receive new licenses at such time any new
 3 license(s) become(s) available to meet the authorized number of
 4 licenses for the county. The lots shall be drawn from all
 5 eligible applications pending as of the date(s) license(s)
 6 become(s) available in a manner which ensures equal and random
 7 opportunity to be selected. The drawing of lots shall be open to
 8 the public. Notice of the drawing shall be sent to the eligible
 9 applicants and posted no less than ten days prior to the
 10 drawing. Any license revoked pursuant to provisions of this
 11 chapter may not be transferred and may be replaced through the
 12 method prescribed herein.

13 ~~((D-))~~ E. A taxicab or for-hire vehicle license ~~((shall))~~
 14 may be suspended if the licensee:

15 1. Fails to maintain in full force and effect the
 16 insurance required in this chapter;

17 2. Fails to comply with the safety and sanitation
 18 requirements of this chapter;

19 3. Fails to maintain the taximeter in accurate and good
 20 working conditions.

21 ~~((E-))~~ F. A taxicab or for-hire vehicle license may be
 22 suspended or revoked if the licensee has been found to:

23 1. Operate or permit the operation of the vehicle while
 24 using or in possession of alcohol or controlled substances,
 25 during its operation;

26 2. Violates any of the provision of this chapter.

27 SECTION 3. Ordinance 1120, Section 3, as amended, and K.C.C.
 28 6.64.030 are each repealed.

29 SECTION 4. Ordinance 1120, Section 12, as amended, and
 30 K.C.C. 6.64.110 are hereby amended to read as follows:

31 Taximeter. A. It is unlawful for any person to drive,
 32 operate, or engage in the business of operating a taxicab unless

1 the vehicle is equipped with a taximeter which has been inspected
2 by the director, or approved by the city of Seattle pursuant to
3 reciprocal licensing agreements. After July 1, 1988, all meters
4 must have the capacity to store the following information on a
5 quarterly basis:

6 1. Total number of trips

7 2. Total paid miles

8 3. Total miles operated

9 4. Total number of fare units

10 5. Total number of extras.

11 This information shall be collected from meters pursuant to
12 Section 13 of this ordinance, except that in addition to the
13 requirements of Section 13, meter readings providing the
14 information identified in this section must be reported by any
15 person repairing such meter within five (5) days of any meter
16 repair.

17 B. It shall be the duty of the owner, driver, or any other
18 person having possession or control of a taxicab to keep such
19 taximeter accurate and in good working condition at all times.
20 Prior to the installation of such taximeter, same shall be
21 approved for operation by an official testing station so
22 designated by the director and upon such approval, a written
23 notice and lead wire seal shall be plainly posted and attached to
24 the taximeter for the information of the public. Such taxicab
25 meters shall be rechecked and inspected at least semiannually in
26 the same manner as the original inspection.

27 C. It is unlawful for any person to drive, operate or engage
28 in the business of operating a taxicab whenever the lead wire
29 seal of approval has been broken, cut, removed or is missing.

30 D. It is unlawful for any person to fail, resist or refuse
31 the director or any duly authorized agent to test and reinspect
32 the taximeter at any time.

1 SECTION 5. Ordinance 1120, Section 19, as amended, and
2 K.C.C. 6.64.180 are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 Inspection of taxicab or for-hire vehicles. All vehicles
4 operated under the authority of this chapter shall be made
5 available for inspection by the director or his/her
6 representative at any reasonable time or place. The director
7 shall inspect the vehicle to determine cleanliness, proper
8 equipment, good appearance, and safe operating conditions.

9 A. A taxicab or for-hire vehicle shall be deemed to be of
10 safe condition for the transportation of passengers when the
11 following minimum requirements have been complied with:

12 1. Until December 31, 1989, ((7)) the vehicle must be no
13 more than six years old (including the current model year) nor
14 have traveled more than 100,000 miles. If more than six years
15 old or if it has traveled 100,000 miles or more, the vehicle must
16 be replaced, unless the vehicle owner submits a certification of
17 safety completed in a manner prescribed by the director((;)) .
18 After January 1, 1990, the vehicle must be no more than three
19 years old (including the current model year) nor have traveled
20 more than 100,000 miles. If more than three years old or if it
21 has traveled 100,000 miles or more, the vehicle must be replaced,
22 unless the vehicle owner submits a certification of safety
23 completed in a manner prescribed by the director.

24 2. An efficient and operable windshield wiper mechanism;

25 3. An adequate braking system including emergency or
26 auxiliary;

27 4. A complete lighting system, exterior and interior, and
28 including signaling devices and emergency flashers;

29 5. Rear-view mirrors;

30 6. Glass (windshield and rear) free of breaks, cracks or
31 defects sufficient to mar vision;

1 7. Tires with minimum tread depth of 2/32 inches as
2 determined by gauge, and free of visible defects;

3 8. Adequate shocks, steering, exhaust and other mechanical
4 systems required for safe operation of the vehicle;

5 9. Other safety equipment as may be determined from time
6 to time by the director to be necessary for the safe
7 transportation of passengers.

8 B. A taxicab or for-hire vehicle shall be deemed to be of
9 good appearance, clean and sanitary where the following minimum
10 conditions exist:

11 1. The vehicle seats are unbroken, have no rips in the
12 upholstery and no exposed springs;

13 2. Inside door handles are present and operate properly;

14 3. The vehicle has a functioning heater;

15 4. Windows roll up/down properly;

16 5. Loose dirt, grease, ashes, dust, or like substances are
17 not present to the degree that such is visible to and would be
18 physically transferred to a passenger sitting in the vehicle;

19 6. The vehicle has no torn or ripped floor mats that could
20 pose a hazard on entering or exiting the vehicle;

21 7. Other reasonable conditions as may be determined by the
22 director to be necessary for the safe and sanitary transportation
23 of passengers for-hire.

24 If the director determines during his/her inspection that the
25 condition of any taxicab or vehicle for-hire needs correction,
26 he/she shall issue to the operator or driver thereof a notice in
27 writing specifying such defects and the same shall be remedied
28 immediately or by a later date determined by the director.

29 It is unlawful to fail to comply with any written notice by
30 the director to make corrections on the taxicab or for-hire
31 vehicle.
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1 SECTION 6. Ordinance 1120, Section 24, as amended, and
2 K.C.C. 6.64.230 are hereby amended to read as follows:

3 Two-way radio dispatch. Until March 31, 1987, ((1)) if the
4 taxicab or for-hire vehicle is equipped with a radio dispatch
5 system, it is unlawful for any for-hire driver to fail to respond
6 to a call from the dispatcher to pick up a passenger when so
7 requested or to fail to keep the radio in the taxicab or for-hire
8 vehicle operating at all times during the shift the taxicab or
9 for-hire vehicle is operated. After July 1, 1988, each taxicab,
10 except those serving only Sea-Tac Airport, must be equipped with
11 a two-way radio dispatch system capable of operating throughout
12 King County. Those cabs exempted from this requirement because
13 they only serve Sea-Tac Airport must be equipped with an
14 operational CB radio, telephone, or other telecommunications
15 device. It is unlawful for any for-hire driver to fail to
16 respond to a call from the dispatcher to pick up a passenger when
17 so requested or to fail to keep the radio in the taxicab or
18 for-hire vehicle operating at all times during the shift the
19 taxicab or for-hire vehicle is operated. All such equipped
20 taxicabs or for-hire vehicles shall have conspicuously placed on
21 the vehicle by the name of the cab, the telephone number from
22 which the taxicab or for-hire vehicle may be radio dispatched.

23 SECTION 7. Ordinance 1120, Section 31, as amended, and
24 K.C.C. 6.64.300 are hereby amended to read as follows:

25 Qualifications for a for-hire driver's license. A. No
26 person shall be issued a for-hire driver's license unless he/she
27 possesses the following qualifications:

- 28 1. Must be at least eighteen years of age;
29 2. Must possess a valid state of Washington motor vehicle
30 operator's license;
31 3. Must be free from any infirmity of body or mind which
32 would render the applicant unfit for safe operation of a motor
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1 vehicle, and shall have submitted to a medical examination by a
2 licensed physician and filed with the director a certificate from
3 said physician certifying his/her fitness as a for-hire driver.
4 The scope of the examination and the certificate form shall be
5 prescribed by the Seattle-King County health department. Such
6 examination shall be required at least every four (4) years but
7 not for renewals of such license; provided however, the director
8 may at any time at his/her discretion require any licensee to be
9 so examined and to secure such a certificate or renewal thereof;

10 4. Must not be found to be addicted to the use of
11 intoxicating liquor, dangerous drugs or narcotics;

12 5. After June 1, 1988, must present a certificate of
13 completion of a training program offered or approved by the
14 county as described in section 18 of this ordinance.

15 ((5-)) 6. Must successfully complete a written
16 examination administered at the time of initial application. The
17 examination will test the applicant's knowledge of the chapter
18 requirements dealing with fare determination, driver-passenger
19 relations, conduct including the applicant's ability to
20 understand oral and written directions in the English language,
21 vehicle safety requirements and driver regulations, and a
22 satisfactory geographic knowledge of King County. The content of
23 the examination will be prescribed by the director. All current
24 licensees must take and pass this examination in order to secure
25 renewal of their licenses during the year after this chapter
26 becomes law; provided that, after a driver once passes this
27 examination, he/she shall not have to pass the examination again
28 as a requirement for license renewal unless he/she has not been
29 an active driver for a period of more than two years.

30 B. No license will be issued if the applicant has:

31 1. Made any false statement in his/her application;
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1 2. ((Made)) Had a conviction or bail forfeiture involving
2 crimes pertaining to controlled substances, alcohol,
3 prostitution, gambling, physical violence, or other crimes
4 directly related to the applicant's honesty and integrity (fraud,
5 larceny, extortion) and/or ability to operate a taxicab within
6 three years of the date of application;

7 3. Has been found to have exhibited past conduct in
8 driving or operating a taxicab or for-hire vehicle which would
9 lead the director to reasonably conclude that the applicant will
10 not comply with the provisions of the chapter related to
11 driver/operator conduct and the safe operation of the vehicle;

12 4. Has been found to have exhibited a past driving record
13 which would lead the director to reasonably conclude that the
14 applicant would not operate the taxicab or for-hire vehicle in a
15 safe manner.

16 SECTION 8. Ordinance 1120, Section 37, as amended, and
17 K.C.C. 6.64.360 are hereby amended as follows:

18 Expiration and renewals of for-hire driver's licenses. All
19 for-hire driver's licenses shall expire one year from the day the
20 license was granted and must be renewed within ten days from the
21 date of expiration, except as otherwise provided in this
22 chapter. Applications for renewal shall be made to the director
23 and shall contain such information as he may deem necessary,
24 whereupon he may renew the license for a period of one year;
25 provided, however, that in the event it appears that the licensee
26 has become physically or mentally incapacitated to a degree so as
27 to make the driving of an automobile or other motor vehicle by
28 the licensee a danger to the public, that the director may
29 require the licensee to be re-examined by a licensed physician
30 and procure from that physician a satisfactory certificate before
31 such for-hire driver's license may be renewed.
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1 After June 1, 1988, all for-hire driver's license renewals
 2 are contingent upon completion of the training program described
 3 in Section 18 of this ordinance within the two year period
 4 preceding license renewal as demonstrated by a certificate of
 5 completion.

6 SECTION 9. Ordinance 4232, Section 10, and K.C.C. 6.64.450
 7 are each repealed.

8 SECTION 10. Ordinance 4232, Section 11, and K.C.C. 6.64.460
 9 are each repealed.

10 SECTION 11. Ordinance 6887, Section 16, as amended, and
 11 K.C.C. 6.64.470 are hereby amended as follows:

12 Moratorium. The King County council finds and declares that
 13 privately operated taxicab transportation service is a vital part
 14 of the transportation system of King County and provides
 15 demand-responsive services to county residents and the traveling
 16 public. Consequently, the safety, reliability and economic
 17 viability of privately operated taxi transportation is a matter
 18 of county concern and regulation of such transportation is an
 19 essential governmental function.

20 In order to protect the public health, welfare and safety of
 21 the citizens of King County and the traveling public and in order
 22 to assure a viable taxi transportation system in King County, the
 23 King County council finds that it is necessary and in the public
 24 interest to declare a moratorium on the issuance of new taxicab
 25 vehicle licenses until (~~October 1, 1987~~) January 1, 1988. Any
 26 licenses (~~issued or~~) eligible for (~~renewed~~) renewal between
 27 (~~August 1, 1985~~) January 1, 1987 and the effective date of this
 28 ordinance may be renewed pursuant to other provisions of K.C.C.
 29 Chapter 6.64.

30 NEW SECTION. SECTION 12. Taxicabs, Maximum Number. The
 31 King County council may ordain a maximum number of taxicab
 32 licenses for King County, taking into account the director's
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1 recommendation, public need for adequate taxi service and
 2 licensees' needs for adequate revenue.

3 NEW SECTION. SECTION 13. Industry Reporting. A. Beginning
 4 April 1, 1987, the following information must be collected for
 5 each taxicab licensed in the county.

- 6 1. Total number of trips.
- 7 2. Total paid miles.
- 8 3. Total miles driven.
- 9 4. Amount of fares collected and number of fare units.
- 10 5. Costs, including
 - 11 a. Equipment depreciation
 - 12 b. Equipment purchases
 - 13 c. Repair and maintenance costs
 - 14 d. Fuel and oil costs
 - 15 e. Other supplies
 - 16 f. Leases and service contract costs
 - 17 g. License fees and taxes
 - 18 h. Insurance
 - 19 i. Labor costs
 - 20 j. Other relevant costs

21 This information must be provided quarterly to the director
 22 as follows:

<u>For the period:</u>	<u>No later than:</u>
April 1 - June 30	July 15
July 1 - September 30	October 15
October 1 - December 31	January 15
January 1 - March 31	April 15

28 Failure of an owner to report as required shall be subject to
 29 immediate suspension of license until such time as the
 30 information is provided.

31 B. Information stored on meters as required in Section 4 of
 32 this ordinance shall be collected at official county or city
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1 taxicab testing stations pursuant to the schedule in Section 13.A
2 of this ordinance. Other information required to be reported
3 under this section shall be reported in a manner established by
4 the director.

5 C. The director may verify operating cost information
6 reported by the industry as required in Section 13.A of this
7 ordinance through special audits performed on a random sample
8 basis. Failure to submit information required for a special
9 audit to document the costs reported pursuant to Section 13.A of
10 this ordinance within two weeks of the director's request shall
11 result in immediate suspension of license until such time as the
12 information is provided.

13 Any costs reported but not verified during an audit will not
14 be used to determine average operating costs for rate-setting or
15 licensing purposes.

16 NEW SECTION. SECTION 14. By July 1, 1987, and periodically
17 thereafter, the director shall establish a schedule of optimum
18 average taxicab response times to requests for taxicab service at
19 selected points within the county. The director shall
20 periodically thereafter survey actual taxicab response times.

21 A comparison of average actual response times to the optimum
22 average response times shall be used as an indicator of taxicab
23 industry performance and shall be used as one criterion in
24 evaluating and recommending rate and entry changes pursuant to
25 Section 16 of this ordinance.

26 The director shall publish a draft report of the optimum
27 response times and shall provide a ten-day comment period on the
28 schedule before finalizing the schedule. Comments received by
29 the director shall be included in the annual reports submitted to
30 the council pursuant to Section 15 of this ordinance.

31 NEW SECTION. SECTION 15. Annual Report. A. On or before
32 October 1, 1987, the director shall file a report with the King
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1 County council based upon data collected pursuant to Section 13
2 of this ordinance for the period April 1, 1987, through June 30,
3 1987. In addition to the terms identified in Section 15.C. of
4 this ordinance, this report shall include a recommendation
5 concerning optimum average taxicab response times and a survey of
6 actual response times.

7 B. On or before October 1 of each subsequent year, the
8 director shall file an annual report with the King County council
9 based upon data collected pursuant to Section 13 of this
10 ordinance for the period between July 1 of the preceding calendar
11 year and June 30 of the calendar year in which the report is
12 filed.

13 C. These reports shall include but not be limited to the
14 following:

15 1. Number of taxicabs licensed in King County during the
16 reporting period and during the preceding year.

17 2. Number of drivers licensed in King County during the
18 reporting period and during the preceding year.

19 3. Recommended optimum number of taxicab licenses in King
20 County.

21 4. Recommended taxi rate.

22 5. A description of how the rate and/or number of cabs
23 recommended relates to the criteria described in K.C.C. 6.64.090
24 F.

25 6. Results of a survey of taxicab response times, changes
26 in response times from previous reporting periods, and
27 relationship of the actual response times to the optimum average
28 response time established by the director pursuant to Section 16
29 of this ordinance.

30 7. Any other recommendations deemed appropriate by the
31 director.

1 NEW SECTION. SECTION 16. Annual Determination of Fares and
 2 Number of Licenses. A. King County finds and declares that fair
 3 and reasonable rates for the taxi industry should be established
 4 in the public interest and measured in terms of the taxi
 5 industry's need for revenue and the need for adequate service
 6 provided to the public as reflected by taxi service response
 7 times. The formulas established in this section are found to
 8 provide a reasonable basis to determine recommendations for rates
 9 and the number of taxi licenses to be established.

10 B. The director shall apply the information collected
 11 pursuant to Sections 4, 13 and 14 of this ordinance to the
 12 following formulae to estimate the optimum number of cabs and
 13 appropriate fare for the following year.

$$14 \quad \text{Average Net Profit} = \frac{\text{Average Revenue} - \text{Average Operating Cost}}{\text{Cab}} \quad |$$

$$15 \quad \text{Rate per Cab}$$

$$16 \quad \frac{\text{Average Revenue}}{\text{Cab}}$$

17 and

$$18 \quad \text{New} \\ 19 \quad \text{Taxi Rate} = \text{Old Rate} + \frac{\text{Change in Average Operating Cost/Cab}}{\text{Average Trip Miles}}$$

20 If the average net profit rate per cab is less than seven
 21 percent and actual response times are equal to or less than the
 22 optimum average response time established pursuant to Section 14
 23 of this ordinance, the director may recommend a rate increase
 24 and/or a reduction in optimum number of taxicabs, provided that
 25 the effect of such recommendation shall not exceed ten percent
 26 average net profit per cab.

27 If the average net profit rate per cab exceeds ten percent
 28 prior to a rate adjustment and/or actual response times exceed
 29 the optimum average response times established pursuant to
 30 Section 15 of this ordinance, the director may recommend an
 31 increase in the number of cabs licensed in King County and/or a
 32 rate decrease.

1 The council may approve, reject or modify the recommendation
2 of the director in order to establish a fair and reasonable rate
3 to protect the welfare of the citizens of King County and ensure
4 a viable, responsive and affordable taxi transportation system.
5 In reviewing taxi rates the council shall consider, among other
6 things, the factors prescribed in K.C.C. 6.64.090. The council
7 shall act by ordinance and set forth the reasons for its action.

8 NEW SECTION. SECTION 17. The executive may execute an
9 interlocal agreement with the city of Seattle for the purpose of
10 consolidating city and county licensing and reducing duplication
11 of licensing functions and fees. The agreement may authorize the
12 city to accept and investigate applications for and issue taxicab
13 licenses and license renewals on behalf of the county, provided
14 that the city uses the requirements of this chapter for taxicab
15 licenses. The agreement may authorize the county to accept and
16 investigate applications for and issue for-hire driver licenses
17 and license renewals on behalf of the city, provided that the
18 city agrees to the requirements of this chapter for driver
19 licenses.

20 NEW SECTION. SECTION 18. A. After June 1, 1988, all taxi
21 owners and drivers shall be required to complete a training
22 program providing information about the history and geography of
23 the Puget Sound area, incentives for defensive driving and
24 personal safety, and enhancement of driver/passenger relations,
25 appearance and communication skills.

26 B. Completion of this training shall be scheduled as
27 specified in other sections of this ordinance.

28 C. The director shall assure that this training is offered
29 by the county and/or offered by another public or private
30 entity. If training offered by a noncounty entity, certification
31 for purposes of obtaining or renewing a license pursuant to this
32 ordinance is contingent upon the director's approval that
33

1 contents and training staff capability are equivalent to what
2 would be provided through the county.

3 SECTION 19. Severability. Should any section, subsection,
4 paragraph, sentence clause or phrase of this ordinance be declared
5 unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such decision shall
6 not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this
7 ordinance.

8 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 22nd day
9 of December, 1986.

10 PASSED this 23rd day of February, 1987.

11 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
12 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

13 Gary Grant
14 Chairman

15 ATTEST:

16
17 Donna M. Owens
18 Clerk of the Council

19 APPROVED this 4th day of March, 1987.

20 D. Hill
21 King County Executive