

April 13, 1987
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Introduced by: Ron Sims

Proposed No.: 87-220

ORDINANCE NO. 8014

AN ORDINANCE relating to taxicab rates and amending Ordinance 1120, Section 10, as amended and K.C.C. 6.64.090.

PREAMBLE:

The King County Council hereby concludes and finds the following: Ordinance 7964 which has recently come into effect requires data be collected to form the basis of future rate recommendations. There has not been sufficient opportunity to generate this data, therefore the rates set forth in this ordinance are necessary to be adopted at this time in order to provide just and reasonable rates for the taxi industry based on the testimony received and the information considered and shall apply until the council reviews and changes the rates pursuant to the process in Ordinance 7964.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Ordinance 1120, Section 10, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.64.090 are hereby amended as follows:

Rates.

A. The rates for taxicabs licensed to operate in King County shall be set by the King County council

B. No taxi shall have more than one rate on its meter provided that special services vehicle meters may have one rate for handicapped passengers in addition to the prescribed passenger meter rate.

C. Except for special or contract rates and rates for special service vehicles, as provided for in this chapter, it shall be unlawful for anyone operating a taxicab licensed by King County to charge, demand or receive any greater or lesser rate than the following:

1. For passengers for the first ((1/6th))

1/7th mile. ((\$1.00)) \$1.20

2. Thereafter for each additional ((1/6th))

1/7th mile or fraction thereof. \$0.20

3. For every one minute of waiting time. ~~((\$0.30))~~ \$0.35

4. Extra charge per passenger over two passengers excluding minors \$0.50

D. Special rates as defined in this chapter shall be calculated as a percentage of the meter rate.

E. All special rates and special service vehicle rates must be filed with the director on forms furnished by the director.

F. The county council ~~((may, on its own initiative, or on the initiative of the director;))~~ shall review rates on an annual basis pursuant to Ordinance 7964 or at any other time the council chooses, and enact new rates when it deems such change to be in the public interest (($\frac{2}{3}$)). ~~((or when two-thirds of all taxicab permit owners petition the council for a change.))~~ If the rate change does not necessitate a meter adjustment, the new rate becomes effective thirty (30) days after enactment. If a meter adjustment is required, the new rate becomes effective when the taxi meter is approved.

In reviewing rates the council shall take into account, among other things, and with the objective of prescribing a just and reasonable rate, the following factors:

1. The recommendations of the director pursuant to Ordinance 7964, if any;

~~((1))~~2. The public need for adequate taxi service at the lowest level of charges consistent with the provision, maintenance and continuation of such service;

~~((2))~~3. The rates of other licensees operating in similar areas;

~~((3))~~4. The effect of such rates upon transportation of passengers by other modes of transportation;

~~((4))~~5. The licensee's need for revenue of a level which under honest, efficient and economical management is sufficient

1 to cover the cost (including all operating expenses, depreciation
 2 accruals, rents, license fees and taxes of every kind) of
 3 providing adequate taxi service, plus an amount equal to such
 4 percentage of the cost as is reasonably necessary for the
 5 replacement of deteriorated taxicabs and a reasonable profit to
 6 the licensee as further set forth in Ordinance 7964. ((The
 7 relation-of-revenues-to-expenses-may-be-deemed-the-proper-test-of
 8 a-reasonable-profit))

9 G. All taxicab rates shall be conspicuously displayed inside
 10 and outside the taxicab so as to be readily discernible to the
 11 passenger. The manner of such posting will be prescribed by the
 12 director;

13 H. 1. For new licenses all special rates and/or contract
 14 rates shall be part of the application process, and when the
 15 license is issued the rate becomes effective and must be charged;

16 2. For licensed taxicabs changing special rates, changes
 17 shall be limited to two times during the license year.

18 I. It is unlawful to make any discriminatory charges to any
 19 person, or to make any rebate or in any manner reduce the charge
 20 to any person unless such is in conformity with the
 21 discounts/surcharges contained in the filed special rates, except
 22 as herein provided.

23 J. Every for-hire vehicle licensee shall, before commencing
 24 operation, ((file-with-the-director-his/her-proposed-rate
 25 schedule--The-filed-rate-must:

26 1--Be-filed-on-forms-furnished-by-the-director;

27 2--Be-in-the-form-prescribed-the-the-director;

28 3--Be)) conspicuously display((ed)) the rate inside the
 29 for-hire vehicle so as to be readily discernible to the
 30 passenger. The manner of such posting will be prescribed by the
 31 director;

32 ((4--a--For-new-licenses,-be-part-of-the-application
 33

1 process, and when the license is issued the rate becomes
2 effective and must be charged;

3 b. -- For licensed for-hire vehicles changing rates, be
4 limited to two times during the license year.)

5 K. The rates specified in this section for taxicabs and
6 for-hire vehicles shall not apply to transportation of persons
7 provided pursuant to a written contract which establishes a fare
8 at a different rate for specified transportation and which is
9 entered into prior to the passenger's request for transportation
10 and has been previously filed with the director; provided,
11 that no contract may include any provision(s) the effect of which
12 is to directly or indirectly require exclusive use of the
13 transportation services of the contracting taxicab or for-hire
14 vehicle. The contract shall not exceed one year.

15 L. Operation of any taxicab or for-hire license without the
16 filing and display of rates, as herein required, shall be prima
17 facie grounds for the suspension or revocation of the taxicab or
18 for-hire license.

19 SECTION 2. Severability. Should any section, subsection,
20 paragaraph, sentence, clause or phrase of this ordinance be
21 declared unconstitutional or invalid for any reason, such
22 decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion
23 of this ordinance.

24 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 30th day
25 of March, 1987.

26 PASSED this 13th day of April, 1987.

27 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
28 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

29 Bill Reams

VICE Chairman

30 ATTEST:

31 Donna M. Owens
32 Clerk of the Council

33 APPROVED this 15th day of April, 1987.

Jim Hill
King County Executive