

August 7, 1984
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INTRODUCED BY: Lois North

PROPOSED NO.: 83-583

ORDINANCE NO. 6887

AN ORDINANCE relating to taxicabs, for-hire vehicles and their drivers; amending Ordinance 1120, Sections 1, 2, 7, 8, 11, 19, 24, 26, 28, 29, 30, 31, 38 and 40 and K.C.C. 6.64.010, 6.64.020, 6.64.060, 6.64.070, 6.64.100, 6.64.180, 6.64.230, 6.64.250, 6.64.270, 6.64.280, 6.64.290, 6.64.300, 6.64.370, and 6.64.390; repealing Ordinance 1120, Section 10, Section 26 and K.C.C. 6.64.090, 6.64.250, and adding new sections.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Ordinance 1120, Section 1 and K.C.C. 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. "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. "Director of the King County Public Safety Department" means the director and any of his duly authorized representatives.))~~

C. "Director" means the director of the King County department of executive administration.

D. "Enforcement officer" means the director and his/her duly authorized representatives ~~((of the director of the King County Public Safety Department and his duly authorized representatives)).~~

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

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

21 G. "Licensee" means all applicants, including affiliation
22 representative, required to license taxicabs or for-hire vehicles
23 under the provisions of this chapter.

24 H. "Special Rate" means discounted rates for the elderly and
25 handicapped.

26 I. "Special Services Vehicle" means a vehicle equipped to
27 accommodate and which is used for the transportation of handi-
28 capped persons as herein defined:

29 The term handicapped means any person who is physically or
30 mentally disabled who has an identification card issued by a
31 governmental agency which describes the handicap and also has
32 medical certification that the handicap limits the person's
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1 activities, functioning and ability to use public transportation
2 facilities.

3 ((H+)) J. "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, or on a
7 special fare rate or contracted agreement as permitted by this
8 ordinance.

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

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

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

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

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

14 A. The applicant for ((~~swear~~)) a taxicab or for-hire vehicle
 15 license ((~~r-in-a-manner-approved-by-the-director~~)) shall show in
 16 ((~~his~~)) the application:

- 17 1. the true name and address of the applicant; ((~~and~~))
- 18 2. if a corporation, the names and addresses of the
 19 principal officers and shareholders thereof;
- 20 3. the classification under which the vehicle will be
 21 operated, whether as taxicab or other vehicle for hire;
- 22 4. the year for which the license is sought; ((~~and shall~~
 23 ~~furnish-full~~))
- 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 ((~~has~~)) have been convicted of any ((~~violation~~))
 32 crimes within ((~~the~~)) three years preceding the date of
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1 application (~~related to the sale or possession of intoxicating~~
 2 ~~liquor, gambling, or any law or ordinance involving an intent to~~
 3 ~~defraud, or whether the applicant has ever been convicted of any~~
 4 ~~law or ordinance relating to the use, sale or possession of~~
 5 ~~narcotic drugs or barbiturates, or any));~~

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

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

27 C. A license may be denied to any person if the director,
 28 after due investigation, (~~has reason to believe~~) finds that the
 29 applicant/owner (~~is dishonest or immoral, or desires such~~
 30 ~~license to enable him to engage in a dishonest, unlawful, or~~
 31 ~~immoral act, practice or enterprise~~) has:

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

7 3. Fails to pass the written examination required in K.C.C.
8 6.64.020 B. of this ordinance;

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

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

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

24 ~~((D.--No-license-shall-be-transferable-to-any-person-except-in-~~
25 ~~case-of-a-bona-fide-sale-of-the-business-of-the-owner-or-operator~~
26 ~~of-the-meter-vehicle, and no license shall be transferred to any~~
27 ~~other-meter-vehicle-without-approval-of-the-director-and-then-only~~
28 ~~in-cases-where-the-meter-vehicle-for-which-the-license-is-issued~~
29 ~~shall-be-sold, become-obsolete, unsafe-or-unfit-for-further-use,~~
30 ~~Such-determination-shall-be-made-by-the-director-and-his-determ--~~
31 ~~ination-shall-be-conclusive.))~~

32 D. A taxicab or for-hire vehicle license shall be suspended
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1 if the licensee:

2 1. Fails to maintain in full force and effect the insurance
3 required in this ordinance;

4 2. Fails to comply with the safety and sanitation
5 requirements of this ordinance.

6 3. Fails to maintain the taximeter in accurate and good
7 working condition.

8 E. A taxicab or for-hire vehicle license may be suspended or
9 revoked if the licensee has been found to:

10 1. Operate or permit the operation of the vehicle while
11 using or in possession of alcohol or controlled substances,
12 during its operation;

13 2. Violates any of the provisions of this ordinance.

14 SECTION 3. Ordinance 1120, Section 7, and K.C.C. 6.64.060 are
15 hereby amended as follows:

16 Unlawful to operate taxicab or for-hire vehicles without
17 liability insurance.

18 A. No such license shall be issued unless the applicant
19 therefor files with the director (~~(a certified copy or copies of~~
20 ~~a policy or policies of public liability insurance, issued by an~~
21 ~~insurance company or companies authorized to do business in the~~
22 ~~state of Washington,--The policy or policies shall specify the~~
23 ~~minimum coverage as prescribed by)) proof of compliance with
24 R.C.W. Chapter 46.72 as now or hereafter amended. (~~(The policy or~~
25 ~~policies shall in addition by endorsement or otherwise, name King~~
26 ~~County as an additional insured and provide that King County, its~~
27 ~~officers, agents, and employees shall be indemnified and held~~
28 ~~harmless from any loss, or claim or suit for damages or injury~~
29 ~~from the use or operation of the vehicle for which such permit~~
30 ~~is to be issued, and shall further provide that not less than~~
31 ~~thirty days' written notice shall be given to the director in the~~
32 ~~event of any change or cancellation.))~~)~~

1 B. Additionally, all applicants shall maintain a policy of
2 underinsured motorist coverage which runs to the benefit of
3 passengers; provided that a certificate of self-insurance issued
4 pursuant to RCW 46.29.630 may be filed with the director in lieu
5 of such policy.

6 C. Such insurance as required in A. and B. above, shall be
7 maintained in full force and effect for the full period to be
8 covered by the permit applied for, and failure to do so shall
9 result in the automatic suspension of such permit.

10 SECTION 4. Ordinance 1120, Section 8 and K.C.C. 6.64.070 are
11 hereby amended as follows:

12 King County taxicab or for-hire license plates. The director
13 shall furnish with each taxicab or for-hire license issued one or
14 more tags or plates or (~~metal~~) decals. All plates, tags or
15 (~~metal~~) decals shall bear a number and the year for which the
16 license was issued, together with the words "King County Taxicab
17 or For-Hire License." The form, material and positioning on the
18 vehicle shall be as prescribed by the director. It is unlawful
19 for any owner, operator or driver of a taxicab or for-hire vehicle
20 to operate such vehicle without having conspicuously displayed
21 (~~these~~) on such vehicle a license plate, tag or decal furnished
22 and authorized by the director, or to operate (~~such~~) the
23 vehicle with expired or illegible King County taxicab or for-hire
24 license plates, tags or decals (~~thereon~~). All plates, tags or
25 decals shall be and remain the property of King County and upon
26 the revocation, surrender, suspension, or expiration of a vehicle
27 license, or if found in the possession of any person other than
28 to whom the license was issued, the plate, tag or decal shall be
29 picked up by any enforcement officer and returned to the director.

30 SECTION 5. Ordinance 1120, Section 11 and K.C.C. 6.64.100 are
31 hereby amended as follows:

32 Display of taxicab or for-hire vehicle number.

1 It is unlawful for any taxicab or for-hire vehicle to fail to
 2 have conspicuously displayed, where it is readily discernible by
 3 the passenger, the name ~~((and))~~, number and telephone number where
 4 the owner of the taxicab or for-hire vehicle ~~((contained-in-a-~~
 5 ~~plastic-sealed-card-attached-to-a-metal-holder+))~~ can be reached,
 6 the size, location, and form thereof to be determined by the
 7 director. It is unlawful during the hours of darkness to fail to
 8 illuminate sufficiently such name and numbers.

9 SECTION 6. Ordinance 1120, Section 19 and K.C.C. 6.64.180 are
 10 hereby amended as follows:

11 Inspection of taxicab or for-hire vehicles. All vehicles
 12 operated under the authority of this chapter shall be made
 13 available for inspection by the director or his/her representative
 14 at any reasonable time or ~~((any))~~ place. ~~((by-the-director+))~~
 15 The director shall inspect the vehicle to determine cleanliness,
 16 proper equipment, good appearance, and safe operating
 17 condition. ~~((and-shall-in-all-cases-be-the-sole-judge-in-this~~
 18 ~~determination+))~~

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

22 1. The vehicle must be no more than six years old
 23 (including the current model year) nor have traveled more than
 24 100,000 miles. If more than six years old or if it has traveled
 25 100,000 miles or more, the vehicle must be replaced, unless the
 26 vehicle owner submits a certification of safety completed in a
 27 manner prescribed by the director;

28 ~~((A))~~ 2. An efficient and operable windshield wiper mechanism;

29 ~~((B))~~ 3. An adequate braking system including emergency or
 30 auxiliary;

31 ~~((C))~~ 4. A complete lighting system, exterior and interior,
 32 and including signaling devices and emergency flashers;

1 ((D)) 5. Rear-view mirrors;

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

4 ((F)) 7. Tires with minimum tread depth of 2/32 inches as
5 determined by gauge, and free of visible defects;

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

8 ((G)) 9. Other safety equipment as may be determined from
9 time to time by the director to be necessary for the safe
10 transportation of passengers. ((for-hire))

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

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

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

17 3. The vehicle has a functioning heater;

18 4. Windows roll up/down properly;

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

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

24 7. Other reasonable conditions as may be determined by the
25 director to be necessary for the safe and sanitary transportation
26 of passengers for-hire.

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

1 It is unlawful to fail to comply with any written notice by
2 the director to make (~~certify~~) corrections on the taxicab or
3 for-hire vehicle.

4 SECTION 7. Ordinance 1120, Section 24 and K.C.C. 6.64.230 are
5 hereby amended as follows:

6 Two-way radio dispatch. If the taxicab or for-hire vehicle is
7 equipped with a radio dispatch system, (~~It~~) it is unlawful for
8 any for-hire driver to fail to respond to a call from the
9 dispatcher to pick up a passenger when so requested or to fail to
10 keep the radio in the taxicab or for-hire vehicle operating at
11 all times during the shift the taxicab or for-hire vehicle is
12 operated. All such equipped taxicabs or for-hire vehicles shall
13 have conspicuously placed on the vehicle by the name of the cab,
14 the telephone number (~~where~~) from which the taxicab or for-hire
15 vehicle may be radio dispatched (~~from~~). (~~Persons-canceling~~
16 ~~calls-for-taxicabs-or-for-hire-vehicles-after-dispatch-in-answer~~
17 ~~thereof,-may-be-charged-the-same-rate-as-if-used.~~)

18 NEW SECTION. SECTION 8. Ordinance 1120, Section 26 and
19 K.C.C. 6.64.250 are hereby repealed and the following is
20 substituted:

21 Solicitation of fares or carrying non-paying passengers or
22 pets of driver.

23 A. It is unlawful for any for-hire driver to cruise at
24 Sea-Tac airport.

25 B. It is unlawful for any for-hire driver to drive, or
26 operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle on the lower level
27 passenger pick-up at Sea-Tac airport without having on display a
28 Port of Seattle authorized permit.

29 C. It is unlawful for any for-hire or taxicab driver to
30 solicit on the Sea-Tac airport terminal drives or inside the
31 airport terminal building.

32 D. It is unlawful for any for-hire driver to haul any
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1 additional passengers or any non-paying passenger(s) or pet(s),
 2 other than those belonging to the fare paying passenger(s), when
 3 the taxicab or for-hire vehicle has been engaged for-hire and/or
 4 is occupied already by a paying passenger or passengers, provided
 5 that this is not intended to preclude a licensed for-hire driver,
 6 acting as a trainer, from accompanying a driver trainee while
 7 he/she is carrying paying passengers.

8 SECTION 9. Ordinance 1120, Section 28 and K.C.C. 6.64.270 are
 9 hereby amended as follows:

10 Suspension - Revocation of for-hire driver's licenses. Any
 11 driver of a taxicab or for-hire vehicle (~~who charges any~~
 12 ~~passenger a rate or fare other than that provided for in this~~
 13 ~~chapter shall upon conviction, in addition to other penalties~~
 14 ~~provided by law, have his for-hire driver's license suspended for~~
 15 ~~a period of not less than thirty days nor more than one year))
 16 shall have his/her for-hire driver's license suspended or revoked
 17 if:~~

18 A. At any time his/her State of Washington Motor Vehicle
 19 Operator's License is suspended or revoked;

20 B. It is discovered after license issuance that he/she has an
 21 infirmity of the body or mind which renders him/her unfit for the
 22 safe operation of a motor vehicle;

23 C. He/she uses or is found to be in possession of controlled
 24 substances or alcohol while in or while operating any taxicab or
 25 for-hire vehicle;

26 D. Charges a passenger a rate or fare other than that
 27 provided for in the rate set by King County;

28 E. At any time he/she fails to meet the qualifications for a
 29 for-hire driver;

30 F. Violates any of the provisions of this ordinance.

31 SECTION 10. Ordinance 1120, Section 29 and K.C.C. 6.64.280
 32 are hereby amended as follows:

1 Licensing fees. it is unlawful to engage in the business of
2 operating a taxicab or for-hire vehicle as defined in this
3 chapter without first having obtained a valid ~~((and-substisting))~~
4 license to do so. This license shall be known as, and the fee
5 shall be as follows:

- 6 A. Taxicab License.....~~(((\$60.00))~~ \$115.00 per vehicle
7 B. For-hire vehicle license.~~(((\$100.00))~~ \$120.00 per vehicle
8 C. Transfer of equipment fee.....15.00 for each
9 transfer of vehicle during the license year.

10 SECTION 11. Ordinance 1120, Section 30 and K.C.C. 6.64.290
11 are hereby amended to read as follows:

12 For-hire driver's license required - Application.

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

29 The applicant shall file an application on a form furnished by
30 the director, which shall be signed and sworn to by the applicant
31 and shall contain: Name, height, weight, color of hair and eyes,
32 residence address, place and date of birth, ~~((length of time a-
33~~

1 ~~resident of the State of Washington, whether a citizen or~~
 2 ~~non-citizen~~) last place of employment, whether or not the
 3 license was ever suspended or revoked and for what cause, and
 4 such other information as may reasonably be required. The
 5 applicant shall on the application give the names and mailing
 6 addresses of four persons, not relatives, who have known the
 7 applicant for at least two years past.

8 SECTION 12. Ordinance 1120, Section 31 and K.C.C. 6.64.300
 9 are hereby amended as follows:

10 Qualifications for a for-hire driver's license.

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

13 ((A+)) 1. Must be at least eighteen years of age;

14 ~~((B+--Must-be-bona-fide-resident-of-the-State-of-Washington~~
 15 ~~for-at-least-six-months-prior-to-filing-application;~~

16 ((C+)) 2. Must possess a valid state of Washington motor
 17 vehicle operator's license;

18 ((D+)) 3. Must be free from any infirmity of body or mind
 19 which would render the applicant unfit for safe operation of a
 20 motor vehicle, and shall have submitted to a medical examination
 21 by a licensed physician and filed with the director a certificate
 22 from said physician certifying his/her fitness as ((such)) a
 23 for-hire driver. The scope of the examination and the
 24 certificate form shall be prescribed by the Seattle-King County
 25 health department. Such examination shall ((not)) be required at
 26 least every four (4) years but not for renewals of such license
 27 ((+but)); provided however, the director may at any time at
 28 his/her discretion require any licensee to be so examined and to
 29 secure such a certificate or renewal thereof;

30 ((E+)) 4. Must not be found to be addicted to the use of
 31 intoxicating liquor, dangerous drugs or narcotics;

32 5. Must successfully complete a written examination

1 administered at the time of initial application. The
2 examination will test the applicant's knowledge of the ordinance
3 requirements dealing with fare determination, driver-passenger
4 relations, conduct including the applicant's ability to
5 understand oral and written directions in the English language,
6 vehicle safety requirements and driver regulations, and a
7 satisfactory geographic knowledge of King County. The content of
8 the examination will be prescribed by the director. All current
9 licensees must take and pass this examination in order to secure
10 renewal of their licenses during the year after this ordinance
11 becomes law; provided that, after a driver once passes this
12 examination, he/she shall not have to pass the examination again
13 as a requirement for license renewal unless he/she has not been
14 an active driver for a period of more than two years.

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

- 16 1. Made any false statement in his/her application;
17 2. Made a conviction or bail forfeiture involving crimes
18 pertaining to controlled substances, alcohol, prostitution,
19 gambling, physical violence, or crimes directly related to the
20 applicant's honesty and integrity (fraud, larceny, extortion)
21 within three years of the date of application;
22 3. Has been found to have exhibited past conduct in driving
23 or operating a taxicab or for-hire vehicle which would lead the
24 director to reasonably conclude that the applicant will not
25 comply with the provisions of the ordinance related to driver/
26 operator conduct and the safe operation of the vehicle;
27 4. Has been found to have exhibited a past driving record
28 which would lead the director to reasonably conclude that the
29 applicant would not operate the taxicab or for-hire vehicle in a
30 safe manner.

31 SECTION 13. Ordinance 1120, Section 38 and K.C.C. 6.64.370
32 are hereby amended as follows:

1 For-hire driver's license fee. The fee ((6)) for a for-hire
 2 driver's license shall be as follows: For each license,
 3 ((fifteen)) thirty dollars.

4 SECTION 14. Ordinance 1120, Section 40 and K.C.C. 6.64.390
 5 are hereby amended as follows:

6 Identification of Drivers. Every for-hire driver shall wear
 7 or display a badge of identification or sign, plaque, or card,
 8 the size, form, content and placement to be determined and
 9 approved by the director, and such badge, sign, plaque, or card
 10 shall be worn by such for-hire driver or placed in the taxicab or
 11 for-hire vehicle at all times while he/she is operating ((a)) such
 12 taxicab or for-hire vehicle. ((Such-badge-shall-show,-among
 13 others,-the-name-of-the-licensed-for-hire-driver-and-the-name-and
 14 telephone-number-of-the-company-employing-such-drivers,))

15 The for-hire driver's license shall at all times be carried on
 16 the person of the licensee; and shall on request be exhibited by
 17 the licensee to any passenger or to any police officer or other
 18 enforcement officer.

19 NEW SECTION. SECTION 15. Ordinance 1120, Section 10, and
 20 K.C.C. 6.64.090 are each hereby repealed, and the following is
 21 substituted:

22 Rates.

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

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

29 C. Except for special or contract rates and rates for special
 30 service vehicles, as provided for in this ordinance, it shall be
 31 unlawful for anyone operating a taxicab licensed by King County
 32 to charge, demand or receive any greater or lesser rate than the
 33

1 following:

- 2 1. For passengers for the first 1/6th mile \$1.00;
- 3 2. Thereafter for each additional 1/6th mile or fraction
- 4 thereof.....\$0.20
- 5 3. For every one minute of waiting time.....\$ 0.30
- 6 4. Extra charge per passenger over two passengers excluding
- 7 minors\$ 0.50

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

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

12 F. The county council may, on its own initiative, or on the
13 initiative of the director, enact new rates when it deems such
14 change to be in the public interest; or when two thirds of all
15 taxicab permit owners petition the council for a change. If the
16 rate change does not necessitate a meter adjustment, the new rate
17 becomes effective thirty (30) days after enactment. If a meter
18 adjustment is required, the new rate becomes effective when the
19 taxi meter is approved.

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

- 23 1. The public need for adequate taxi service at the lowest
- 24 level of charges consistent with the provision, maintenance and
- 25 continuation of such service;
- 26 2. The rates of other licensees operating in similar areas;
- 27 3. The effect of such rates upon transportation of
- 28 passengers by other modes of transportation;
- 29 4. The licensee's need for revenue of a level which under
- 30 honest, efficient and economical management is sufficient to
- 31 cover the cost (including all operating expenses, depreciation
- 32 accruals, rents, license fees and taxes of every kind) of
- 33

1 providing adequate taxi service, plus an amount equal to such
2 percentage of the cost as is reasonably necessary for the
3 replacement of deteriorated taxicabs and a reasonable profit to
4 the licensee. The relation of revenues to expenses may be deemed
5 the proper test of a reasonable profit.

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

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

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

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

20 J. Every for-hire vehicle licensee shall, before commencing
21 operation, file with the director his/her proposed rate
22 schedule. The filed rate must:

23 1. Be filed on forms furnished by the director;

24 2. Be in the form prescribed by the director;

25 3. Be conspicuously displayed inside the for-hire vehicle
26 so as to be readily discernible to the passenger. The manner of
27 such posting will be prescribed by the director;

28 4. a. For new licenses, be part of the application
29 process, and when the license is issued the rate becomes
30 effective and must be charged;

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

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

11 L. Operation of any taxicab or for-hire license without the
12 filing and display of rates, as herein required, shall be prima
13 facie grounds for the suspension or revocation of the taxicab or
14 for-hire license.

15 NEW SECTION SECTION 16.

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

24 In order to protect the public health, welfare and safety of
25 the citizens of King County and the traveling public and in order
26 to assure a viable taxi transportation system in King County, the
27 King County council finds that it is necessary and in the public
28 interest to declare a moratorium on the issuance of taxicab
29 vehicle licenses for a period of twelve months from the effective
30 date of this ordinance.

31 NEW SECTION. SECTION 17.

32 Transference (sale) of a permit to any other person is authorized
33

1 and nothing herein shall prevent the holder of a taxicab permit
2 from leasing the taxicab to another person or persons for use or
3 operation. Application for transfer of a permit to another
4 person shall state the name of the transferee, and the trade name
5 and color scheme under which the vehicle will be operated. The
6 transferee shall comply with all requirements of this ordinance.

7 The owner of a taxicab vehicle license may transfer a permit
8 to any other motor vehicle with the approval of the director.
9 Any taxicab vehicle permit not in actual use for a period of
10 ninety (90) days shall, at the discretion of the director, be
11 considered abandoned and non-renewable or transferable.

12 NEW SECTION. SECTION 18. Driving Record. Each applicant for
13 a for-hire driver's license shall provide a current certified
14 copy of his/her employment driving record, obtained from the
15 Washington State Department of Licensing; provided that, if an
16 applicant does not have an employment driving record which has
17 been current for at least two years prior to application for a
18 for-hire driver's license, the applicant shall provide a current
19 certified copy of his/her personal driving record, obtained from
20 the Washington State Department of Licensing.

21 NEW SECTION. SECTION 19. Passenger complaints process.

22 A. Upon receiving a written complaint involving the conduct
23 of the for-hire driver, the route of transportation, the rate
24 charged for the transportation, passenger injury or property
25 damage not arising from a vehicle accident, the director shall
26 cause the following to be performed:

27 1. Issue a Notice of Complaint to the for-hire driver and
28 vehicle owner, and company, if applicable, advising such person
29 of the allegation(s) made in the complaint;

30 2. Require the for-hire driver, vehicle owner, and company
31 if applicable, to respond, in writing, to the allegation(s) in
32 the Notice of Complaint within ten days of receipt of the Notice
33

1 of Complaint;

2 3. Investigate the allegation(s) in the written complaint
3 and the response submitted by the for-hire driver, vehicle
4 owner, and company, if applicable;

5 4. Make a finding as to the validity of the allegation(s)
6 in the written complaint. If it is found to be a valid complaint
7 the director shall issue a Notice and Order pursuant to the
8 process described in K.C.C. 6.01.130.

9 B. Failure to respond, in writing, to a Notice of Complaint
10 within ten days shall constitute a waiver of the for-hire
11 driver's, vehicle owner's, and companys', if applicable, right to
12 contest the allegation(s) in the written complaint and shall be
13 prima facie evidence that the allegation(s) are valid.

14 C. Failure to comply with any Notice and Order issued as a
15 result of the above process will result in the revocation of the
16 license(s) involved. Such revocation will last one year from the
17 date the license(s) is surrendered.

18 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 5th day
19 of December, 1983.

20 PASSED this 6th day of August, 1984.

21 KING COUNTY COUNCIL
22 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

23 Gary Grant
24 Chairman

25 ATTEST:

26
27 Jessie M. Owens
28 Clerk of the Council

29 APPROVED this _____ day of _____, 1984.

30 DEEMED ENACTED WITHOUT
31 COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S SIGNATURE.
32 DATED: 8/16/84

33 _____
King County Executive

