

December 14, 1990  
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Introduced by: Ron Sims

Proposed No.: 90-978

**9763**

ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_

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AN ORDINANCE relating to taxicabs, extending the moratorium on taxicab licenses, extending the period of operations for the Regional Taxicab Commission, amending Ordinance No. 8994, Sec. 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.64.570; and amending Ordinance No. 9408, Sec. 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.64.470 and declaring an emergency.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

SECTION 1. Ordinance No. 8994, Section 1, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.64.570 are hereby amended to read as follows:

A. Establishment and purpose. There shall be established a taxicab commission, hereinafter referred to as the "commission", in King County for the purpose of recommending taxicab rates, entry restrictions if any, and other related revisions to the King County Code and Seattle Municipal Code to the King County council and the Seattle city Council, provided that the Seattle City Council adopts legislation authorizing city participation in the commission.

B. Membership. There shall be nine members of the commission, three of which shall be appointed by the King County executive and confirmed by the King County council, three of which shall be appointed by the City of Seattle, the seventh member shall be appointed by the Port of Seattle, the eighth member selected by the seven appointed members, and the ninth member shall represent the Evergreen Taxi Association or its successor. A member appointed by the City of Seattle and King County shall serve for a term of three years, or until the dissolution of the commission. Representation from the hospitality and tourism industry and the handicapped shall be considered. The following individuals shall not be eligible for appointment to the commission: staff employed by any governmental agency with jurisdiction over taxicab regulation or enforcement; any owner, lessee, driver or employee of a

1 taxicab company or business, or any members of the immediate  
2 families of the foregoing. The commission shall provide for the  
3 election of its own officers and rules of procedure. The  
4 commission shall file its first report to the City and King  
5 County councils and the Port Commission no later than January  
6 15, 1989, and annual reports thereafter. The Commission may  
7 make special reports as the need arises. All reports and other  
8 materials generated by the commission in discharging its  
9 assigned duties and transmitted to the King County council  
10 shall first be reviewed by the King County executive.

11 C. The King County executive is hereby authorized to  
12 negotiate and execute an interlocal agreement with the City of  
13 Seattle and the Port of Seattle to establish a Taxicab  
14 Commission for the purpose of making recommendations to each  
15 jurisdiction on agency recommendations resulting from taxicab  
16 industry reporting, pursuant to K.C.C. 6.64.510-.540, and other  
17 recommendations concerning governmental regulations of the  
18 taxicab industry, taxi fares, and taxi licensing, provided that  
19 no agreement shall become effective without the approval of the  
20 King County council.

21 D. Budget and Staffing. Budget and staff support shall be  
22 as appropriated and passed by councils' respective ordinances.  
23 The contribution from the Port of Seattle shall be by letter of  
24 agreement to contribute its portion of funding to the Regional  
25 Taxicab Commission's budget. The continued operations and  
26 staffing of the Regional Taxicab Commission shall be contingent  
27 upon the continued contributions of the agreed upon portions of  
28 the commission's budget by the City of Seattle and the Port of  
29 Seattle. The failure of any participating jurisdiction to fund  
30 its agreed upon share of the commission's budget shall result  
31 in the commission's dissolution at the termination of its  
32 existing expenditure authority.

33 E. Report. ~~The King County executive is directed to report~~  
34 ~~to the King County council no later than April 30, 1990 on the~~  
35 ~~degree of completion of the Regional Taxicab Commission's Work~~

1 Program, which report shall include an overview of work  
2 remaining to be completed, and a date by which commission  
3 recommendations shall be transmitted to the council. The  
4 Regional Taxicab Commission's duties shall be restricted to the  
5 preparation of a methodology for equitably determining rates,  
6 rate recommendations, and any other work directly related to  
7 entry, vehicle safety standards, and consumer protection. The  
8 commission's recommendations on rates and other recommendations  
9 on taxicab regulation shall be transmitted to the King County  
10 council for its consideration no later than May 15, 1991. All  
11 recommendations shall be subject to review by the King County  
12 executive prior to their submission to the council. The  
13 Regional Taxicab Commission and its duties shall expire on  
14 ~~December 31, 1990~~ June 30, 1991, provided that the City of  
15 Seattle and the Port of Seattle take corresponding actions to  
16 continue the commission and its duties.

17 SECTION 2. Ordinance No. 9408, Section 1, as amended, and  
18 K.C.C. 6.64.470 are hereby amended to read as follows:

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

27 In order to protect the public health, welfare and safety  
28 of the citizens of King County and the traveling public and in  
29 order to assure a viable taxi transportation system in King  
30 County, the King County council finds that it is necessary and  
31 in the public interest to declare a moratorium on the issuance  
32 of new taxicab vehicle licenses until ~~December 31, 1990~~ June  
33 30, 1991.

34 NEW SECTION SECTION 3. For the purposes of the Chapter,  
35 the term licensed vehicle shall mean any taxicab that has been

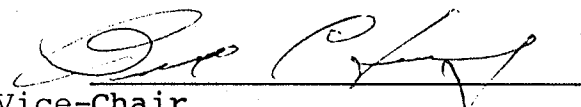
1 issued a King County For-Hire Vehicle License and/or a City of  
2 Seattle For-Hire Vehicle License. Any transfer of for-hire  
3 vehicle licenses for a licensed vehicle shall be for the  
4 transfer of all for-hire vehicle licenses issued to said  
5 vehicle. If the transfer is for one for-hire vehicle license  
6 only, the remaining for-hire vehicle licenses shall be  
7 considered abandoned and nonrenewable or nontransferable and  
8 shall be surrendered to the issuing agency.

9 SECTION 4. The county council finds as a fact and declares  
10 that an emergency exists and that this ordinance is necessary  
11 for the immediate preservation of public peace, health or  
12 safety or for the support of county government and its existing  
13 public institutions.

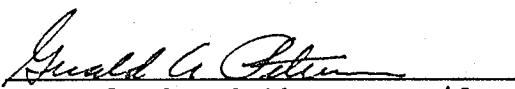
14 INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 26<sup>th</sup> day  
15 of November, 1990.

16 PASSED this 17<sup>th</sup> day of December, 1990.

17 KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
18 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

19   
20 Vice-Chair

21 ATTEST:

22   
23 Clerk of the Council

24 APPROVED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 19\_\_.

25 DEEMED ENACTED WITHOUT  
26 COUNTY EXECUTIVE'S SIGNATURE  
DATED: 12/28/90  
King County Executive