

March 28, 1991

Introduced by: Sims

Proposed No.: 91-213

ORDINANCE NO. **9892**

AN ORDINANCE relating to the use of alternative fuel, waiving the licensing fee for taxicabs and for-hire vehicles which use alternative fuel, and amending Ordinance 1120, Sections 1 and 29, as amended and K.C.C. 6.64.010 and K.C.C. 6.64.280

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. The following definitions shall apply in the interpretation of this ordinance.

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. "Alcohol" means a mixture containing no less than eighty-five percent methanol, ethanol or other alcohols, in any combination, by volume.

D. "Alternative fuel" means a means of propulsion by other than gasoline or diesel fuel and shall include:

1. Alcohol.
2. Dual energy.
3. Electricity.
4. Natural gas.
5. Propane.
6. Human powered.

E. "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.

1 F. "City" means the city of Seattle or an authorized
2 representative of the city of Seattle.

3 G. "Director" means the director of the King County
4 Department of Executive Administration.

5 H. "Dual energy" means capable of being operated using an
6 alternative fuel and gasoline or diesel fuel.

7 I. "Enforcement Officer" means the director or his/her
8 duly authorized representatives.

9 J. "For-hire driver" means any person in charge of or
10 driving a taxicab or for-hire vehicle carrying passengers or
11 baggage for hire, as hereinafter further defined; provided,
12 however, that the provisions of this chapter shall not apply to
13 drivers of motor vehicles operated by any municipal or
14 privately owned, licensed transit system.

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

28 L. "Labor costs" means salaries or wages paid by taxi
29 owners to taxi drivers or the portion of the draw taken by the
30 taxi owner to represent his or her compensation for driving the
31 taxicab. If, in the opinion of the director, labor costs are
32 under reported, this information may be supplemented by the
33 director with an index of wages in comparable industries.

34 M. "Licensee" means all applicants, including affiliation
35 representative, required to license taxicabs or for-hire
36 vehicles under the provisions of this chapter.

1 N. "Special Rate" means discounted rates for elderly and
2 handicapped.

3 O. "Special Services Vehicle" means a vehicle equipped to
4 accommodate and which is used for the transportation of
5 handicapped persons as herein defined: The term handicapped
6 means any person who is physically or mentally disabled who has
7 an identification card issued by a governmental agency which
8 describes the handicap and also has medical certification that
9 the handicap limits the person's activities, functioning and
10 ability to use public transportation facilities.

11 P. "Taxicab" means every motor vehicle used for the
12 transportation of passengers for-hire, where the route traveled
13 or destination is controlled by a customer and the fare is
14 based on an amount recorded and indicated on a taximeter, or on
15 a special fare rate or contracted agreement as permitted by
16 this chapter.

17 Q. "Taximeter" means any instrument or device by which the
18 charge for hire of a passenger carrying vehicle is measured or
19 calculated either for the distance traveled by such vehicle or
20 for waiting time, or for both, and upon which such calculated
21 charges shall be indicated by means of figures.

22 R. "Motor vehicle" means every self-propelled vehicle by
23 or upon which any person may be transported or carried on a
24 public street, highway or alley; provided, that vehicles used
25 exclusively on stationary rail tracks or propelled by the use
26 of overhead electric wires shall not come under the provisions
27 of this chapter.

1 S. "Engage in the business of operating any taxicab or
2 vehicle for hire" means the pickup and transportation of any
3 fare paying passenger from a point within the geographical
4 boundaries of unincorporated King County, whether or not the
5 vehicle is dispatched from a taxicab stand or office within any
6 other municipal corporation, and whether or not the ultimate
7 destination or route of travel is within the confines of
8 unincorporated King County; provided that nothing in this
9 chapter will be construed to apply to taxicabs or for-hire
10 vehicles licensed by any other municipal corporation and
11 transporting passengers from a point within the licensing
12 municipality to a destination outside thereof, whether or not
13 the ultimate destination or route traveled is within
14 unincorporated King County.

SECTION 2. Ordinance 1120 Section 29, as amended and K.C.C. 6.64.280 are hereby amended to read as follows:

Licensing fees. It is unlawful to engage in the business of operating a taxicab or for-hire vehicle as defined in this chapter without first having obtained a valid license to do so. This license shall be known as, and the fee shall be as follows, except that during the years 1991 through 1996, the fee will be waived for those taxicabs and for-hire vehicles which, upon inspection by the director, are found to operate on alternative fuel:

- A. Taxicab license.....\$140.00 per vehicle
B. For-hire vehicle license.....\$140.00 per vehicle
C. Transfer of equipment fee.....\$ 15.00 for each transfer of vehicle during the license year.

INTRODUCED AND READ for the first time this 4th day of March, 1991.

PASSED this 8th day of April, 1991.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Lois North
Chair

ATTEST:

Gerald A. Peterson
Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this 17th day of April, 1991

Jim Hill
King County Executive