2014 October 29

BULLETIN 009
Driver Independence

Attention Industry Stakeholders

In Calgary, holders of taxi plate licences are permitted to join their plates to independent livery vehicles. Currently, none of the existing 750+ individual plate holders operate independently, choosing instead to affiliate with brokerages.

At Council's direction, The City of Calgary Livery Transport Services (LTS) is investigating *the feasibility of...mechanisms to enhance (taxi) driver independence*.

As part of its investigation, LTS is hoping to develop an understanding of the level of interest among plate holders to operate independently and what barriers could be preventing this.

To begin with, LTS would appreciate feedback on the attached DRAFT **Checklist for Independent Taxis**, which outlines the set-up requirements and tools for operating as an independent livery vehicle, including:

- Taxi insurance
- Equipment (GPS, taximeter, security camera, debit/credit system)
- Paint and markings
- Approved third party e-hail technologies

Please provide feedback in writing via email (liverytransport@calgary.ca), mail (PO Box 2100 Stn M #128 Calgary AB T2P 2M5) or in person (2116 27 Ave NE Calgary AB) to the office of Livery Transport Services (subject: Driver Independence) by 4:30 p.m., November 30, 2014.

Sincerely,

Marc Halat
Manager/Chief Licence Officer

Attachment

DRAFT Checklist for Independent Taxis

1. ☐ Authorized vehicle (*list to be published on calgary.ca*)

2. ☐ Taxi insurance

3. Required equipment:

   a. ☐ Authorized taximeter *(list of approved models to be published on calgary.ca)*

   b. ☐ Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) system

   c. ☐ Electronic debit/credit card system:

   Operators of Independent Livery Vehicles may use any mobile debit or credit card payment system *by which a customer may pay a fare by an immediate electronic withdrawal from his bank account or charge to his credit card account.*

   d. ☐ Authorized security camera

   - VerifEye Technologies (151 Whitehall Dr, Unit 2, Markham ON L3R 9T1, 905-948-0015)
   - Janus Cam (31 Airport Blvd Ste G2, South San Francisco, CA 94080, 650 871-8696).
   See section 39.1 of Livery Transport Bylaw 6M2007 for minimum specifications. Please note that in the future retention requirements are likely to increase from the currently stated 3 days. As such, it is recommended that up to 14 days or more of retention be considered.

4. Required data (See Appendix for more information):

   a. ☐ Taximeter

   b. ☐ GPS

5. Required identification colour, markings, decals and/or signs:

   a. ☐ The approved identification colour for all Independent Livery Vehicles is Endura Orange Standard #2. In addition to the exterior panels of the vehicle, interior door and trunk frame parts must also be painted in this approved colour.

   b. ☐ The City-issued numbered licence plate shall be securely attached to the rear, passenger side bumper in a manner and maintained in a condition so as to be clearly visible and readable and un-obscured by any part of the taxi or its attachments or load or otherwise.

c. ☐ The number of the taxi licence plate issued shall be painted or affixed on the outside of both sides of the taxi in numbers no smaller than 5 5/8 inches high and at least ¾ inch wide and no larger than 6 inches high and 1 inch wide and of contrasting colour.

d. ☐ A top light approved by the Manager which is connected in such a manner so as to be illuminated when the Taxi is available for hire and turned off when the Taxi is not available for hire.

e. ☐ The City-issued rates and fares decal shall be affixed facing outward on each rear door window.

f. ☐ A decal or sign in a conspicuous location that indicates that a security camera is installed and images of the passengers are being recorded.

g. ☐ Debit/credit card stickers are to be placed on exterior glass of rear doors. Rear door vent windows are acceptable.

h. ☐ For accessible taxis, wheelchair accessible signage is allowed on areas approved by the Chief Taxi Inspector.

i. ☐ Coming soon: The City-issued driver Photo ID Badge and Passenger & Driver Bill of Rights shall be clearly on display in an approved holder and installed in an approved location at all times

j. ☐ Coming soon: A City-issued compliments or concerns bumper sticker shall be affixed to the rear, driver side bumper in a manner and maintained in a condition so as to be clearly visible and readable and un-obscured by any part of the taxi or its attachments or load or otherwise.

6. Other:

a. ☐ Approved third party e-hail technologies (optional)
FastCab (www.fastcab.ca, info@fastcab.ca, 587-899-8294)

b. ☐ Authorized mobility vehicle up-fitters (if applicable)
- Savaria (2 Walker Drive, Brampton, Ontario L6T 5E1 Canada, 1-800-661-5112)
- Mahadev (Unit 124/125 11071 Bridgeport Road, Richmond BC V6X 1T3, 1-888-319-5116)

Appendix: Taximeter and GPS Data Requirements

I. **Taximeter:** Independent Livery Vehicles must be equipped with a Taximeter that is capable of electronically recording time-marked meter data in a CSV or tabular format and then securely transmitting the data to The City on a daily basis using the file-naming convention "**Meter_XXXX_yyyymmdd**" where XXXX is the taxi plate licence number from 0001 to 1909. Each row of data must include a date/time stamp in the format *mm/dd/yyyy hh:mm:ss*; taxi licence plate number; taxi driver licence badge number (one to five digits, *YYYYY*); and meter state, where the relevant meter states are signed off (0), signed on (1) and meter on (2). Meters must capture a new row of data at minimum upon each change in state.

Sample Taximeter data:

	A	B	C	D
1	8/11/2014 12:04:10	XXXX	YYYYY	1
2	8/11/2014 12:08:31	XXXX	YYYYY	1
3	8/11/2014 12:10:25	XXXX	YYYYY	2
4	8/11/2014 12:23:34	XXXX	YYYYY	2
5	8/11/2014 12:24:12	XXXX	YYYYY	1
6	8/11/2014 12:43:57	XXXX	YYYYY	0
7	8/11/2014 18:30:24	XXXX	YYYYY	1

II. **GPS:** Independent Livery Vehicles must be equipped with an Automatic Vehicle Locator (AVL) system that utilizes a Global Positioning System (GPS) that is capable of electronically recording time-marked GPS data in a CSV or tabular format and then securely transmitting the data to The City on a daily basis using the file-naming convention "**GPS_XXXX_yyyymmdd**" where XXXX is the taxi plate licence number from 0001 to 1909. Each row of data must include a date/time stamp in the format *mm/dd/yyyy hh:mm:ss*; taxi licence plate number; latitude (*typically in the 50-51 range with a minimum of five decimals of precision, for example 51.098325*); and longitude (typically in the -113 to -114 range, for example -113.960295). To be able to relate the two sets of data (GPS and taximeter), the GPS systems must capture a new row of data upon each meter state change in addition to at other standard intervals including, at a minimum, every 2 minutes or more frequently should certain speeds or distances travelled be exceeded.

Sample GPS data:

	A	B	C	D
1	8/11/2014 8:34:23	XXXX	51.130829	-114.009003
2	8/11/2014 8:35:53	XXXX	51.047686	-114.062848
3	8/11/2014 8:36:12	XXXX	51.048439	-114.065416
4	8/11/2014 8:38:23	XXXX	50.966265	-114.069867
5	8/11/2014 8:40:02	XXXX	51.047471	-114.080825