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Item No. 3
Transportation Standing Committee
April 27, 2017

TO: Chair and Members of Transportation Standing Committee

Original Signed

SUBMITTED BY: _____
Bob Bjerke, Chief Planner and Director Planning & Development

DATE: September 12, 2016

SUBJECT: Amendments to Administrative Order 39, Respecting the Regulation of Taxis & Limousines, Taxi Zones.

INFORMATION REPORT

ORIGIN

At the June 14, 2016, Regional Council meeting, the following motion by Councillor Nicoll was passed:

1. Request a staff report to the Transportation Standing Committee to consider amending Administrative Order #39 Section 6.0 to include section 6.1 (d): 6.0 ZONES 6.1 The Municipality is divided into the following three zones for the licensing of taxis: (a) the County Zone, being the area of the Halifax Regional Municipality that is not within either the Dartmouth zone or the Halifax zone. (b) the Dartmouth Zone, being the geographical area of the former City of Dartmouth. (c) the Halifax Zone, being the geographical area of the former City of Halifax and the areas also known as Harrietsfield, Sambro, Ketch Harbour and Portuguese Cove. 6.1 (d) Notwithstanding the foregoing, both the County Zone and the Dartmouth Zone shall include the areas lying within the boundaries of the communities of Cole Harbour, Westphal, Lake Loon and Cherry Brook.
2. Direct staff to consult with the Taxi & Limousine Liaison Group respecting amendments to Administrative Order #39 Section 6.0 – Zones.

LEGISLATIVE AUTHORITY

- Motor Vehicle Act, R.S.N.S. 1989, subsection 305(1);
- By-law T-1000, Respecting the Regulation of Taxis, Accessible Taxis and Limousines;
- Administrative Order #39, Respecting Taxi and Limousine Regulation; and
- Establishment of the Taxi and Limousine Liaison Group (TLLG) as approved by Regional Council, July 5, 2011.

BACKGROUND

At the July 21, 2016, Transportation Standing Committee meeting, the following motion was passed:

The Transportation Standing Committee request a staff report for a strategy on moving forward on making taxis safer, including but not limited to universal education, in-car cameras, barriers, increased visibility of roof light numbers, By-law changes, stakeholder engagement, and licensing standards and that this report come back to the Transportation Standing Committee at the September meeting.

DISCUSSION

The motions of Regional Council from June 14, 2016, and the motion of the Transportation Standing Committee on July 21, 2016, were similar that in part both directed staff to consult with industry stakeholders.

A Recommendation Report to Transportation Standing Committee relative to safety concerns includes a recommendation for Regional Council to approve a RFP to have an in-depth industry review and jurisdictional scan with potential recommendation to the by-law and administrative order.

Should the recommendations for a RFP be approved by Regional Council, that study will include within its terms of reference an assessment of the current zone structure addressing the June 14, 2016 Regional Council motion.

If the recommended creation of the RFP is not approved by Regional Council staff will engage industry stakeholders regarding the specifics of the June 14, 2016 motion and return with results outlined in a separate report to the Transportation Standing Committee for their consideration.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no financial implications. If required, the industry stakeholder engagement (regarding the specifics of the June 14, 2016 motion) can be carried out with existing staff resources.

RISK CONSIDERATION

There are no significant risks associated with the recommendation in this report.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Discussions are currently on going at meetings of the Taxi & Limousine Liaison Group and industry stakeholders.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPLICATIONS

There are no environmental implications.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/commcoun/index.php> then choose the appropriate Standing Committee and meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 902.490.4210, or Fax 902.490.4208.

Report Prepared by: Andrea MacDonald, Manager License Standards, 902.490.7371

Original Signed

Report Approved by: _____
Jim Donovan, Manager of Municipal Compliance, 902.476.-8211
