

# HALIFAX

## Vehicle for Hire Review

Transportation Standing Committee

November 24, 2022

# Presentation Overview

- Recommendations
- Background
- Proposed amendments to By-law T-1000 and Administrative Order 39

# Recommendations

That the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to draft amendments to By-law T-1000 and Administrative Order 39 as set out in Attachment A of this report.

# Background

- Licensing of Taxi Drivers and TNC Drivers
- Requirements to become a driver
- Course requirements
- Taxi Driver and TNC Driver fees

# Removal of Conditional License

- Removes the difficult path for taxi drivers to become licensed
- Takes away the extensive struggle of reaching 600-hour requirement for National Certificate Program
- Allows for a quicker transition to a permanent driver
- Improves timelines for drivers, providing more opportunities for owners and brokers to engage drivers more quickly
- Aligns more with the requirements of TNC service, and Industry

# Overview of TNC Driver Requirements

- A valid and current, unrestricted driver's license issued by the Province of Nova Scotia
- Minimum of three years' driving experience
- Within 30 days of approval to be a TNC Driver, the following original documents must be provided to the TNC:
  - Criminal Record Check;
  - Vulnerable Sector Check;
  - Child Abuse Registry Check
- Provide TNC with a driver's abstract for the class of license prescribed by the *Classification of Drivers' Licenses Regulations, N.S.*, dated within 30 days of approval and then annually thereafter.

# Removal of Winter Driving Course

- Elimination of the winter driving course
- No benefit – online only
- Removal of additional charges to potential drivers
- Not a requirement of the TNC service, or throughout Industry

# Removal of Driver Knowledge Exams

- This would not require an amendment. Testing is recommended, but change is needed to current testing:
  - Streets and Roads testing not required - GPS equipment and tablets used in vehicles;
  - Buildings and Common Locations – GPS and tablets provide this information;
  - Bylaw and Admin Order knowledge is responsibility of drivers and brokers
- Reduced cost to drivers
- New training program will be more aligned with the role of a driver.



# New Training Program

- Centralized training to align with Industry
- Inclusive topics that are specific to role:
  - Diversity & Inclusion
  - Culture
  - Customer Service
  - Ethics
  - Code of Conduct as it relates to the bylaw
- Provides drivers tools needed to provide customer high service standards
- Aligns further with a TNC Driver.

# Driver Fees – Taxi vs TNC Drivers

Fee Type	Taxi Driver Cost	TNC Driver Cost
English Proficiency Test	\$103.50	-
Criminal Record Check	\$50	\$50
Child Abuse Registry Check	FREE	FREE
Drivers Abstract	\$19	\$19
Passport Photos	\$20	-
Taxi Application Fee	\$50	-
Testing	\$207	-
Winter Driving Test	\$50	-
Renewal Fee	\$100	-
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$599.50</b>	<b>\$69</b>

# Fee Differences – TNC, Broker & Drivers

- Annual fee for a TNC is based on the number of vehicles in the fleet:

Number of Vehicles	Annual Fee
1 – 10 Vehicles	\$2,000
11 – 25 Vehicles	\$5,000
26 – 100 Vehicles	\$15,000
100+ Vehicles	\$25,000

- Taxi Brokers pay an annual fee of \$300
- We are recommending no change at this time to these fees.

# Recommendations

That the Transportation Standing Committee recommend that Halifax Regional Council direct the Chief Administrative Officer to draft amendments to By-law T-1000 and Administrative Order 39 as set out in Attachment A of this report.