

ORDINANCE NO. 185722

*Increase taxicab fare rates (Ordinance; amend Code Section 16.40.290)

The City of Portland ordains:

Section 1. The Council finds:

1. ORS 221.495 authorizes cities to regulate rates charged by taxicabs.
2. Portland City Code Chapter 16.40 regulates taxicabs operated within the City of Portland.
3. Portland City Code Section 16.40.290 Taxicab Fare Rates establishes the maximum meter rate which may be charged for taxicab service within City limits.
4. Current maximum meter rates adopted on April 9, 2008, allows for \$2.50 initial charge ("drop rate"), \$2.30 per mile, \$30.00 per hour waiting (stationary) time for one passenger, plus a \$1.00 charge for each additional passenger.
5. The Revenue Bureau is authorized by Portland City Code Section 16.40.290 to perform a rate study annually to determine appropriate maximum meter rates.
6. The City of Portland has not raised the maximum meter rate since April, 2008.
7. Since April, 2008, the consumer price index has increased 5.41%.
8. The Private-for-Hire Transportation Board is authorized by Portland City Code Section 16.40.070 to impose, modify and rescind fuel surcharges.
9. A temporary fuel charge of \$.10 per mile was approved by the Board in January 2011, was raised to \$.20 per mile in March 2011, and has remained in effect since that time.
10. The January 2012 Revenue Bureau Taxi Driver Labor Market Study found that many Portland taxi drivers work long hours for low wages, and that the average driver hourly wage is less than the Oregon Minimum Wage and the 2011 City of Portland Fair Wage.
11. The Taxi Driver Labor Market Study found that low pay and long hours for drivers are associated with decreased passenger safety.
12. At their meeting of October 10, 2012, the Private For-Hire Transportation Board voted to recommend to Council approval of an increased maximum meter rate to make permanent the current \$.20 fuel surcharge, as well as an additional slight increase to account for inflation.

13. In conjunction with the Private For-Hire Transportation Board recommendation, Revenue Bureau staff conducted review of taxi meter rates in similar jurisdictions, and found the proposed increase to be comparable to current meter rates in these jurisdictions.
14. An increase to the maximum taxicab fare rates, in combination with additional regulation of taxi company charges to drivers, will contribute to an increase in net driver wages.
15. The City Council finds that the regulation of maximum taxi fare meter rates is a necessary means of ensuring public safety and welfare with regard to private-for-hire transportation in the City of Portland by (1) providing reasonable consumer information and protection to the travelling public; (2) protecting the public from unsafe drivers; (3) providing for the safe, fair and efficient operation of for-hire transportation services; and (4) recognizing that the industry constitutes an essential part of the City's transportation system and as such regulation is necessary to insure public safety is protected, the public need provided, and the public convenience promoted.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Council directs:

a. PCC Subsection 16.40.290 A. 2 is hereby amended as follows:

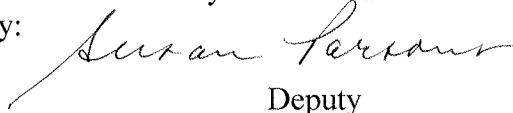
- A. 2. Subsequent to the initial charge provided for in Subsection 16.40.290 A.1., the maximum charges may not exceed ~~\$2.30~~ \$2.60 per mile; and

Section 2. This Council declares an emergency because it is necessary that these rates be established as soon as possible. Therefore, this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage by the Council.

Passed by the Council: NOV 07 2012

Commissioner: Mayor Sam Adams
Prepared by: Kathleen Butler
Date Prepared: October 25, 2012

LAVONNE GRIFFIN-VALADE
Auditor of the City of Portland

By: 
Deputy

Agenda No.
ORDINANCE NO.

185722

Title

*Increase taxicab fare rates (Ordinance; amend Code Section 16.40.290)

INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Mayor Sam Adams	CLERK USE: DATE FILED <u>NOV 02 2012</u>
COMMISSIONER APPROVAL	LaVonne Griffin-Valade Auditor of the City of Portland
Mayor—Finance and Administration - Adams	<i>Sam Adams</i>
Position 1/Utilities - Fritz	By: <u><i>[Signature]</i></u> Deputy
Position 2/Works - Fish	
Position 3/Affairs - Saltzman	
Position 4/Safety - Leonard	
BUREAU APPROVAL	
Bureau: OMF/Revenue CAO: Jack D. Graham Bureau Head: Thomas W. Lannon	<i>[Signature]</i>
Prepared by: Kathleen Butler Date Prepared: October 26, 2012	ACTION TAKEN:
Financial Impact & Public Involvement Statement Completed <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amends Budget <input type="checkbox"/>	
Portland Policy Document If "Yes" requires City Policy paragraph stated in document. Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Council Meeting Date November 7, 2012	
City Attorney Approval: <i>[Signature]</i> required for contract, code, easement, franchise, comp plan, charter	

AGENDA
TIME CERTAIN <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 4 of 6 Start time: <u>2:00</u>
Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)
CONSENT <input type="checkbox"/>
REGULAR <input type="checkbox"/> Total amount of time needed: _____ (for presentation, testimony and discussion)

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:	
	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	✓	
2. Fish	✓	
3. Saltzman	✓	
4. Leonard	—	
Adams	✓	