

# PRIVATE FOR-HIRE INNOVATION TASK FORCE

## **TRANSPORTATION**

## RECOMMENDATIONS ON TAXIS AND TNCs AUGUST 13, 2015

Dear Mayor Charlie Hales Commissioner Steve Novick Commissioner Nick Fish Commissioner Amanda Fritz Commissioner Dan Saltzman

We are pleased to present the recommendations of the Portland Private For-Hire Transportation (PFHT) Innovation Task Force related to management of the City's PFHT program and regulation of taxi and transportation network companies (TNCs) operating in Portland. These recommendations build on those we provided you last April that lead to a pilot project to authorize the entry of TNCs into Portland and to enactment of regulations affecting the operation of taxis and TNCs in the short term.

In establishing the Task Force, Commissioner Novick asked for a comprehensive evaluation of and recommendations on the ongoing regulation of all forms of private for-hire transportation in the City, as well as the City's internal regulatory program. The attached recommendations respond to that direction, as well as address issues not considered in the earlier phase of our deliberations or identified as needing further consideration.

What we are not presenting at this point are recommendations related to Limited Transportation Companies, such as limousines, executive sedans, shuttles, pedicabs, and horse-drawn carriages. The Task Force will be reconvening in order to provide you those recommendations by the end of September.

The Task Force has attempted to identify what makes sense today in 2015 and into the future for an industry that's been regulated for 100 years but is rapidly changing worldwide. We have designed our recommendations to encourage marketplace innovation. We were charged with developing a service performance and regulatory framework for the City's PFHT industry, not determining what types of PFHT should or should not be operating in Portland. The framework that we have developed intentionally accommodates a variety of modes of PFHT.

Recognizing the different business models represented by taxi and TNC companies, we have strived to achieve reasonable parity in regulatory requirements and as level an economic playing field as possible.

The customer has been a primary focus of consideration. Proposed regulations create an environment where taxi and TNC companies and drivers are able to compete based on efficient and effective delivery of services to passengers. At the same time, the goal has been to ensure that no competitive advantage is granted to any provider for excluding classes of passengers or opting out of compliance with City, State or Federal standards. Equity has also been a driving factor in our recommendations on accessible services, citywide service, and safety and working conditions.

The City's ability to effectively respond to the rapidly changing PFHT world and to successfully implement a new PFHT program will be dependent on:

- Sufficient and skilled staffing
- Timely reporting by all companies of the data needed to assess the program's performance
- Aggressive and consistent compliance monitoring coupled with continuing education and training of companies and drivers
- Sincere enforcement
- Adaptive management based on ongoing program evaluation against clearly-defined performance measures

As requested, we have developed a comprehensive set of recommendations addressing the functioning and funding of a new PFHT program, equal access to PFHT services, safety and working conditions, and other considerations. There are at least six key features that we think are important to highlight.

1. No caps on either the number of participants (companies and drivers) permitted to operate within the City or on the fares that may be charged.

To our knowledge, no jurisdiction in the nation has a cap in effect on the number of TNCs authorized to operate or on TNC fares and we find no rational basis to do so in Portland. If no caps are imposed on that portion of the industry, we believe that it is only fair to lift the historical caps placed on taxis. In addition to accessible services, this aspect of the PFHT program is in most need of monitoring over time, recognizing that it may be several years before the market settles enough to be able to fully assess any effects, positive and negative.

2. Provision of meaningful accessible services by all PFHT companies.

The preponderance of evidence we have had access to indicates that the City's program of providing accessible, and specifically wheelchair-accessible vehicle (WAV), service has been a dismal failure. Through thoughtful input from members of the disabled community in particular, we are proposing a program that moves away from a resource-based (% of fleet) to a performance-based (comparable response time) system. In recognition that the high cost of providing WAV service is currently subsidized by companies providing that service and to incentivize drivers and companies to provide high quality WAV service, we believe that an Accessible Transportation Fund should be established based on a per-ride surcharge for all PFHT rides. We are also proposing a variety of vehicle standards, driver-to-passenger communication requirements, and driver training programs that we believe will further improve the PFHT experience for our disabled citizens.

During Phase 1, a lot of attention was given to the concept of a PEAP (Portland Equal Access Plan). While helpful, we found PEAP to be an incomplete and potentially punitive approach to improving accessible services that could actually become a disincentive to securing needed WAV services. We believe that the comprehensive approach we are recommending is the best opportunity for the City has to make meaningful and effective reform.

3. Shifting the administrative responsibility from the public to the private sector.

With the large increase in the size of the PFHT market already being experienced and to avoid creating significant new bureaucracy, we believe that it is time to shift the responsibility for and cost of permitting from the public to the private sector. City resources need to be committed to enhanced compliance monitoring, training and enforcement; not administering permits.

4. Ensuring public safety.

With a couple of exceptions, we believe that our Phase 1 recommendations on background checks, vehicle inspections, driver behavior, etc. adequately address public safety aspects of the PFHT program. The one area which remains controversial within the industry and which we discussed at significant length is insurance. We recognize that the insurance market is evolving in response to the rise of TNCs and other transportation options, and that a national insurance model is emerging. When new insurance products become available in Oregon, any disparities in coverage between TNCs and taxis should be normalized to the extent feasible.

Whatever the coverage levels, we strongly recommend that both taxis and TNCs provide primary insurance at all times. We also believe that it is important to require all PFHT companies to advise their drivers that personal automobile insurance may not permit the use of personal vehicles for commercial purposes and we urge that drivers to consult with their insurance companies and lenders regarding any such limitations.

## 5. Improving driver working conditions.

We heard much about how both the practices of taxi companies, especially kitties, and the entry of TNCs into the Portland market may impact the ability of taxi drivers to earn a living wage. While we remain desirous of improving driver working conditions, we feel that there is not much the City can do through the PFHT program beyond requiring transparency in driver payments and fees assessed by PFHT companies.

On the issue of the employment status of drivers, we have deferred to advice from the City Attorney that this is the purview of the State Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI). We suspect that this question will play out nationally over the next couple of years. We note that, when queried, no independent contractor drivers have expressed a desire for employee status.

## 6. Adaptive management.

As mentioned, whatever final regulations are adopted will need to be constantly monitored and adjusted as needed if this experiment is to work. Fundamental to our recommendations are clearly defined performance measures, assessed at periodic intervals, involving input from a redesigned PFHT committee that is truly advisory and broadly representative and from other City watchdog groups such as the Commission on Disabilities, and at least annual reports to City Council. Transparency, flexibility, and accountability will be key to program success. To ensure that the City is prepared to modify the program if needed sooner rather than later, we urge that the PFHT advisory committee be established as soon as possible and that PBOT engage it as a partner in evaluating implementation of the program and in identifying needed adjustments.

We have been consistently impressed with the professionalism and commitment to excellence that all involved with our work have brought to the mission – our fellow Task Force members, Bureau of Transportation and City Hall staff, and our tireless and patient facilitator from Cogan Owens Greene.

We have provided our best collective thinking on how to reform the City's PFHT program for the later part of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century based on a cumulative total of close to 700 hours of Task Force meetings, subcommittee meetings, and community and driver forums. We have actively involved taxi and TNC companies, drivers, accessible service advocates and experts, and Travel Portland in our Phase 2 deliberations. We have received written testimony from scores of interested parties, examined hundreds of pages of documents, and studied how other jurisdictions in the country have responded to requests by TNCs to operate in their communities.

You and your staffs have delivered on your promise of support and independence; we hope you will agree that our recommendations deliver on our promise to you to provide a thoughtful set of recommendations on how the City can best respond to the challenges associated with a rapidly evolving PFHT industry in the unique context that is Portland. All of us serving on the Task Force express our honor and appreciation for the opportunity to contribute to this important task.

Respectfully submitted,

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## PRIVATE FOR-HIRE TRANSPORTATION INNOVATION TASK FORCE RECOMMENDATIONS ON TAXIS AND TNCs

These recommendations focus on the City's management and regulation of taxicabs and Transportation Network Companies (TNCs). Recommendations on Limited Passenger Transportation (LPT) companies and non-vehicular forms of private for-hire transportation (e.g., jitneys, pedicabs) are yet to be developed.

## Except where indicated:

- Recommendations apply equally to taxis and TNCs.
- Phase 1 recommendations are unrevised.

## I. INTRODUCTION

#### **CHARGE**

The Portland City Council, acting through the Office of the Mayor and the Office of Commissioner Steve Novick, convened the Private For-Hire Transportation Innovation Task Force (Task Force) in December 2014 to review and evaluate the service performance and regulatory framework of Portland's private for-hire transportation (PFHT) industry, and provide guidance and recommendations to the City Council regarding how the industry should evolve and respond to new developments in the industry, including the entry of Transportation Network Companies (TNCs). The Task Force, assisted by Jim Owens with Cogan Owens Greene as a neutral Facilitator, has been asked to study available information, develop written recommendations, and submit its written recommendations to the Commissioner and City Council.

In developing its recommendations, the Task Force has also been guided by the direction in City Code (Chapter 16.40.010) related to private for-hire transportation:

The purpose of Chapter 16.40 is to provide for the safe, fair and efficient operation of private "for-hire" transportation services. The industry should be allowed to operate without unnecessary restraint. However, because the industry constitutes an essential part of the City's transportation system and because transportation so fundamentally affects the City's wellbeing and that of its citizens, some regulation is necessary to insure that the public safety is protected, the public need provided, and the public convenience promoted. It is not the purpose of Chapter 16.40 to displace competition with regulation or monopoly public service.

The provisions contained herein should be applied and enforced in such a manner as to require the "for-hire" transportation industry to:

- 1. Promote innovation and adaptation to changing needs; and
- 2. Allow competition, so long as the public interest is served thereby.

### **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

The above direction has, in turn, been integrated into the following principles or values that have guided the Task Force's recommendations:

- A variety of modes of private for-hire transportation are accommodated.
- An environment is created so that taxi and TNC companies and drivers are able to compete based on efficient and effective delivery of services to passengers.
- No competitive advantage is granted to any provider for excluding classes of passengers or opting out of compliance with City, State or Federal standards.
- The ability for taxi and TNC drivers to earn a living wage is promoted.
- Reliable, timely and equitable services for all passengers and destinations in Portland are provided by both taxis and TNCs, including for disabled passengers.
- A realistic and effective enforcement component insures that T/TNCs and Drivers meet standards, regulations and codes.
- Consistent reporting from all for-hire entities is required.
- Regulations do not operate as a barrier to marketplace innovation.

### SCOPE OF RECOMMENDATIONS AND SUMMARY OF PROCESS

In its April 9, 2015 Phase 1 Report to City Council, the Task Force provided recommendations on 16 subject areas with the goal to provide a temporary framework for regulation of taxi and TNC companies and drivers.

Topics Addressed in Phase 1 Recommendations							
1.	Insurance	7. Fare Rates/Pricing	13. Data Reporting				
2.	Vehicle	8. Caps on Hours of	14. Street Hailing/Sitting in				
	Inspections/Aesthetics	Driving	Taxi Lines				
3.	Background Checks	9. Permits	15. Agent of Service				
4.	Driver Training and Testing	10. Fees	16. Communications				
5.	Driver Conduct	11. Vehicle					
		Signage/Notices					
6.	Equity and Inclusion	12. Minimum Standards of					
		Service					

At the conclusion of Phase 1, the Task Force had identified at least 22 separate topics that it believed needed to be considered or further addressed in a second phase of deliberations on the ongoing program for managing and regulations PFHT in the City. Given the breadth of these topics, the Task Force established three subcommittees to develop preliminary recommendations for full Task Force consideration and assigned each a set of topics. In addition, the full Task Force identified Insurance as a Phase 1 topic to be reconsidered.

Topics Addressed in Phase 2 Recommendations				
Entity	Scope of Topics Considered			
Subcommittee on Operational	Signage/Notices; Driver Behavior; Permitting/Fees; Fare			
Considerations	Rates and Pricing; Hailing; Mobile Dispatch Services			
Subcommittee on Accessibility	Accessibility Service Options; Citywide Service			
Considerations	·			
Subcommittee on Market &	Caps on Numbers of Vehicles; Environmental Footprint;			
Program Considerations	Employment Status of Drivers; Kitties; PFHT Framework;			
	PFHT Board			
Full Task Force –	Insurance			
Reconsideration of Phase 1				
Issues				

A separate subcommittee is being established by PBOT to address Employment of Disabled Persons; this group will meet independent of the Task Force and coordinate closely with vocational rehabilitation agencies and organizations.

At the request of the Task Force, representatives of various organizations and entities were invited to participate in subcommittee deliberations. Participants included: Transportation Fairness Alliance (taxi industry); TNC industry; Taxi and TNC drivers; and Travel Portland. The Oregon Limousine Association was also invited to participate but did not respond.

For the Accessibility Subcommittee, the invitation to participate was expanded and participants included: Ride Connection; TriMet; Office of Equity and Human Rights, and a representative of the visually impaired community. Also invited but not responding were: First Transit, Veterans Transportation program, Vocational Rehabilitation, and United Cerebral Palsy.

During Phase 2, there have been five full Task Force meetings, nine subcommittee meetings, and two community forums. As of the date of this report, Task Force members have volunteered approximately 670 hours in public meetings alone.

While Phase 1 and 2 recommendations focus primarily on TNCs and taxi companies, the Task Force will ultimately address other forms of private for-hire transportation such as Limited Passenger Transportation companies (limousines, executive sedans, shuttles, pedicabs, horse-drawn carriages, etc.). The Task Force anticipates reconvening in September to develop recommendation on these other forms of PFHT.

## II. PFHT PROGRAM FRAMEWORK

## A. ASSIGNMENT OF RESPONSIBILITIES

- Institute a PFHT framework in which all taxi and TNC companies with 15 vehicles or more are responsible for all aspects of regulatory compliance and certification, with data collection and analysis, compliance monitoring and enforcement, and education as the City's primary functions. For companies with 15 vehicles or less, provide a City permitting and certification program.
- 2. For each regulatory requirement, PBOT will, through administrative rule or other written notice, prepare specific standards to be met by PFHT companies and drivers including, but not limited to:
  - Specific measurable compliance metrics for each regulation
  - Measurement methodology
  - Frequency of compliance measurement
  - Required data from PFHT companies
  - Allowable variances based on relative impact of non-compliance.
- 3. Continue the pilot project assignment of permit authorization to the Commissioner-in-Charge; may be delegated to PBOT but not to PFHT Board.

## **B. PFHT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

- 4. Disband the existing PFHT Board and establish a PFHT advisory committee that is advisory to PBOT and the Commissioner-in-Charge, with joint annual reporting by PBOT and the Committee to City Council on the functioning of the PFHT program.
- 5. Ensure that the advisory committee includes diverse membership reflective and knowledgeable of the PFHT industry, including taxi and TNC companies.
- 6. Include Portland Police Bureau representation and consider adding representatives from the Portland Commission on Disabilities and an at-large community member with a disability.

- 7. Among its responsibilities, PBOT may request that the advisory committee review criteria for demand studies, ensure that there is a transparent process for public engagement, and assess current market conditions and emerging trends.
- 8. Establish as a core function of the group identifying ways of ensuring accessibility for all persons to all forms of PFHT transportation.
- 9. Institutionalize equity considerations into the group's decision-making process.

### C. PROGRAM FUNDING AND STAFFING

- 10. Utilizing a sliding-scale, cost-recovery based approach, ensure adequate and consistent funding to implement all aspects of the PFHT program. Calculate and include in PBOT budget requests the full cost of establishing and staffing a permanent structure capable of administering permitting functions that remain within the City purview, setting standards, measuring compliance, following up with supplementary reviews for compliance, sanctioning for non-compliance and managing the compliance function.
- 11. Establish a "Cost of Compliance Measurement" document that describes workload hours and overhead for measuring compliance for use in calculating charges for follow-up compliance testing.
- 12. Assess the calculated cost of the program to PFHT companies in an equitable manner.
- 13. To the extent legally permissible, direct revenue from enforcement actions to the PFHT program.
- 14. A successful PFHT program will require sufficient and adequately trained staffing to support program administration, compliance monitoring and enforcement. City Council and PBOT need to ensure that the PFHT program has the staffing necessary to fully and effectively design and implement the recommended PFHT program.

## D. COMPLIANCE/ENFORCEMENT

- 15. Implement a program for compliance by companies and drivers with PFHT regulations that includes:
  - Certification by companies of conformance to City standards for permitting drivers.
  - Random certification audits for all regulatory requirements.
  - Field compliance actions.
  - Complaint investigations.
- 16. Prepare a penalty matrix based on impact, degree and frequency of non-compliance. The schedule of penalties for non-compliance should be based on an escalation concept, with consideration given for improvements in compliance or increased penalties for continuing non-compliance.
  - Failure to comply findings are cumulative and across all regulatory monitoring.
  - Providing false information about WAV service will result in automatic penalty.
  - Failure to provide required data is considered non-compliance.
- 17. Generally levy penalties against companies rather than drivers, while providing PBOT flexibility to level penalties against drivers when appropriate (e.g., rogue drivers). Leave

- it to the companies to determine how drivers reimburse their companies for penalties assessed.
- 18. In assessing penalties and other enforcement actions, follow established City procedures of appeal to the City's Code Hearings Officer, with subsequent appeal to Multnomah County Court.
- 19. Subjects of random sampling and other compliance measurement will be at the sole discretion of the PBOT Director.
- 20. Enable companies to voluntarily request audits without risk of penalty.
- 21. Continue to engage the Portland Police Bureau in discussing enhanced police involvement in enforcement of PFHT regulations.

## E. REVIEW, EVALUATION AND REPORTING PROGRAM

- 22. Establish a clearly-described process to assess the performance of the PFHT program in achieving its objectives at established intervals of time, e.g. one and two years, or as soon as data and/or market conditions suggest the program needs to be evaluated to avoid unintended consequences.
- 23. Provide an annual report to City Council on the functioning of the PFHT program. Actively involve the PFHT advisory committee in the annual reporting process and include the Portland Commission on Disability in the review of the accessible services portion of the program.
- 24. Develop performance measures to assess both positive and negative conditions such as but not limited to:
  - Increased or decreased levels of congestion directly attributable to larger concentrations of PFHT vehicles in certain areas of the City.
  - Effects on PFHT drivers and/or companies attributable to unrestricted numbers of vehicles operating in the market, especially on smaller companies.
  - Whether there is a shortage or an excess in the supply of vehicles to meet demonstrated demand.
  - Accessibility service goals and standards.
  - Adequacy of revenues to fund administration of the PFHT program.
  - Safety concerns.
  - Environmental quality.

## F. DATA REPORTING

25. As a condition for maintaining PFHT permits, require PFHT companies to provide all data identified by PBOT as essential to assess PFHT program performance and compliance with program regulations. Required data specifically includes but is not limited to:

- Data on dispatched trips, street hail trips and pre-scheduled trips
- Data sufficient to demonstrate 24/7 citywide coverage
- Data on ride requests that are not filled.
- 26. Require submittal of data in formats and on a schedule established by PBOT; ensure that data formats and reporting protect company and driver privacy.
- 27. Delete existing Code requirements and specify data requirements via administrative rule.

## G. COMMUNICATIONS AND EDUCATION/TRAINING

- 28. Provide a continuing program of education and training to companies and drivers on PFHT regulations, performance measures and standards, and other aspects of the program. Include on-line skills testing opportunities.
- 29. Ensure that the PFHT regulatory/compliance framework is easy for the industry to understand and easy for the City to administer.
- 30. Require defensive driving training to be completed by all PFHT drivers prior to drivers operating permitted vehicles.
- 31. Re-evaluate the requirement that other types of driver training (per National Highway Traffic Safety Administration standards) be completed within 120 days of receiving a permit.

## III. OPERATION OF THE PFHT PROGRAM

## A. CAPS ON NUMBER OF PFHT PARTICIPANTS (COMPANIES, VEHICLES, DRIVERS)

1. Establish no cap on the number of companies, drivers for, or vehicles operated by a permitted taxicab or TNC company.

## B. PERMITTING

- 2. Continue to apply Pilot Project direction for permitting companies, drivers and vehicles based upon a shift in responsibility for permitting and certification from the public to the private sector and a sliding-scale, cost-recovery based permit fee program based on the number of vehicles under permit to a company.
- 3. Require proof of drivers' businesses licenses be provided to PBOT as part of certification.
- 4. Assess permitting fees to companies, rather than drivers.

## C. FARE RATES/PRICING

- 5. Establish no cap on fares for any taxi or TNC company and allow dynamic fare rates.
- 6. Eliminate the requirement for a minimum taxi fare, except that if any company chooses to have a minimum fare it cannot exceed \$5.00.
- 7. Require all PFHT companies to register their base fares with PBOT.
- 8. Prohibit surge pricing during emergencies declared by the Mayor pursuant to City Code 15.04.040 and at all times for WAV vehicles.
- 9. Require that electronic or hard copy receipts be provided to passengers at completion of rides and require all PFHT companies to maintain records of all fares.
- 10. Re-evaluate regulations on fares at specific intervals of time to determine if a short-trip subsidy program is justified.

## D. SIGNAGE/NOTICES

- 11. Continue to apply Pilot Project direction except, to aid both visibility to customers and to law enforcement, require front and back trade dress for all PFHT vehicles that is clearly visible at a distance of no less than 50 feet. Authorize PBOT to modify or develop additional vehicle signage requirements if appropriate to ensure visibility to riders and for enforcement.
- 12. For purposes of passenger and driver safety, require digital security camera systems in any taxicab that accepts hailed rides.
- 13. Require inclusion of drivers' business license numbers and company complaint phone numbers on apps.
- 14. Apply pilot project requirements for cameras or digital records to all PFHT companies.

#### E. HAILING

- 15. Continue to prohibit street hailing anywhere for TNCs.
- 16. Continue to prohibit parking in designated taxi zones for all PFHT vehicles except taxis.
- 17. Assess an automatic fine against PFHT vehicles except taxis that are documented as accepting street hails or parking in designated taxi zones. If more than one violation by the same driver occurs within a 12-month period, automatically suspend the driver for one year.

## IV. EQUAL ACCESS TO SERVICE

## A. ACCESSIBLE SERVICES

- 1. Reiterate that the City assumes that all Federal and State ADA requirements will be met by all PFHT companies.
- 2. Require that all PFHT companies provide Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle (WAV) service 24/7, either though use of their own vehicles or by contracting for this service. Taxi and TNC companies must provide this service 24/7.
- 3. During an initial monitoring period of no more than one year, establish no minimum WAV fleet size. Re-evaluate the WAV program at that time.
- 4. Functional Standards: Recognizing that not all vehicles in circulation may meet all standards, establish functional standards for WAV vehicle capacity, loading/unloading, and other features essential to safe and convenient transport of wheelchair users. Functional standards should address:
  - Interior vehicle configuration that allows for optimal passenger seating for at least one additional passenger.
  - Protocols for safe loading (out of traffic).
  - Safety features, e.g., 4 point tie down, shoulder belt.
  - Accommodation of forward facing of wheelchairs.
- 5. Performance Standards: Require all companies to demonstrate that they meet or exceed performance standards for WAV service:
  - Response Time: Response time means the time between receipt of a request for private for hire transportation (by phone, mobile app, email, SMS or other means of communication but not including street hails or prearranged requests) and the arrival of a taxi or TNC vehicle at the rider's location.
  - Performance Objective: The average Response Time for all requests for non-accessible private for hire transportation shall be periodically determined by the City using an [n] minutes or less, 95% percent of the time formulation (where [n] is the baseline). The average Response Time for all requests for accessible private for hire transportation shall be [baseline x 2] minutes or less, 95% percent of the time (implemented within one year of adoption).
  - In applying a performance objective for response time, recognize that some parts of the City may be served slower due to factors such as geography and population density.
- 6. Fractal Compliance: Evaluate compliance based on the percentage of time a company achieves the response time goal. This approach recognizes that there will always be times when something goes wrong human error or accident. The City would then be able to differentiate between a single ride failure and a company-wide service failure.
- 7. Pre-arranged Trips:
  - Require that pre-arranged trips be delivered as scheduled.

Require all companies to accommodate advance recommendations for WAV trips.

### 8. Communications:

- Require that dispatch services (whether app, phone, or internet) provide direct access to WAV vehicles.
- Provide mechanisms for direct communication between drivers and passengers
   (e.g., confirm need for WAV, provide ETA, and communicate re: ramp deployment).
- Provide request and cancel ride options and complaint mechanisms that are accessible across all platforms and across all disabilities.
- Ensure that directions on apps follow WC3 guidelines and American Disabilities Act Section 503 requirements. Apps must include an accessibility feature with instructions on how to request a WAV.
- Require the driver to notify the passenger if expected ETA changes and do so as early as possible.
- Provide devices in all vehicles or apps for communication with hearing impaired/deaf passengers (e.g., paper and pen, I-pad).
- Provide payment options for passengers who have visual impairment (e.g., voice mode on passenger-operated credit card machine).
- 9. Service Animals: Require accommodation of service animals in all PFHT vehicles.
- 10. Service to Non-Wheelchair Users: As needed, develop level of service standards applicable to service to persons with disabilities who are non-WAV users.
- 11. Pricing: Prohibit surge pricing for WAV transportation and assess no additional charge for at least the first additional passenger accompanying a WAV user.

## 12. SAT Vehicles:

- Authorize non-WAV Specially Attended Transportation (SAT) vehicles that are operated by permitted taxi companies to be used for any type of PFHT service.
- Authorize WAV SAT vehicles that are operated by permitted taxi companies to be used for WAV use only.
- 13. Accessible Transportation Fund: To assist in financing WAV services, institute an Accessible Transportation Fund that is used as an incentive to help ensure that the higher cost of providing WAV trips is not a barrier to companies and drivers providing such trips. A goal is to incentivize drivers, not just companies.
  - Authorize the City to collect a per ride surcharge (e.g. \$0.10) for all PFHT rides, including WAV rides.
  - Develop a City-administered incentive program, with reimbursement to all PFHT companies and/or drivers for the higher cost of WAV vehicles and trips.

- Reimbursement should be based upon a per-ride multiplier (e.g., 275% x fare of comparable non-WAV ride).
- As a condition of participation in the incentive program, require companies to provide the City with documentation on each WAV trip provided.
- Develop a program of routine auditing to authenticate the WAV trips provided.
- Assess the viability and mechanics of the Fund on an annual basis. If the concept of a centralized dispatch program is explored as an alternative, consult with the Commission on Disabilities.
- 14. Training: Require companies to provide procedural, safety and communications training, with certification by PBOT of the training programs, for all WAV vehicle drivers, including driver training in communications with persons with various forms of disability.
- 15. Data Collection: Establish a program for collection of data from TNCs and taxi companies on WAV usage.
  - To assist in establishing a baseline, request from taxi companies historic data (for the two years preceding the pilot project) on WAV service.
  - To facilitate the collection of data on non-availability of vehicles, require TNCs to advise WAV requesters to record on the app when service is not available.
  - Require reporting of unfilled requests for WAV rides by all companies.

## **B. CITYWIDE SERVICE**

- 16. Maintain current requirements for service citywide, 24 hours per day, 7 days per week, for taxi and TNC companies.
- 17. Except when a destination is more than 50 miles in distance, prohibit a PFHT company from refusing a fare already accepted, unless there is a real or perceived safety threat to the driver or it conflicts with a company's driver shift policy (vehicle is required to be returned by a specific time due to a shift change).

## V. SAFETY AND WORKING CONDITIONS

## A. INSURANCE

- 1. Maintain pilot project insurance requirements for taxi and TNC companies and drivers.
- 2. When new insurance products become available, PBOT should investigate options to normalize coverage between taxi and TNC companies to the extent practical.
- 3. Require taxi and TNC companies to provide primary insurance for all periods of coverage.

- 4. As part of their driver certification processes, require taxi and TNC companies to inform drivers of the scope and limitations of insurance coverage, accident reporting procedures, and other insurance related requirements. Companies must advise their drivers that drivers' personal automobile insurance may not permit the use of personal vehicles for commercial purposes and that drivers need to consult with their insurance companies and lenders regarding such limitations.
- 5. Require companies to certify with PBOT their programs of driver education on insurance coverage and limitations.
- 6. Require TNC drivers to have available at all times in their vehicles for passenger and law enforcement inspection hard copy proof of insurance for Periods 1-3.

### **B. DRIVER BEHAVIOR**

## Caps on Hours of Driving

- 7. Reduce current aggregated maximum of time on duty, including time "on duty" or "on app", to 12 hours in any given 24-hour period. Responsibility for compliance rests with the driver, with PBOT monitoring compliance on a spot-check basis.
- 8. Require companies to provide PBOT with data on "on duty" or "on app" times of their drivers, tied to driver permit numbers.

## **Drug and Alcohol Policy**

- 9. Continue to apply Code requirements for driver conduct to all forms of PFHT.
- 10. Specifically require TNCs to have and enforce zero tolerance policies.
- 11. Require that all companies submit their zero tolerance policies to the City for approval as part of the permitting process.
- 12. Include monitoring that zero tolerance policies are in place and being enforced as part of PBOT's expanded monitoring in the new PFHT framework.

## **Other Aspects of Driver Conduct**

13. Apply pilot project requirements to taxi and TNC companies.

### C. EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF DRIVERS

- 14. No action by the Task Force is recommended absent direction from the State Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI).
- 15. Irrespective of a BOLI determination, the City should investigate appropriate measures to ensure PFHT drivers receive adequate wages and are afforded desirable working conditions.
- 16. If BOLI determines that drivers are independent contractors, explore other ways to upgrade drivers' status, including the concept of dependent contractor.

### D. DRIVER FEES AND KITTIES

- 17. Require transparency in driver payments and fees assessed by PFHT companies.
- 18. Establish no limitations (floor or ceiling) on driver kitties or fees assessed by PFHT companies.
- 19. Driver kitties or fees assessed by companies cannot be greater for WAV vehicles than those assessed for drivers of non-WAV vehicles.

#### E. EMPLOYMENT OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES

Through a separate subcommittee process and in consultation with vocational rehabilitation agencies and interests, assess options/feasibility of programs to encourage employment of persons with disabilities within the PFHT industry.

## VI. OTHER CONSIDERATIONS

### A. ENVIRONMENTAL FOOTPRINT

- 1. No action is appropriate at this time as conclusive data is unavailable and will require time to obtain.
- 2. Collect and analyze data PFHT companies for the specific purpose of assessing environmental impacts and, at established intervals of time, e.g. one and two years, evaluate whether specific measures are needed to address environmental quality. Develop performance measures for this periodic evaluation.
- 3. Partner with PSU and other local institutions in the assessment of data on PFHT trips and users, transit ridership, congestion, parking availability, distributional impacts (who benefits and who is burdened), and other factors.

#### **B. MOBILE DISPATCH SERVICES**

- 4. Include in Code, definitions for "dispatch" and "third-party dispatch companies".
- 5. Require third-party dispatch companies to be affiliated with permitted PFHT companies (or the City if a centralized dispatch system is developed).
- 6. Develop authority for PBOT to permit and regulate third-party dispatch companies, including prohibiting drivers from driving directly for such companies rather than a permitted PFHT company.

## = 871 901

Agenda No. **REPORT**Title

Taxis and Transportation Network companies final

Accept the Private For-Hire Transportation Innovation Task Force Final Taxi and TNCs Recommendations on Report. (REPØRT)

INTRODUCED BY Commissioner/Auditor: Commissioner Steve Novick	CLERK USE: DATE FILED AUG 14 2015
Bureau Head:	Mary Hull Caballero Auditor of the City of Portland  By: Deputy  ACTION TAKEN:  AUG 2 0 2015 CONTINUED TO AUG 2 6 2015 2 PM  TIME CERTAIN  AUG 2 6 2015 ACCEPTED
Prepared by: Bryan Hockaday Date Prepared:8/13/2015  Impact Statement Completed	S South S Sout
City Auditor Office Approval: required for Code Ordinances  City Attorney Approval: required for contract, code. easement, franchise, charter, Comp Plan  Council Meeting Date 8/20/2015	

AGENDA			
TIME CERTAIN ⊠ Start time: 2:00PM			
Total amount of time needed: 3 hrs (for presentation, testimony and discussion)			
CONSENT			
REGULAR			

FOUR-FIFTHS AGENDA	COMMISSIONERS VOTED AS FOLLOWS:		
	7.	YEAS	NAYS
1. Fritz	1. Fritz		
2. Fish	2. Fish	/	
3. Saltzman	3. Saltzman		·
4. Novick	4. Novick		
Hales	Hales	/	