

WHAT: Taxi Fleet Meeting

WHEN: Tuesday, 06/25/2019

TIME: 4:00 pm – 5:00 pm

WHERE: Natomas Community Center

ATTENDEES:

Mohammad Hawarneh, Farhadi Muhaiudin & Sulinder Raihsi - SITOA
Aman Singh & Jaswinder Mann – SMART, Renata Romero – County of Sacramento
Department of Airports, Tessa St. John – City of Sacramento Business Permits & Taxes
Manager, Brittany Chargualaf - City of Sacramento Business Permits & Taxes
Supervisor, Cynthia Smith - City of Sacramento Business Permits & Taxes
Administrative Technician

TAXI VEHICLE COLOR CHANGES

- Taxi vehicle color changes have been a challenge, the most prominent concern being keeping the colors distinctive enough that customers can tell the difference between the fleets
- The initial fleet color changes came about when SITOA subcontracted with Yellow to allow 10% of the Yellow fleet to work at the airport
 - The color change approved was for an all-white taxi with yellow stripes
- SMART and STA then requested a color change because it is more cost effective to avoid a full paint job for each new taxicab
 - The SMART color change approved is for a white vehicle with orange stripes and blue lettering for the company name
- Tessa is open to suggestions on how to make the changes work for everyone
 - Jordan suggested framing out the white vehicles with the company colors and making sure there is a color on the back of the vehicle
 - Aman suggested changing the orange stripe width from 4” to 6” but wants to maintain the blue lettering as SMART has always had blue lettering.

AIRPORT CHALLENGES

- Airport security is having trouble distinguishing between the fleets and this has been a problem for SITOA

- Airport staff is used to allowing white cabs to operate at the airport, but may not realize that SITOA is not the only white cab now
- The staging area for pre-arranged pickup is located at Terminal B Gate #1, airport employees who work the outside are unable to see the color stripes on the taxis
 - Renata will speak with the airport employees working the area to see what can be done to improve their ability to differentiate fleets
- According to SITOA, their contract with the airport guarantees them the first spot in the staging area
 - Renata stated that even if there is no sign saying this spot is reserved, if it's in the contract then SITOA has the spot
 - Renata will verify all contract claims

ADA VEHICLE COMPLIANCE

- These vehicles are required per the Sacramento City Code
- In the next 2 months the City will conduct an audit to make sure all the fleets are meeting this requirement or have a hard deadline of when they will comply
- If a fleet is currently short ADA vehicles, please email the City immediately with a plan and timeline for getting into compliance

VEHICLE INSPECTIONS & STICKERS

- Code Enforcement would like to move inspections from 9 am to 8 am and wanted to know if this would cause a problem with any of the fleets, fleets present said 8:00 a.m. would be preferable
- The old vehicle permit stickers will be ordered and placed back on the inside of the windshields
 - This will eliminate the issue of the stickers coming off in the rain/carwash or potentially being stolen off the bumpers

TAXI TESTING

- The new testing time of 10 am and the once a month written only test, for those not required to take the computer test, is going well
- The city code requires testing annually, this cannot be changed unless the code is changed

MISCELLANEOUS

- July 1st is the start of the City's fiscal year, fleet renewal fees will be reduced

- Fleets with 50 or fewer vehicles: \$1,300
- Fleets with 51+ vehicles: \$2,500
- Taxi complaints are passed on from 311 to the fleets, the City will not take any action unless there is a question of harm to the public at large
 - If the complaints are unfounded the Fleet Managers can notify the City so we can add that to the driver/vehicle file
- The only way to have the taxi code changed is to have a councilmember request the change