

TAC Highlights September 20, 2011 MEETING

REVIEW LONG-DISTANCE DEADHEAD FARES AND PROVIDE COMMENT TO RTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The TAC discussed establishing Long-Distance Deadhead fares and was provided a county map with zip codes to define specific areas within the RTA jurisdiction that would require the additional fares.

A motion was made to allow taxi companies and/or drivers to negotiate long-distance deadhead fares not to exceed the round trip meter rate from the point of origin of dispatched taxicab. The motion carried 6-4.

It was noted by those opposing the motion that the motion did not define what constituted a long-distance fare, either by zip code or geographic location, thus opening up the possibility of any fare regardless of trip origination to be negotiated, which could have the unintended consequence of undoing the Board adopted maximum fare schedule.

REVIEW THIRD DRAFT EQUIPMENT, SAFETY, SECURITY AND OPERATIONAL POLICY (ESSOP) AND PROVIDE COMMENT TO RTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The TAC reviewed the Draft ESSOP and made the following recommendations:

Item 3b: There was no definitive recommendation for the issue of limiting color schemes for new and existing companies. Some members request that no company permits be approved to new companies with similar color schemes and/or company names as existing companies. One member of the public mentioned a 9th circuit court case that has determined no trademark rights exist on color, but name and design do contain trademark rights. It was requested that legal counsel research the case and provide comment to the RTA board. One member of the TAC prefers that all cabs are of similar color and that they are identified by name, logo, and number only.

Item 5h: Strike “the most” and insert “a” before “direct route” and strike “possible.”

Item 5k: It was suggested that language be added to the item that requires passengers to maintain control of animals at all times. Legal counsel was asked to research current ADA laws and language to ensure RTA regulations and ESSOP are in compliance.

Item 5l: Add “overpowering cologne/perfume” before “or animal related odors.”

Item 5n: There was considerable discussion about the right of a business to refuse service to anyone. Legal counsel was asked to research and provide an update on the legal right of taxi companies to refuse service. Counsel was also asked to research and provide comment

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on restrictions on hotels calling multiple companies for one fare. It was recommended to change "requested" to "available."

Item 5p: Change "trainer" to "trainer/trainees."

REVIEW PROPOSED ADMINISTRATIVE PENALTIES/FINES AND PROVIDE COMMENT TO RTA BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

This item was continued to the next TAC meeting.