



SEATTLE CITY COUNCIL
CENTRAL STAFF

Council Bill 120653

Taxi & For-Hire Vehicle Regulations Ordinance

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FINANCE AND HOUSING COMMITTEE

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For-Hire Transportation Regulations

- **CB 120652 – Transportation Network Company (TNC) Regulations Ordinance.**
Amend Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 6.310 to conform with new state regulations for TNCs and their affiliated vehicles and drivers.
- **CB 120653 – Taxi and For-Hire Vehicle Regulations Ordinance.**
Establish Seattle Municipal Code (SMC) 6.311 to regulate the taxicab and for-hire vehicle industry.
- **CB 120656 – For-Hire Interlocal Agreement.**
Authorize an updated agreement between the City and King County to jointly administer and enforce for-hire transportation regulations.

CB 120653 – Pre-introduction Changes (1/8)

#	Topic	Pre-introduction change
1	Factors for Director to consider when adjusting maximum # of medallions. (p. 31)	<p>Require the Director to consider the impact of adding new medallions on a driver's ability to earn a living wage when adjusting the maximum number of medallions.</p> <p>This requirement would task the Director with developing a framework for determining living wage criteria and considering whether adding more medallions could impact driver income (e.g., more drivers on the road could result in fewer trips per driver).</p>

CB 120653 – Pre-introduction Changes (2/8)

#	Topic	Pre-introduction change
2	Requirement for regional dispatch companies to remit fares. (p. 55)	<p>Clarify that dispatch agencies must remit the “full fare paid by the passenger,” minus permissible deductions.</p> <p>This is a technical correction to align language with SMC 6.311.370.C (see #3 on next slide).</p>

CB 120653 – Pre-introduction Changes (3/8)

#	Topic	Pre-introduction change
3	Fees charged by regional dispatch companies. (p. 59)	<p>Cap fees charged to drivers for dispatch services at ten percent of the fare paid by the passenger.</p> <p>Stakeholders report that at least one taxicab association is charging drivers between five and ten percent for dispatch services.</p> <p>This cap would prevent such charges from exceeding ten percent, protecting driver payments from unrestricted deductions and supporting a living wage.</p>

CB 120653 – Pre-introduction Changes (4/8)

#	Topic	Pre-introduction change
4	Requirement for regional dispatch agencies to develop written policies. (p. 59)	<ol style="list-style-type: none">a. Establish a due date for submission of the required policies for owners and drivers to the Director.b. Add provisions to the policy requirement, such as:<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Driver’s ability to work on any contracted accounts, and• Affiliation with the dispatch agency.

CB 120653 – Pre-introduction Changes (5/8)

#	Topic	Pre-introduction change
5	Factors for Director to consider for new regional taximeter rates. (p. 61)	<p>Authorize the Director to consider the impact of new taximeter rates on a driver’s ability to earn a living wage when adjusting taximeter rates.</p> <p>This change would add a <i>discretionary</i> factor for the Director to consider when adjusting taximeter rates. The factor would include consideration of the driver’s ability to earn a living wage after covering all operating costs.</p>

CB 120653 – Pre-introduction Changes (6/8)

#	Topic	Pre-introduction change
6	Reasons for Director to attach conditions to licensing emerging for-hire transportation models. (p. 66)	<p>Add consideration of “labor harmony” to the list of factors that could trigger the Director’s issuance of new conditions for licensing emerging for-hire transportation models.</p> <p>This change would not include a definition for “labor harmony.” The Director may define this term in rules.</p>

CB 120653 – Pre-introduction Changes (7/8)

#	Topic	Pre-introduction change
7	Effective dates for milestone requirements	<p>Change the effective dates for milestone requirements from March 31, 2025, to March 31, 2026.</p> <p>Extending these dates would allow companies and drivers more time to change systems and procedures related to the transition to regional dispatch agency and taxicab designations, and taxicab medallions, among other requirements.</p> <p>The extensions would not preclude licensees from meeting new requirements earlier.</p>

CB 120653 – Pre-introduction Changes (8/8)

#	Topic	Pre-introduction change
8	Effective date for licensing, temporary deactivation, and medallion provisions	<p>Change the effective date for licensing, temporary deactivation, and medallion provisions from the effective date of the ordinance to September 1, 2024.</p> <p>Extending these dates would allow FAS more time to develop software to process licenses and medallion transfers.</p>

Issue ID – Coordinating with County Council’s Process

- City and County have developed substantially similar legislative packages for updating for-hire transportation regulations.
- City and County regulations must be nearly identical for joint administration of these regulations. If one jurisdiction amends the proposed regulations, the other jurisdiction should consider approving the same or similar amendments.
- County’s legislative package is awaiting sponsorship and review timeline is TBD.
- Two options
 1. City Council approves City’s legislative package **before** the County Council completes its deliberations. City Council would need to introduce *new* legislation to incorporate any County amendments (rather than amending current package).
 2. City Council waits until **after** the County Council’s deliberations to vote on the City’s legislative package, allowing time to consider any necessary amendments before a final vote (potentially on December 5).

Next Steps

- **September 15 (12 pm)** – Please contact Karina Bull on Central Staff with any amendment proposals.
- **September 20** – Committee will continue discussion of the proposed legislation, consider any amendments, and possibly vote on the legislative package.

Questions?