

## **Deferral – Vehicles for Hire Bylaw Engagement Review**

### **ISSUE**

City Administration began engagement sessions with the Vehicle for Hire industry in early February 2020 to identify potential opportunities for closer alignment of bylaw requirements between the taxi and transportation network company (TNC) industries. Due to COVID-19, engagement sessions were placed on hold and stakeholders refocused their attention to business continuity. At the request of taxi stakeholders for additional time for more engagement, a further deferral of this matter is required.

### **RECOMMENDATION**

That consideration of a report from Administration, with respect to the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw Engagement Review, be deferred to the February 2021 meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation.

### **BACKGROUND**

At its Regular Business Meeting on September 30, 2019, City Council resolved:

“That the stakeholders of the taxi and TNC industry be invited to meet with the Administration to continue discussions regarding the Vehicles for Hire Bylaw to ensure that in the areas where both services should be treated similarly are reviewed, and that a report be brought back for City Council’s consideration with possible Bylaw amendments no later than the September, 2020 City Council meeting.”

### **DISCUSSION/ANALYSIS**

Administration completed the first of two planned phases of engagement with stakeholders in the taxi and TNC industries over February and March of 2020.

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, engagement was temporarily paused after Phase 1 was completed. In discussing plans to resume engagement for Phase 2, one of the taxi brokerages sent a letter advising they are unable to commit the staff resources and time to participate in engagement due to commitments required to oversee business operations during the pandemic. They requested the engagement be temporarily paused. The letter is provided as Appendix 1. This brokerage currently dispatches all taxis with permanent licenses, and as a result, is a key stakeholder in this review process.

In order to ensure full participation in engagement and input from all stakeholders, Administration is recommending that the report be deferred to the February 2021 meeting of the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation.

### **OTHER IMPLICATIONS**

There are no financial, legal, social or environmental implications identified.

**NEXT STEPS**

Should the recommendation be adopted, consultation with the taxi and transportation network company industries will be temporarily put on hold and resume at a later date. A report with the results of the consultation will be brought to the Standing Policy Committee on Transportation for its meeting in February 2021.

**APPENDICES**

1. Letter - Request for Deferral of Taxi and TNC Engagement

**REPORT APPROVAL**

Written by: Wayne Sum, Taxi and Rideshare Manager  
Reviewed by: Jo-Anne Richter, Director of Community Standards  
Approved by: Lynne Lacroix, General Manager of Community Services

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