

Levy to Support Accessible Taxi Services

For Council Consideration
September 24, 2018

Follow up report addresses resolutions from July 23, 2018 Council meeting:

- Options to apply levies or other mechanisms to support the provision of accessible services in the ride-sharing industry;
- An analysis of best practices for other municipalities;
- Consideration of interactive accessibility in TNC digital networks.

Levy to Support Accessible Taxi Service

Several Canadian municipalities charge levies to support accessible taxi service, with a charge of \$0.07 per trip seen as the standard fee in a number of municipalities.

Recommendation: That the City Solicitor, in drafting the stand-alone Transportation Network Company Bylaw, be requested to include provisions for an accessibility levy of \$0.07 per trip.

Levy to Support Accessible Taxi Service

Municipality	Levy Rate	Applied to	Purpose
Saskatoon (Recommended)	\$0.07 per trip	Non-accessible TNC trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Support accessible taxi service. Further research to be conducted on how best to distribute funds to the industry
Calgary (Proposed)	\$0.20 per trip	All non-accessible vehicle-for-hire trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fund a \$1.5 million program for accessible transportation, including a central dispatch for accessible taxis and transit. reviewing options to compensate accessible taxi drivers for the additional time required to provide service.
Edmonton	\$50 per vehicle	All non-accessible vehicles for hire. Fee waived if company has an accessible vehicle available for dispatch at all times.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> incentivize companies to dispatch more accessible vehicles.
Ottawa	\$0.07 per trip	Non-accessible Uber trips	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> consulting with advocates for accessibility to determine how the revenue will be spent.
Winnipeg	\$0.07 per trip	All vehicle-for-hire trips (accessible and non-accessible) over the month where less than 10% of all vehicles for hire of a dispatcher were accessible.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> have not finalized how the revenue will be spent.

Accessibility in TNC Dispatch Apps

- Apps developed by TNCs to dispatch vehicles for hire may include accessibility features that assist customers with disabilities to better utilize the app.
- The Government of Canada currently uses the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines 2.0 (WCAG 2.0) as a standard for the digital and web content that they publish.

In-App Accessibility Standards

- Unable to identify any municipalities in Canada which regulate accessibility features in TNC dispatch apps.
- The Government of Canada is introducing the *Accessible Canada Act* (Bill C-81). It is anticipated that Bill C-81 will include standards for information and communication technologies of all digital content for industries regulated by the Government of Canada.
- Recommended that TNC Bylaw not include in-app accessibility standards.

Report Follow Up

- A TNC Bylaw will be submitted to City Council for consideration at a future date.
- Following the first year of licensing TNCs, it is recommended that a report outlining options for dispersal of the funds that have been collected in support of accessibility services, and including a review of the levy amount and its applicability to the various form of rideshare services, be brought forward for City Council's further consideration.