



CITY OF VANCOUVER

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORT

Report Date: October 15, 2007
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VanRIMS No.: 08-4000-11
Meeting Date: November 13, 2007

TO: City Council

FROM: Chief License Inspector in consultation with the Director of Finance

SUBJECT: Year 2008 Vehicles for Hire License Fee Amendments

RECOMMENDATION

- A. THAT with the exception of Courier Bicycles, Taxicabs and Dual Taxicabs the license fees for all Vehicles for Hire, contained in Schedule "A" of By-law No. 6066, be increased by approximately 2.75 percent (when rounded) for Year 2008;
- B. THAT the license transfer fee be increased from \$109 to \$113 for Year 2008;
- C. THAT the fee for bicycle courier testing be increased from \$29 to \$30 for Year 2008; and
- D. THAT the Director of Legal Services be instructed to prepare the necessary by-law amendments to the Vehicles for Hire By-law to implement the revised Fee Schedule and other proposed changes, to be effective January 1, 2008.

GENERAL MANAGER'S COMMENTS

The General Manager of Corporate and Community Services RECOMMENDS approval of A through D.

COUNCIL POLICY

It is Council policy that fees and charges be established on the basis of the cost of providing the associated services. Further, Council policy states that new or expanded service costs must be fully offset by expenditure reductions or new revenues.

The Vehicles for Hire By-law licenses and regulates the owners and drivers of vehicles for hire such as taxicabs and limousines.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to update the Vehicles for Hire license fees for 2008. This update includes increasing the license transfer fee, the bicycle courier examination fee and the license fees for all classifications of vehicles for hire, with the exception of bicycle couriers, taxicabs, and dual taxicabs, by approximately 2.75 (when rounded) for the year 2008. Bicycle couriers faced a significant increase last year so their fees will not be increased for the year 2008. Taxicabs and Dual Taxicabs fees will be addressed in a subsequent report later this month.

BACKGROUND

In the fall of every year, the License Office prepares an administrative report to Council proposing an across-the-board inflationary adjustment in vehicles for hire license fees which reflects the estimated growth in City costs for the following year.

DISCUSSION

In 2006 and 2007, all vehicles for hire license fees were increased by 2.75 percent, with the exception of Courier Bicycles which were increased by 6.7 percent in 2007 only.

With the exception of Courier Bicycles, Taxicabs and Dual Taxicabs, this report recommends that license fees for all Vehicles for Hire categories contained in "Schedule A" of By-law No. 6066 be increased by approximately 2.75 percent (when rounded) for the year 2008. This across-the-board percentage increase is the same inflationary rate as applied to licence fees which were approved by Council in October 2007. The proposed 2.75 percent increase represents the inflationary rate of adjustment from 2007. This amount is required to achieve cost recovery for the various services required under the Vehicles for Hire By-law.

The Courier Bicycle license fee is not to be increased because last year it was increased by 6 percent.

The administrative cost of license transfers and bicycle courier testing has also risen over the past year, providing justification for the proposed fee increases to recover expenses.

The following table outlines the fee increases for 2008:

Current and Proposed (2008) Vehicles for Hire License Fees Schedule "A"

Class of Vehicle		Current Fee (\$)	Proposed Fee (\$)
Airport Shuttle Bus	For each vehicle	64.00	66.00
Airport Transporter	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
Antique Limousine	For each vehicle	171.00	176.00
Charter Bus	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
Charter Van	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
Courier Bicycle	For each vehicle	16.00	16.00
Driver Instruction Vehicle	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
Funeral Cab	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
Handicapped Cab	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
Horse-Drawn Carriage	For each vehicle	448.00	460.00
Luxury Limousine	For each vehicle	171.00	176.00
Motor Stage	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
Pedicab	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
For each person operating a leased Vehicles on a daily fee basis		11.00	11.00
School Cab	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
School Shuttle	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
Sedan Limousine	For each vehicle	171.00	176.00
Sport Utility Limousine	For each vehicle	171.00	176.00
Stretch Limousine	For each vehicle	171.00	176.00
If used also for displaying advertising material, for each Vehicles so used, additional fee		28.00	29.00
Tow Truck	For each vehicle	136.00	140.00
U-Drive	For each Vehicles (4 or more wheels)	37.00	38.00
	For each vehicle	12.00	12.00
Unless otherwise provided herein, the license fee to operate a Vehicles licensed for one purpose shall be \$61.00 for each additional purpose authorized by this By-law.		61.00	63.00
Administrative Costs not in Schedule "A"		Current Fee (\$)	Proposed Fee (\$)
Cost of Transfer of License		109.00	113.00
Cost of Bicycle Courier Testing		29.00	30.00

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

The current cost recovery fees are being adjusted to match the current inflationary costs. The financial implications of this report have already been reflected in the preliminary 2008 operating budget.

CONCLUSION

A 2.75 percent increase for the year 2008, reflecting the inflationary rate of adjustment, is being proposed for all Vehicles for Hire license fees but with the exception of Courier Bicycles, Taxicabs and Dual Taxicabs. Fee increases are also proposed for license transfers and bicycle courier testing fees.

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