COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE JUNE 21,2004

CITY OF VAUGHAN BY-LAW 2-2001

Recommendation

The City Clerk in consultation with the Manager of Special Projects Licensing and Permits recommends:

1) That Schedule "A" of By-Law 2-2001 (Comprehensive Licensing By-Law) Taxi Tariff rates be amended as follows:

By Distance: (one to four passengers)

First 200 meters or part thereof \$2.75

2) That the Committee of the Whole recommendation be forwarded to the Council meeting of June 28,2004 for a public meeting and that deputations be permitted at that time.

Purpose

To make changes to schedule "A" of By-Law 2-2001(Licensing By-Law) as it relates to tariff rates charged by taxi owners.

Background - Analysis and Options

On September 22,2003 Council approved a staff recommendation to amend taxi tariff rates being charged by Vaughan taxi cabs. Meetings with taxi cab owners resulted in an agreement that tariff rates in Richmond Hill, Markham and the City of Toronto be identical. It was further agreed by the owners that for a period of one year only, effective January 1,2004 to December 31,2004 the stand-by fee charged to customers first entering a taxi cab would be set at \$3.00 at which point they would be rolled back to \$2.75 on January 1,2005. The extra \$0.25 was intended to offset rising costs for insurance and gasoline charges.

Staff has recently been approached by owners who have stated that the \$3.00 stand-by fee is having an adverse effect on the taxi business. Owners and drivers are receiving complaints from their customers that Vaughan's stand-by rates are \$0.25 more than the three surrounding municipalities. As such the industry has requested that the stand-by rate be rolled back to \$2.75 effective as soon as possible.

Staff sent a questionnaire to all taxicab owners in Vaughan and a vast majority agreed with the proposed rollback.

Approval of staff's recommendation will result in Vaughan's rates being identical to those being charged in the surrounding municipalities.

Relationship to Vaughan Vision 2007

This report is consistent with Section 1.0 – Service Delivery Excellence, Subsection 1.2.2.-Review current customer service practices and implement enhanced and consistent customer service standards.

Conclusion

Adopting the recommended changes to the City's Comprehensive Licensing By-Law will provide a standard tariff rate schedule consistent with surrounding municipalities while supporting the concerns of both industry and Vaughan residents.

Attachments

None

Report prepared by:

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Respectfully submitted,

John D. Leach City Clerk