

VEHICLE FOR HIRE INDUSTRY ADVISORY GROUP

Meeting Date: **September 4, 2014**

1. Administration.

On September 2 2014, the Mayor made an Inquiry at Executive Committee asking administration to report back to Executive Committee on the use of third-party apps by the public and by vehicle for hire drivers. This report will outline the regulations that apply to third-party apps, use and experience of such apps in comparable Canadian cities and reasons for the way the vehicle for hire industry is regulated. The report will be going to Executive Committee in January.

An update on the independent study of Edmonton's taxi industry service levels was given. Administration is currently working on a description of work for the consultant.

Administration showed the IAG the survey that is going out to the public regarding taxi service in Edmonton and potential taxi rate increases. The survey will be part of the monthly Insight Community survey.

The representative from Responsible Hospitality Edmonton gave an update on the Car Free Whyte Avenue pilot project. There will be designated taxi stands at points near the closures.

2. Taxi Rate Increase

Administration gave options on ways to implement a potential rate increase. A formula for putting in time as part of the fare will be provided to administration.

3. Uber

A discussion of Uber and how apps work in the taxi industry took place. Various issues with Uber were discussed with possible responses.

Next steps by administration and the IAG were briefly discussed and will be further discussed at next month's meeting.

4. Issues Related to the Limousine Industry.

Discussion around the definitions of limousines included the need to refine the definitions, possibly including size criteria and further differentiation between limousine classifications. Sedans, stretch limousines and limousine buses are currently in one category. The IAG is to come back to the next meeting with potential limousine classifications.

The next meeting is scheduled for October 2, 2014. The agenda will continue the discussion of taxi rates, Uber, and limousine definitions.

NOTE: The Vehicle for Hire Industry Advisory Group is a cooperative group of members from the taxi and limousine industry working together to provide a forum where issues related to the vehicle for hire industry are brought forward, reviewed and discussed. The Vehicle for Hire Industry Group does not have any power to govern the industry. The members do not represent any interest group in the industry. Members bring their knowledge and experience to the IAG to provide advice to the vehicle for hire administration. Before any changes are made to the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw, industry members and the public will have an opportunity to comment.