



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

Ordinance

Proposed No. 2023-0231.1

Sponsors von Reichbauer

1 AN ORDINANCE relating to taxicabs and for-hire vehicles;
2 separating and amending taxicab and for-hire vehicle
3 industry regulations; amending Ordinance 2165, Section 6,
4 as amended, and K.C.C. 2.98.060, Ordinance 2165, Section
5 8, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.98.080, Ordinance 18398,
6 Section 8, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.601.025, Ordinance
7 10498, Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.750.100,
8 Ordinance 18230, Section 79, as amended, and K.C.C.
9 6.01.150, and Ordinance 18230, Section 16, as amended,
10 and K.C.C. 20.22.070 and adding a new chapter to K.C.C.
11 Title 6.

12 STATEMENT OF FACTS:

- 13 1. The county desires to continue comprehensively regulating for-hire
14 transportation, including taxicabs and for-hire vehicles.
- 15 2. The county has implemented new policies over the last few years to help
16 the operators of taxicabs and for-hire vehicles navigate the loss of business
17 during the COVID pandemic and subsequent economic recession.
- 18 3. Industry participants have requested legislation to modernize licensing
19 and operating requirements and align them with the county's vision to make
20 King County a welcoming community where all people can thrive.

21 4. The county desires to allow for regional operation of all licensed taxicabs
22 and for-hire vehicles, implement new taximeter technology, offer the option
23 to apply for an enhanced for-hire driver’s license, and convert all for-hire
24 vehicles into taxicabs.

25 5. The county partners with the city of Seattle to regulate the broader for-
26 hire transportation industry and desires to maintain that partnership under
27 common regulations in the future.

28 6. Due to changes in state law governing the regulation of transportation
29 network companies, establishing a new King County Code chapter to
30 regulate taxicabs and for-hire vehicles and modifying an existing King
31 County Code chapter to continue to regulate transportation network
32 companies best articulates the county’s objectives for these industries.

33 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY:

34 SECTION 1. Sections 2 through 53 of this ordinance should constitute a new
35 chapter in K.C.C. Title 6.

36 NEW SECTION. SECTION 2.

37 A. This chapter is an exercise of King County's power to regulate the for-hire
38 transportation industry. That exercise includes the power to license and regulate taxicabs,
39 for-hire vehicles, taxicab and for-hire vehicle drivers, transitional regional dispatch
40 agencies, and regional dispatch agencies. Some of its regulatory purposes are to increase
41 the safety, reliability, cost-effectiveness, and economic viability and stability of privately
42 operated for-hire vehicle and taxicab services within King County.

43 B. The obligation of complying with this chapter belongs to the licensee or
44 applicant for a license within its scope. Neither a provision of, nor a term used in, this
45 chapter is intended to impose any duty whatsoever upon the county or any of its officers
46 or employees, for whom the implementation or enforcement of this chapter shall be
47 discretionary and not mandatory.

48 C. This chapter is not intended to be and shall not be construed to create or form,
49 the basis for any liability on the part of the county or its officers, employees, or agents,
50 for any injury or damage resulting from the failure of a licensee or applicant for license to
51 comply with this chapter, or by reason or in consequence of any act or omission in
52 connection with the implementation or enforcement of this chapter on the part of the
53 county by its officers, employees, or agents.

54 D. This chapter is intended to reduce regulatory complexity, promote equity and
55 innovation, improve transportation and integration of the for-hire transportation industry,
56 and ensure consumer protection and public safety. To fulfill these purposes, King
57 County:

58 1. Establishes reciprocal licensing privileges for city of Seattle medallion
59 owners to operate within King County. This reciprocity authorizes medallion owners to
60 operate in both King County and the city of Seattle;

61 2. Establishes regional operating privileges for taxicab and for-hire vehicle
62 drivers licensed by the city of Seattle to operate within King County. This license allows
63 the driver to operate in both King County and the city of Seattle;

64 3. Consolidates the regulatory classifications of taxicabs and for-hire vehicles
65 into a single taxicab standard. When a for-hire vehicle transitions to a taxicab, the
66 reciprocal operating privilege will follow;

67 4. Consolidates the regulatory classifications of taxicab associations and for-hire
68 vehicle companies into a single, regional dispatch agency license that is subject to a
69 common set of operating rules and standards;

70 5. Establishes regional licensing privileges for taxicab associations and for-hire
71 vehicle companies licensed by the city of Seattle to operate in King County. When a
72 taxicab association or for-hire vehicle company transitions to a regional dispatch agency,
73 the regional license will follow; and

74 6. Establishes a requirement for each regional dispatch agency to adopt a smart
75 taximeter system.

76 NEW SECTION. SECTION 3. This chapter applies to taxicab associations, for-
77 hire vehicle companies, taxicabs, for-hire vehicles, and drivers of those vehicles. K.C.C.
78 chapter 6.64 applies to transportation network companies, transportation network
79 company drivers, and transportation network company vehicles. References to
80 transportation network companies, transportation network company drivers, or
81 transportation network company endorsed vehicles remain in K.C.C. chapter 6.64
82 because RCW 46.72B.190 constrains King County from amending ordinances or
83 regulations related to transportation network companies, transportation network company
84 drivers, or transportation network company endorsed vehicles after January 1, 2022.

85 NEW SECTION. SECTION 4. The executive may execute an interlocal
86 agreement with either the city of Seattle or the Port of Seattle, or both, for the purposes of

87 coordinating and consolidating for-hire driver, taxicab, and for-hire vehicle licensing,
88 administration and enforcement, reducing duplication of licensing functions and a sharing
89 of license fees as agreed to by the city and county. The agreement may authorize the city
90 to accept and investigate applications for and issue taxicab and for-hire vehicle licenses and
91 license renewals on behalf of the county, but only if the city uses the requirements of this
92 chapter for taxicab and for-hire vehicle licenses. The agreement may authorize the county
93 to accept and investigate applications for and issue either for-hire driver licenses and
94 license renewals or taxicab vehicle licenses and license renewals, or both, on behalf of the
95 city, but only if the city agrees to the requirements of this chapter for either driver licenses
96 taxicab licenses, or both.

97 NEW SECTION. SECTION 5. The director may enter into agreements with any
98 other city, town, county, or port district for the joint regulation of for-hire and taxicab
99 drivers in a manner consistent with the provisions of this chapter. Agreements may
100 provide for, but are not limited to, the granting, revocation, and suspension of taxicab and
101 for-hire driver licenses, or the sharing of enforcement responsibilities.

102 NEW SECTION. SECTION 6. For the purposes of this chapter and unless the
103 context plainly requires otherwise, the following definitions apply:

104 "Abnormal disruption of the market" means any change in the market, whether
105 actual or imminently threatened, resulting from stress of weather, convulsion of nature,
106 failure or shortage of electric power or other source of energy, strike, civil disorder, war,
107 military action, national or local emergency, or any other cause.

108 "Application dispatch system" means technology that allows consumers, via the
109 Internet using mobile interfaces such as, but not limited to, smartphone and tablet
110 applications, either or both, to:

- 111 1. Directly request dispatch of regional for-hire drivers for trips; and
- 112 2. Accept payments for those trips.

113 "Approved mechanic" means a mechanic or technician on a list maintained by the
114 director. The list shall contain the name each mechanic or technician that has been
115 approved by director because they:

- 116 1. Have met all requirements of the National Institute for Automotive Service
117 Excellence;
- 118 2. Have been awarded a Certificate in Evidence of Competence satisfactory to
119 the director; and
- 120 3. Do not own, lease, or drive a taxicab, for-hire vehicle, or transportation
121 network company endorsed vehicle.

122 "Automated driving system" means hardware and software that are collectively
123 capable of performing the entire dynamic driving task on a sustained basis, regardless of
124 whether it is limited to a specific operational design domain and regardless of the
125 presence of a driver.

126 "Autonomous operation" means the performance of the entire dynamic driving
127 task by an automated driving system, beginning upon performance of the entire dynamic
128 driving task by an automated driving system and continuing until the automated driving
129 system is disengaged.

130 "Autonomous vehicle" means a vehicle with a level 3, level 4, or level 5
131 automated driving system as provided in the Society of Automotive Engineering
132 International's J3016 standard.

133 "Certificate of safety" means a document from an approved mechanic certifying
134 that a particular vehicle meets all vehicle safety standards set forth in this chapter,
135 including the vehicle safety inspection, and rules adopted by the director in accordance
136 with this chapter.

137 "Citation" means an enforcement action taken by the director that imposes
138 monetary penalties when a person violates a requirement of this chapter.

139 "Contract rate" means the rate specified in a written agreement signed by both
140 parties before the dispatch of a taxicab or for-hire vehicle for the services identified in the
141 contract.

142 "Director" means the director of the records and licensing services division of the
143 department of executive services, or the director's designee.

144 "Disability" has the same meaning as in K.C.C. 12.22.020.

145 "Dispatch system" means a system that allocates requests for trips to available
146 drivers and that facilitates communication between a dispatcher and driver. A dispatch
147 system may be integrated into a smart taximeter system.

148 "Egregious" means any moving violation that posed an immediate threat to the
149 safety of the driver, any passengers in the vehicle, or to others.

150 "Fare" means anything of economic value that is provided, promised, or donated
151 primarily in exchange for services rendered.

152 "For-hire transportation services" means services provided by licensees under this
153 chapter.

154 "For-hire vehicle" means any motor vehicle used for the transportation of
155 passengers for hire, and not operated exclusively over a fixed and definite route, except:

- 156 1. Taxicabs;
- 157 2. School buses operating exclusively under a contract to a school district;
- 158 3. Ride-sharing vehicles under chapter 46.74 RCW;
- 159 4. Limousine carriers licensed under chapter 46.72A RCW;
- 160 5. Vehicles used by nonprofit transportation providers solely for elderly or
161 handicapped persons and their attendants under chapter 81.66 RCW;
- 162 6. Vehicles used by auto transportation companies licensed under chapter 81.68
163 RCW;
- 164 7. Vehicles used to provide courtesy transportation at no charge to and from
165 parking lots, hotels, and rental offices;
- 166 8. Vehicles licensed under, and used to provide "charter party carrier" and
167 "excursion service carrier" services as defined in, and required by, chapter 81.70 RCW;
168 and
- 169 9. Transportation network company endorsed vehicles as defined in K.C.C.
170 chapter 6.64 and transportation network company vehicles as defined in chapter 46.72B
171 RCW.

172 "For-hire vehicle company" means a person that represents or owns for-hire
173 vehicles licensed by the county that use the same color scheme, trade name, and dispatch
174 services.

175 "Lessee" means a person who has a regional for-hire driver's license that leases a
176 taxicab or for-hire vehicle required to be licensed under this chapter.

177 "Lessor" means a person who has leased a taxicab or for-hire vehicle to a lessee.

178 "License action" means an enforcement action taken by the director against a
179 licensee that is a suspension, summary suspension, denial, or revocation of the license.

180 "Licensee" means any person required to be licensed under this chapter.

181 "Medallion" means a license issued by the director as a plate, decal, or other
182 physical representation, that is evidence that a taxicab or for-hire vehicle medallion is
183 intangible property.

184 "Medallion owner" means a person who owns a taxicab medallion, a wheelchair
185 accessible taxicab medallion, or a for-hire vehicle medallion issued by the director.

186 "Medallion reciprocity endorsement" means a designation on a medallion issued
187 by the city of Seattle, or alternatively in the director's record of the medallion owner,
188 which permits a vehicle to operate in King County.

189 "Medallion system" means the system that deems a taxicab or for-hire vehicle
190 medallion to be intangible property that may be used as collateral to secure a loan from a
191 bank or any other financial institution.

192 "Motor vehicle" means every motorized vehicle by or upon which any person
193 may be transported or carried upon a public street, highway, or alley. Vehicles used
194 exclusively upon stationary rail tracks or propelled by use of overhead electric wires are
195 not considered motor vehicles for purposes of this chapter.

196 "Operate" or "operating" means owning, leasing, advertising, driving, parking in a
197 taxicab zone, having a top light on, occupying, or otherwise being in control of a taxicab

198 or for-hire vehicle that is available to transport, en route to pick up a passenger, or
199 transporting any passenger for a fare from a point in unincorporated King County or any
200 jurisdiction that has an interlocal agreement with King County for for-hire regulatory
201 services. A taxicab association, for-hire vehicle company, transitional regional dispatch
202 agency, or regional dispatch agency is "operating" if it represents or dispatches any
203 taxicab or for-hire vehicle that at any time transports any passenger for a fare from a
204 point within unincorporated King County or any jurisdiction that has an interlocal
205 agreement with King County for for-hire regulatory services.

206 "Person" means any individual, partnership, association, corporation, firm,
207 institution, or other entity, whether or not operated for profit. "Person" does not include:

- 208 1. A governmental entity of or within the United States;
- 209 2. An entity operating exclusively under contract with a government entity; or
- 210 3. That portion of an entity that is operating exclusively under contract with a
211 government entity.

212 "Regional dispatch agency" means a person licensed under this chapter who
213 represents or owns taxicabs or for-hire vehicles licensed by King County that use the
214 same trade name and dispatch services.

215 "Regional dispatch agency representative" means a person who a regional
216 dispatch agency has authorized to:

- 217 1. File applications and other documents on behalf of the agency; and
- 218 2. Receive and accept all correspondence and notices from the director
219 pertaining to the agency or its taxicabs, taxicab owners, for-hire vehicles, for-hire vehicle
220 owners, or regional for-hire drivers affiliated with the regional dispatch agency.

221 "Regional for-hire driver" means any person in physical control of a taxicab or
222 for-hire vehicle who is required to be licensed under this chapter and includes a lease
223 driver, owner/operator, or employee, who drives taxicabs or for-hire vehicles.

224 "Regional for-hire driver's license" means a license issued to an applicant for a
225 regional for-hire driver's license who meets all criteria under this chapter for a regional
226 for-hire driver's license.

227 "Regional for-hire driver's license wheelchair accessible vehicle endorsement"
228 means an endorsement applied to a regional for-hire driver's license that demonstrates
229 that the driver has successfully completed required training regarding the special needs of
230 passengers in wheelchairs, including but not limited to, loading and tie-down procedures
231 and door-to-door service.

232 "Smart taximeter" means a system of hardware and software that integrates a
233 taximeter and other components together to perform functions required by this chapter.

234 "Smart taximeter system" means the system a regional dispatch agency uses to
235 dispatch trips to, communicate with, and track the location of affiliated vehicles and
236 drivers through the smart taximeter. A smart taximeter system may include an
237 application dispatch system.

238 "Taxicab" means every motor vehicle required to have a taxicab medallion to be
239 used for the transportation of passengers for a fare, where the route traveled or
240 destination is controlled by the passenger, and the fare is based on an amount recorded
241 and indicated on a taximeter, smart taximeter, or on an application dispatch system.

242 "Taxicab association," as defined under K.C.C. chapter 6.64 before the effective
243 date of this ordinance, means a person that represents or owns taxicabs licensed by King
244 County that use the same uniform color scheme, trade name, and dispatch services.

245 "Taximeter" means any instrument or device by which the fare for a trip provided
246 in a taxicab is measured or calculated either for the distance traveled by the taxicab or for
247 waiting time, or for both, and upon which such calculated charges shall be indicated by
248 means of figures.

249 "Transitional regional dispatch agency" means taxicab associations and for-hire
250 vehicle companies, or other persons that meet the requirements of a transitional regional
251 dispatch agency in this chapter, that do not have a regional dispatch agency license.

252 "Transparent" means the trip fare, the fare range, and other pricing variables are
253 made readily available to a passenger before the passenger commits to taking the trip.

254 "Transportation network company" means the same as it is defined in K.C.C.
255 chapter 6.64.

256 "Transportation network company endorsed vehicle" means the same as it is
257 defined in K.C.C. chapter 6.64.

258 "Transportation network company vehicle endorsement" means the same as it is
259 defined in K.C.C. chapter 6.64.

260 "Uniform color scheme" means the color or colors used by vehicles affiliated with
261 a transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency, and approved by the
262 director for exclusive use.

263 "Voluntarily converted wheelchair accessible vehicle" means a director-inspected
264 and approved taxicab or for-hire vehicle that is accessible to passengers in wheelchairs or

265 other mobility devices but that is not required to be so as a condition of the vehicle's
266 medallion.

267 "Wheelchair accessible taxicab" means a taxicab that is required to be accessible
268 to passengers in wheelchairs or other mobility devices as a condition of its wheelchair
269 accessible taxicab medallion.

270 "Wheelchair accessible taxicab medallion" means a type of medallion issued by
271 the director that requires the vehicle operated under the medallion to be accessible to
272 passengers in wheelchairs and other mobility devices.

273 "Wheelchair accessible vehicle" means a taxicab or for-hire vehicle that has been
274 designed or modified to transport passengers in wheelchairs or other mobility devices,
275 conforms to the accessibility requirements of the regulations of the Americans with
276 Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended, and has been inspected and approved by the
277 director. "Wheelchair accessible vehicle" includes both voluntarily converted wheelchair
278 accessible vehicles and wheelchair accessible taxicabs.

279 NEW SECTION. SECTION 7.

280 A. The director shall set fees in K.C.C. 4A.750.100, in accordance with this
281 section.

282 B. The director shall make available to the public a description of the director's
283 procedures for setting fees. The description shall include information on how to inquire
284 about the director's proposed and adopted fees and public comment opportunities.

285 C.1. The director shall give at least fourteen days' notice of the director's
286 intention to set fees by providing notice:

287 a. in writing or by electronic format, to:

- 288 (1) the clerk of the council;
- 289 (2) all council members;
- 290 (3) all persons who have made a timely request for advance notice of fee
291 setting; and
- 292 (4) all existing fee payers; and
- 293 b. by publishing in the official county newspaper a summary of the notice of
294 the proposed action, including the information in subsection C.2. a. through f. of this
295 section.
- 296 2. The notice made in subsection C.1. of this section shall:
- 297 a. include a reference to this section;
- 298 b. include a reference to the fee type to which the fee will be applied;
- 299 c. include a date and place by which comments must be submitted;
- 300 d. specify whether the proposal is a change or an elimination of a fee;
- 301 e. if the proposal is to change a fee, indicate both the amount of the existing
302 fee and the proposed fee; and
- 303 f. state the reason for and methodology used to determine the proposed new
304 fee.
- 305 3. The director shall consider all comments received by the prescribed date for
306 comment before the fee is set.
- 307 D. A fee is set when signed by the director. A fee takes effect ten days after it is
308 set.
- 309 E. Once a fee is set, the director shall post the amount of the fee in both written
310 and electronic form for inspection, review and copying by the public, including providing

311 a copy, in writing or by electronic format, of the fee to the clerk of the county council and
312 each member of the county council and posting the fee on the Internet.

313 F. A new fee may not be established unless the fee is approved by the council by
314 ordinance.

315 G. The director may from time to time declare periods of amnesty in which the
316 director may waive any penalty imposed under this chapter for delinquent payment of
317 fees. Such periods of amnesty and the terms thereof may be established by the director
318 upon a finding by the director that to do so would further the goals of the for-hire
319 transportation industry and be in the public interest. The director may promulgate rules
320 and procedures to implement the provisions of this section.

321 NEW SECTION. SECTION 8.

322 A. Each taxicab licensee and for-hire vehicle licensee shall pay a fee surcharge of
323 the amount in K.C.C. 4A.750.100.C. and D. for all rides originating in:

- 324 1. Unincorporated King County; or
325 2. Any municipality that contracts with the county for the county to license
326 taxicabs and for-hire vehicles that operate in the municipality.

327 B. The fee surcharge in subsection A. of this section shall be used to offset the
328 operational costs incurred by owners and operators of wheelchair accessible taxi,
329 wheelchair accessible for-hire vehicle or wheelchair accessible transportation network
330 company endorsed vehicle services including, but not limited to, the costs associated with
331 purchasing and retrofitting an accessible vehicle, fuel and maintenance costs and the time
332 involved in providing wheelchair accessible trips.

333 C. The director shall adopt rules to establish the conditions and procedure for
334 distributing funds to wheelchair accessible taxicab, wheelchair accessible for-hire vehicle
335 or wheelchair accessible transportation network company endorsed vehicle owners and
336 drivers, including the maximum amount of reimbursement.

337 NEW SECTION. SECTION 9.

338 A. Each taxicab licensee and for-hire vehicle licensee shall pay a fee surcharge of
339 the amount in K.C.C. 4A.750.100.C. and D. for all rides originating in:

- 340 1. Unincorporated King County; or
- 341 2. Any municipality that contracts with the county for the county to license
342 taxicabs and for-hire vehicles that operate in the municipality.

343 B. The fee surcharge in subsection A. of this section shall be used to offset the
344 operational costs incurred by owners and operators of wheelchair accessible taxi,
345 wheelchair accessible for-hire vehicle or wheelchair accessible transportation network
346 company endorsed vehicle services including, but not limited to, the costs associated with
347 purchasing and retrofitting an accessible vehicle, fuel and maintenance costs and the time
348 involved in providing wheelchair accessible trips.

349 C. The director shall adopt rules to establish the conditions and procedure for
350 distributing funds to wheelchair accessible taxicab, wheelchair accessible for-hire vehicle
351 or wheelchair accessible transportation network company endorsed vehicle owners and
352 drivers, including the maximum amount of reimbursement.

353 NEW SECTION. SECTION 10.

354 A. It is unlawful for a person to operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle without first
355 having obtained a valid regional for-hire driver's license. A regional for-hire driver's

356 license shall expire one year from the date of application. A regional for-hire driver's
357 license is not transferable or assignable.

358 B. As of the effective date of this ordinance, any valid for-hire driver's license
359 previously issued to a driver under K.C.C. chapter 6.64, other than a for-hire driver's
360 license that displays as a "for-hire permit," shall become a regional for-hire driver's
361 license and all references to for-hire driver's licenses shall mean regional for-hire driver's
362 licenses. As of the effective date of this ordinance, for-hire drivers with a valid for-hire
363 driver's license issued by the city of Seattle shall be deemed to also have a corresponding
364 regional for-hire driver's license from King County, which shall be valid until the original
365 expiration date.

366 C. Drivers with a for-hire driver's license that displays as a "for-hire permit" may
367 continue to operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle until the first license expiration date after
368 the effective date of this ordinance, at which time a regional for-hire driver's license or
369 enhanced regional for-hire driver's license issued under this chapter shall be required to
370 operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle.

371 NEW SECTION. SECTION 11. It is unlawful for a driver to operate a
372 wheelchair accessible vehicle without a regional for-hire driver's license wheelchair
373 accessible vehicle endorsement. To obtain such an endorsement, a driver shall submit
374 proof that the driver has successfully completed a director-approved training for
375 providing for-hire transportation services in wheelchair accessible vehicles. Wheelchair
376 accessible vehicle drivers must comply with section 33 of this ordinance, in addition to
377 the requirements of sections 10 through 18 of this ordinance. The director may take
378 enforcement action against a regional for-hire driver's license wheelchair accessible

379 vehicle endorsement, a regional for-hire driver's license, or both, as consistent with this
380 chapter.

381 NEW SECTION. SECTION 12. The director shall issue a regional for-hire
382 driver's license to an applicant who:

383 A. Is at least twenty years old;

384 B. Possesses a valid driver's license issued by a state or territory in the United
385 States, and has possessed such driver's license, or driver's licenses, for at least one year;

386 C. Completes driver training as approved by the director before submitting an
387 initial application for a regional for-hire driver's license. Training shall include, but is not
388 limited to:

389 1. A general for-hire driver training course with information about use of
390 emergency procedures and equipment for the driver's personal safety, risk factors for
391 crimes against for-hire drivers, and customer service;

392 2. A defensive driving course provided by the National Safety Council and
393 approved by the director, or an alternative defensive driving course approved by the
394 director; and

395 3. Any other courses required by the director;

396 D. Successfully completes a regional for-hire driver license examination or
397 examinations approved by the director;

398 E. Submits a complete application, or consents to an application being submitted
399 on the applicant's behalf, for a regional for-hire driver's license annually on a form or
400 format approved by the director;

401 F. Provides a certification of fitness as a regional for-hire driver on a form
402 approved by the director. The director may at any time require any applicant for, or
403 holder of, a regional for-hire driver's license to be examined by a physician licensed to
404 practice in the state of Washington if it appears that the applicant or licensee has become
405 physically or mentally incapacitated so that the applicant or licensee is unfit as a regional
406 for-hire driver. The director shall prescribe by rule the scope of the examination and
407 provide a form for the physician to complete. A United States Department of
408 Transportation medical certification meets the requirements of this subsection;

409 G. Consents to a background check, with ongoing monitoring if available, from
410 an entity that is approved by the director. The director shall require the third party to
411 demonstrate competency in providing accurate information prior to being approved by
412 the director, and shall include local, state, and national databases, and access at least five
413 years of database history when performing background checks;

414 H. Successfully passes a criminal background check, including:

415 1. No convictions, bail forfeitures, or other final adverse findings, including in
416 civil suits or administrative hearings, pertaining to any of the following within the past
417 five years:

- 418 a. attempting to elude the police;
- 419 b. reckless driving;
- 420 c. hit and run;
- 421 d. any alcohol- or drug-related driving crime;
- 422 e. any class A or B felony, as defined in Title 9A RCW;

423 f. any violent offense or serious violent offense or most serious offense, as
424 defined in chapter 9.94A RCW;

425 g. a crime involving physical violence, other than those crimes in subsection
426 H.1.e. or f. of this section, if the director determines the circumstances of the crime make
427 the person unsafe to operate as a regional for-hire driver;

428 h. a crime that is directly related to the 'individual's honesty and integrity,
429 including, but not limited to, theft, burglary, and extortion, if the director determines the
430 circumstances of the crime make the person incompatible with the duties of a regional
431 for-hire driver; or

432 j. any conviction for any offense committed in another jurisdiction that
433 includes the elements of any of the offenses listed in this subsection H.1.;

434 2. No convictions, bail forfeitures, or other final adverse findings, including in a
435 civil suit or administrative hearing, pertaining to any sex offense as defined in chapter
436 9.94A RCW or convictions that include a special allegation of sexual motivation,
437 including convictions for any offense committed in another jurisdiction that includes the
438 elements of a sex offense as defined in chapter 9.94A RCW, within the past seven years;

439 3. Not being listed in the United States department of justice national sex
440 offender public website, and not required to register as a sex offender; and

441 4. No active arrest warrant for any crime;

442 I. Authorizes the director to obtain the applicant's current driving history, and the
443 results of ongoing monitoring if available, from the Washington state Department of
444 Licensing and from an entity that is approved by the director that provides a multistate
445 driving abstract that includes the state of Washington;

446 J. Successfully passes a check of the applicant's driving record, meaning: (1) the
447 applicant's driving record has no law violations that are egregious within the past five
448 years, and (2) the applicant's driving record leads the director to reasonably conclude that
449 the applicant will operate a vehicle in a safe manner and comply with this chapter;

450 K. Consents to the director obtaining other information directly concerning the
451 person's past conduct and general qualifications that shows the person's ability and skill
452 as a regional for-hire driver and the person's honesty and integrity for the purposes of
453 determining whether the person is suitable to operate as a regional for-hire driver;

454 L. Agrees to the affiliated transitional regional dispatch agency or regional
455 dispatch agency receiving, as official service, general correspondence, citations, license
456 actions, and notices of complaints from the director, on the driver's behalf; and

457 M. Meets the criteria necessary for obtaining a regional for-hire driver's license
458 from the city of Seattle and applies for a regional for-hire driver's license from the city of
459 Seattle concurrently with applying for a regional for-hire driver's license from King
460 County.

461 NEW SECTION. SECTION 13. A regional for-hire driver's license issued by
462 King County and a regional for-hire driver's license issued by the city of Seattle to the
463 same individual shall display as a regional for-hire driver's license, and shall be
464 considered one, inseparable license.

465 NEW SECTION. SECTION 14. An enhanced regional for-hire driver's license is
466 a type of regional for-hire driver's license that, in addition to meeting the requirements in
467 section 12 of this ordinance for a regional for-hire driver's license, requires a driver to
468 consent to and successfully pass a fingerprint-based background check, with ongoing

469 monitoring if available, from an entity that is approved by the director, consistent with
470 the criteria in section 12.H. of this ordinance.

471 NEW SECTION. SECTION 15. An enhanced regional for-hire driver's license
472 issued by King County and an enhanced regional for-hire driver's license issued by the
473 city of Seattle to the same individual shall display as an enhanced regional for-hire
474 driver's license, and shall be considered one, inseparable license.

475 NEW SECTION. SECTION 16. Pending final action on a regional for-hire
476 driver's license application, the director may issue a temporary regional for-hire driver's
477 license when the review of an application is anticipated to be longer than two days. A
478 temporary regional for-hire driver's license shall be issued for a period up to sixty days
479 unless extended by the director.

480 NEW SECTION. SECTION 17. In considering an application for a regional for-
481 hire driver's license, the director may consider any other information that may lead the
482 director to reasonably conclude that the applicant will not operate a vehicle in a safe
483 manner or comply with this chapter.

484 NEW SECTION. SECTION 18.

485 A. An applicant whose application for a regional for-hire driver's license was
486 denied shall:

487 1. Be ineligible to reapply for a regional for-hire driver's license until the date
488 specified in the final notice of denial; and

489 2. Not reapply for a regional for-hire driver's license that was denied until
490 correction of the deficiency on which the denial was based is deemed acceptable by the
491 director.

492 B. A regional for-hire driver whose regional for-hire driver's license was revoked
493 shall be ineligible to reapply for a regional for-hire driver's license until the date specified
494 in the final notice of revocation.

495 NEW SECTION. SECTION 19.

496 A regional for-hire driver shall:

497 A. Have in the driver's possession and available upon request of the director at
498 any time the driver is operating a taxicab or for-hire vehicle:

- 499 1. A state-issued or United-States-territory-issued driver's license;
500 2. The vehicle's registration;
501 3. Proof of insurance as required by this chapter; and
502 4. A valid regional for-hire driver's license, which shall also be posted in the
503 vehicle and visible to passengers as prescribed by the director;

504 B. Ensure that the vehicle's medallion plate or decal is valid and is displayed as
505 required;

506 C. Ensure the lights, brakes, tires, steering, seat belts, any system relied on for
507 safe operation, taximeter, and other vehicle equipment are working properly prior to each
508 shift and while operating;

509 D. Maintain the vehicle interior and exterior, including exterior markings, in
510 clean and good repair;

511 E. Allow the director to inspect the vehicle without prior notice at any reasonable
512 time or place;

513 F. At all times while operating a taxicab or for-hire vehicle, be signed into at least
514 one dispatch system, smart taximeter system, or application dispatch system provided by
515 the affiliated transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency;

516 G. Provide service to passengers in wheelchairs before any other passengers
517 when operating wheelchair accessible vehicles;

518 H. Activate the taximeter or smart taximeter at the beginning of each paid trip,
519 whether the fare is computed by the taximeter, smart taximeter, application dispatch
520 system, contract, or flat rate, and deactivate the taximeter or smart taximeter upon
521 completion of the trip. The beginning of a trip is the point where the passenger is seated,
522 and any materials are stowed, and the forward motion of the vehicle begins;

523 I. Ensure that the taximeter or smart taximeter display is visible to passengers at
524 all times while operating a taxicab;

525 J. If the fare for a trip is an upfront fare or a flat rate fare, confirm the fare with
526 the customer before beginning the trip;

527 K. Operate the taxicab or for-hire vehicle with due regard for the safety, comfort,
528 and convenience of passengers and always provide passengers with professional and
529 courteous service. The driver shall not use threatening behavior or offensive language,
530 expressions, or gestures to any person while operating;

531 L. If requested, be willing to assist a passenger entering or exiting the vehicle and
532 placing luggage or packages that are under fifty pounds in and out of the vehicle. Upon
533 request for assistance, a driver must so assist a passenger or otherwise ensure the
534 passenger's request is fulfilled;

535 M. Use the most direct or most expedient available route on all trips unless the
536 passenger specifically requests to change the route;

537 N. Record all trips, process all payments, and issue a receipt for all payments
538 through a dispatch or payment system provided by the transitional regional dispatch
539 agency or regional dispatch agency;

540 O. Be able to provide a reasonable and prudent amount of change, and, if correct
541 change is not available, no additional charge may be made to the passenger in attempting
542 to secure the change;

543 P. Accept payment of fares via cash payment for any trip dispatched through a
544 transportation network company's application dispatch system if allowed by the
545 transportation network company;

546 Q. At the end of each trip, check the vehicle for any article or articles that are left
547 behind by passenger or passengers and promptly secure the article or articles and report
548 the found article or articles to the transitional regional dispatch agency or regional
549 dispatch agency;

550 R. Comply with any license action, citation, or director order, and pay any
551 penalties issued under this chapter that are either not appealed or are upheld after review;

552 S. Immediately surrender the vehicle medallion plate or decal in a manner
553 approved by the director when the vehicle medallion is temporarily deactivated or
554 revoked;

555 T. Comply with policies and procedures established by the transitional regional
556 dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency to meet the requirements of this chapter and
557 to ensure customer satisfaction;

558 U. Comply with applicable business license requirements for any jurisdiction for
559 which the driver operates; and

560 V. Meet any other requirement established by the director by rule as authorized
561 by this chapter.

562 NEW SECTION. SECTION 20. A regional for-hire driver shall not:

563 A. Transport more passengers than the number of seat belts available nor more
564 luggage than the vehicle capacity will safely and legally allow;

565 B. Operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle that does not have the rate posted as
566 prescribed by the director by rule;

567 C. Operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle that is unaffiliated with a taxicab
568 association, for-hire vehicle company, transitional regional dispatch agency, or regional
569 dispatch agency;

570 D. Use a personal electronic device while driving a motor vehicle on a public
571 roadway, unless consistent with RCW 46.61.672, as amended;

572 E. Operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle under the influence of any alcohol,
573 narcotics, drugs, or prescription or over-the-counter medication that impairs the 'driver's
574 ability to operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle or in any way jeopardizes the safety or
575 security of passengers or the public;

576 F. Knowingly possess illegal substances or open containers of alcohol while
577 operating a taxicab or for-hire vehicle as a regional for-hire driver;

578 G. Operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle for more than fourteen hours in any
579 twenty-four-hour period. Thereafter, the regional for-hire driver shall not operate a
580 taxicab or for-hire vehicle until eight consecutive hours have elapsed. Stand-by time

581 does not count towards the fourteen-hour limit. For the purposes of this subsection,
582 "stand-by time" includes any time the regional for-hire driver is available for hire but is
583 not physically in the vehicle;

584 H. Use the taxicab or for-hire vehicle, or allow the taxicab or for-hire vehicle to
585 be used, in the commission of any crime;

586 I. Refuse to transport in the taxicab or for-hire vehicle, cancel a dispatched call,
587 or end a trip in progress because of:

588 1. Any passenger's wheelchair or other mobility device that can be folded and
589 safely placed in either the passenger or trunk compartment of the vehicle;

590 2. A service or assistive animal, as defined in K.C.C. chapter 12.22; or

591 3. A passenger's groceries, packages, or luggage;

592 J. Refuse to transport any person except when:

593 1. The driver has already been dispatched on another call;

594 2. The passenger is acting in a disorderly, threatening or suspicious manner, or
595 otherwise causes the driver to reasonably believe that the 'driver's health or safety, or that
596 of others, may be endangered;

597 3. The passenger cannot, upon request, show ability to pay the fare;

598 4. the passenger refuses to state a specific destination upon entering the taxicab
599 or for-hire vehicle; or

600 5. the trip covers more than one hundred miles or includes traveling over a
601 mountain pass or on a ferry;

602 K. Smoke or allow passengers to smoke in the vehicle;

603 L. Ask, demand, or collect any rate or fare other than as specified on the
604 taximeter, smart taximeter, or application dispatch system;

605 M. Solicit passengers from anywhere other than the driver's seat or standing
606 within direct view of the taxicab or for-hire vehicle, and never solicit when the taxicab or
607 for-hire vehicle is in motion. The driver of a taxicab or for-hire vehicle shall not use any
608 other person to solicit passengers;

609 N. Park a taxicab or for-hire vehicle in a marked passenger load zone, truck load
610 zone, commercial load zone, or charter bus zone; except that a driver may drop off or
611 pick up passengers in a passenger load zone; and

612 O. Misstate or omit a material fact on any document provided to the director, or
613 alter any document or record provided to or issued by the director.

614 NEW SECTION. SECTION 21.

615 A. Designated taxicab zones are for taxicabs only. A regional for-hire driver
616 shall not do any of the following in a taxicab zone:

- 617 1. Leave the taxicab unattended in a taxicab zone for more than fifteen minutes;
- 618 2. Occupy a taxicab zone unless operating a taxicab that is available for hire;
- 619 3. Perform engine maintenance or repairs on the taxicab while in a taxicab zone;
- 620 4. Refuse a request for service because of the 'driver's position in line at a
621 taxicab zone; a passenger may select any taxicab in the line; or
- 622 5. Use a taxicab zone while under suspension from that taxicab zone.

623 B. A violation of this section may result in a suspension from one or more
624 taxicab zones, in addition to penalties as authorized in section 47 of this ordinance.

625 NEW SECTION. SECTION 22. Regional for-hire drivers operating at Seattle-
626 Tacoma International Airport shall adhere to the following additional standards:

627 A. Load or unload passengers at Seattle-Tacoma International Airport only as
628 permitted by the Seattle-Tacoma International Airport Schedule of Rules and
629 Regulations;

630 B. When available for hire, shall not drive, be in control of, or operate a taxicab
631 or for-hire vehicle to pick up passengers at a Port of Seattle property without the vehicle
632 displaying a Port of Seattle authorized permit; and

633 C. Not solicit passengers on Seattle-Tacoma International Airport property,
634 unless the driver is in the driver's seat or standing within direct view of the vehicle, and
635 the vehicle is safely and legally parked.

636 NEW SECTION. SECTION 23.

637 A. As of the effective date of this ordinance, every valid taxicab and for-hire
638 vehicle medallion issued by the city of Seattle shall be issued a county medallion
639 reciprocity endorsement. A medallion reciprocity endorsement is subject to annual
640 renewal. The medallion and medallion reciprocity endorsement shall be inseparable. A
641 medallion cannot be issued, renewed, transferred, or temporarily deactivated separately
642 from the medallion reciprocity endorsement. Any restriction imposed on a medallion
643 through a license action applies with equal force to the corresponding medallion
644 reciprocity endorsement. Any restriction imposed on a medallion reciprocity
645 endorsement through a license action applies with equal force to the corresponding
646 medallion.

647 B. As of the effective date of this ordinance, a medallion issued by the county
648 and a medallion issued by the city of Seattle, which have been used with the same
649 vehicle, may be separated to be used with different vehicles or to be transferred. This
650 provision applies to all medallion types.

651 C. The owner of a taxicab or for-hire vehicle medallion may use the medallion as
652 collateral to secure a loan from a bank or any other financial institution. Medallion
653 owners shall file with the director the name of any and all lienholders, on forms furnished
654 by the director. The collateral shall be described as "King County taxicab medallion" or,
655 until March 31, 2025, "King County for-hire vehicle medallion," and shall include the
656 medallion number. Within thirty days of the date of creation of the pledge, lien, or
657 security interest, the party that holds the pledge, lien, or security interest, shall record the
658 same as required by State law and provide a copy of the recording to the director.

659 D. The interest of a medallion owner may be suspended or revoked for any
660 reason enumerated in this chapter for the suspension or revocation of a medallion.

661 E. Upon a final order of medallion revocation, where all appellate proceedings, if
662 any, have been concluded, the medallion may only be transferred as prescribed by this
663 section, section 27 of this ordinance, and as prescribed by the director by rule.

664 F. In accepting a medallion, medallion owners waive any and all liability, claims,
665 actions, suits, loss, costs, expense judgments, attorneys' fees, or damages of every kind
666 and description resulting directly or indirectly from any act or omission of the county, its
667 officials, officers, employees, and agents regarding the valuation or devaluation of the
668 medallion.

669 G. The county assumes no liability for any devaluation of the medallion,
670 including but not limited to any devaluation due to regulatory action or market forces.

671 H. Except for an owner awarded a new taxicab or for-hire vehicle medallion that
672 is required to meet the minimum operating requirements in section 46.H. of this
673 ordinance, a medallion owner may voluntarily transfer or sell a medallion in accordance
674 with this section, section 27 of this ordinance, and as prescribed by the director by rule.

675 I. Medallion owners may lease an interest in the medallion as prescribed by
676 director's rule. A leased medallion shall not be subleased to another party.

677 NEW SECTION. SECTION 24.

678 A. Unless adjusted by the director by rule, the maximum number of taxicab
679 medallions is one thousand three hundred. Wheelchair accessible taxicab medallions do
680 not count towards the maximum number.

681 B. On April 1, 2025, all for-hire vehicle medallions shall become taxicab
682 medallions. The medallion system for for-hire vehicles shall no longer be in effect after
683 March 31, 2025.

684 C. The director may issue new taxicab medallions only as specified by this
685 section.

686 D. The director may adjust by rule the maximum number of taxicab medallions
687 and shall periodically determine the need for additional taxicab service. Factors to be
688 considered to adjust the maximum number of taxicab medallions or to issue new taxicab
689 medallions include:

690 1. Coordination with the city of Seattle to promote a regional licensing and
691 regulatory framework for for-hire transportation services;

- 692 2. Growth in population, tourists, and other visitors to the area;
- 693 3. The quality of existing taxicab service as indicated by customer satisfaction,
- 694 including wheelchair accessible vehicle service, if applicable;
- 695 4. A comparison of actual average taxicab response times to optimum average
- 696 taxicab response times established by the director;
- 697 5. Availability and quality of for-hire transportation services in underserved
- 698 communities, including areas of lower population density;
- 699 6. Available data for medallions on the private market; and
- 700 7. Other indications of market demand.

701 E.1. If the director determines that issuance of additional taxicab medallions is

702 warranted, such medallions shall be issued as follows:

- 703 a. a competitive request for proposals and award process under which
- 704 medallions will be issued to applicants whose proposals demonstrate that they are most
- 705 able to meet the needs of the public in providing taxicab service by meeting qualifications
- 706 prepared by the director that are not in conflict with the general provisions of this
- 707 chapter;
- 708 b. a lottery of qualified applicants; or
- 709 c. a combination of both procedures as prescribed by the director by rule.

710 2. Regardless of the method used, the director shall consider an 'applicant's

711 driving record, driving experience, current or previous medallion ownership, and any

712 additional qualifications required by the director.

713 3. If issuing a wheelchair accessible taxicab medallion, the director may

714 additionally consider the applicant's qualifying experience transporting individuals with

715 disabilities who require any type of mobility device, including a manual or motorized
716 wheelchair, and any additional qualifications required by the director.

717 F. Any new taxicab medallion shall only be issued to a person who is an
718 individual. No corporation, limited liability company, or partnership shall obtain any
719 medallion held by an individual until the expiration of three years following the original
720 date of issuance to that individual; however, new taxicab medallions may be issued to
721 and be held by the following business entities:

722 1. Corporations held by a single shareholder, except that the taxicab must be
723 personally operated by the single shareholder for a period of three years from the date of
724 issuance of the medallion and the ownership of the shares of the corporation cannot be
725 changed within the three-year period. Any change of ownership of shares of the
726 corporation shall result in revocation of the medallion; or

727 2. Limited liability companies comprised of a single member, except that the
728 taxicab must be personally operated by the single member for a period of three years
729 from the date of issuance of the medallion and no change of membership may take place
730 within the three-year period. Any change of membership of the limited liability company
731 shall result in revocation of the medallion.

732 G. For three years following the date of issuance of a new taxicab medallion or a
733 new wheelchair accessible taxicab medallion, the owner must personally drive the taxicab
734 for at least thirty hours per week for a minimum of forty weeks per year. If the medallion
735 owner fails to fulfill this minimum operating requirement in any one-year period within
736 the three-year period following the date of issuance, the medallion shall be revoked and

737 shall not be eligible for transfer by its original owner. The medallion shall be transferable
738 upon the completion of the three-year operating requirement.

739 H. A medallion plate, medallion decal, or other indicia issued to a medallion
740 owner shall remain the property of the director.

741 I. A medallion owner may seek director approval to permanently convert a
742 medallion to a wheelchair accessible taxicab medallion. Such a conversion shall be
743 subject to conditions prescribed by the director by rule. Conversion of a taxicab
744 medallion to a wheelchair accessible taxicab medallion is not considered the issuance of a
745 new medallion. A medallion that has been operated for three or more years that is
746 permanently converted to a wheelchair accessible taxicab medallion shall be transferrable
747 and not subject to a new three-year operating requirement.

748 J. As an alternative to the process outlined in subsection E. of this section, the
749 director may issue King County medallion reciprocity endorsements to applicants
750 selected by the city of Seattle to be issued a city of Seattle taxicab medallion or a city of
751 Seattle wheelchair accessible taxicab medallion, as applicable.

752 NEW SECTION. SECTION 25.

753 A. Any time a medallion is not operating for sixty days or more, the medallion
754 owner, or an authorized representative, shall file a notice of temporary deactivation with
755 the director in a manner determined by the director. A temporary deactivation may be for
756 any reason, including, but not limited to, an inoperable or unavailable vehicle, a
757 temporary lack of affiliation with an agency, an extended leave of absence, or owner
758 convenience.

759 B. When a notice of temporary deactivation is filed with the director:

760 1. If the medallion is not expired, the deactivation period shall not exceed
761 twelve consecutive months from the date the temporary deactivation notice is filed with
762 the director;

763 2. If the medallion is expired, the deactivation period shall not be more than
764 twelve consecutive months from the effective date of this ordinance or from the date the
765 medallion expired, whichever is longer; and

766 3. If the medallion is expired or expires during the temporary deactivation
767 period, the medallion renewal process must be completed before the medallion can be
768 reactivated.

769 C. The director may initiate a temporary deactivation when the director becomes
770 aware that a medallion has not been operating for sixty days or more.

771 D. For medallions revoked, relinquished, or otherwise held by the director after
772 January 31, 2015, and before the effective date of this ordinance, the temporary
773 deactivation period shall begin on the effective date of this ordinance. A medallion
774 previously revoked, relinquished, or otherwise held by the director, must be renewed
775 within twelve months of the effective date of this ordinance.

776 E. If a medallion owner fails to reactivate the medallion within twelve months
777 from the effective date of the temporary deactivation, the director shall issue a notice of
778 retirement to the medallion owner. Within sixty days of the notice of retirement, the
779 medallion owner may reactivate or transfer the medallion. If the medallion is not
780 reactivated or transferred within sixty days of the notice of retirement, the medallion is
781 retired and an order of retirement will be issued by the director. The medallion owner
782 may appeal the order of retirement in accordance with section 49 of this ordinance.

783 Failure to appeal means the order of retirement issued by the director is final. The taxicab
784 or for-hire vehicle medallion plate or decal that has been retired shall be returned to the
785 director within fifteen days of the final order of retirement, or if the order is appealed and
786 affirmed, within fifteen days after all appellate proceedings have concluded.

787 F. Medallions issued via a lottery or request for proposals shall not be
788 transferrable until the obligations section 24.G. of this ordinance have been met.

789 G. Vehicle insurance is not required if a medallion is temporarily deactivated.
790 The medallion owner must provide proof of vehicle insurance when reactivating the
791 medallion.

792 NEW SECTION. SECTION 26. It is unlawful to operate a taxicab or for-hire
793 vehicle medallion that is suspended or revoked. The operation of the taxicab or for-hire
794 vehicle must cease, and the medallion owner shall immediately surrender the medallion
795 plate or medallion decal to the director.

796 NEW SECTION. SECTION 27. Except for an owner subject to the minimum
797 operating requirements in section 24.G. of this ordinance, a taxicab or for-hire vehicle
798 medallion may be transferred subject to the following restrictions and conditions:

799 A. The medallion and medallion reciprocity endorsement are inseparable and
800 must be transferred together;

801 B. There are no pending enforcement actions or penalties, fees, or surcharges
802 owed that were issued under this chapter, no unexpired vehicle lease agreements, and no
803 unexpired medallion lease agreements;

804 C. Transfers of medallions with liens filed with the director will not be approved
805 unless the medallion owner provides proof that the lien is paid or the lienholder provides

806 written approval of the transfer. Only liens filed with the director according to section
807 23.C. of this ordinance will be considered in the transfer review;

808 D. The medallion owner and proposed transferee shall submit a notice of transfer
809 on a form or in a format prescribed by the director;

810 E. The proposed transferee shall meet all requirements in section 27 of this
811 ordinance. A transfer shall not become effective, and the proposed transferee may not
812 operate the taxicab or for-hire vehicle, until the proposed transferee receives the
813 medallion plate or medallion decal; and

814 F. Upon the final order of revocation, where all appellate proceedings, if any,
815 have been concluded, a medallion owner shall immediately surrender the taxicab or for-
816 hire vehicle medallion plate or decal to the director. Except for revocation according to
817 section 23.G. of this ordinance, the medallion owner has sixty days from the final order
818 of revocation to transfer the medallion; however, medallions subject to a lien as
819 evidenced by the filing requirement in section 23.C. of this ordinance cannot transfer
820 unless the medallion owner provides proof that the lien is paid or the lienholder provides
821 written approval of the transfer. If the medallion is not transferred within the sixty days,
822 the medallion shall be deemed permanently retired, the lien, if any, is removed, and the
823 director shall not reissue the medallion.

824 NEW SECTION. SECTION 28.

825 A. When a taxicab or for-hire vehicle medallion or stock in a corporation owning
826 such a medallion is distributed from an estate to a beneficiary by a court of law, the
827 transferee shall submit to the director the court order directing the county to transfer the

828 medallion to the beneficiary. The court order shall condition the transfer upon the
829 transferee complying with this chapter.

830 B. An executor or administrator may continue the operation of a taxicab or for-
831 hire vehicle only with prior written approval of the director. The executor or
832 administrator shall apply for such approval.

833 NEW SECTION. SECTION 29. All medallions and medallion reciprocity
834 endorsements shall expire one year from the date of issuance. Medallions and their
835 associated medallion reciprocity endorsements are inseparable and expire and renew
836 concurrently. Unless an appeal is pending, no medallion may be renewed unless all
837 outstanding penalties owed under this chapter have been paid.

838 NEW SECTION. SECTION 30.

839 A. All for-hire vehicles must be operated as taxicabs using a smart taximeter
840 system and must be affiliated with a regional dispatch agency that has a valid regional
841 dispatch agency license by a date consistent with section 36.D. of this section.

842 B. It is unlawful to operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle without first having
843 obtained, for each and every vehicle so used, a taxicab medallion or for-hire vehicle
844 medallion issued in accordance with this section.

845 C. The taxicab or for-hire vehicle medallion application shall include the
846 following:

847 1. Applicant type:

848 a. If the applicant is an individual, the applicant's full name, business address,
849 primary telephone number, primary email address, and date of birth, which must be at
850 least eighteen years before the date of application; or

851 b. If the applicant is a corporation, limited liability company, partnership, or
852 other entity:

853 (1) the applicant's name, business address, telephone number, and state of
854 incorporation or partnership registration; and

855 (2) the full name, title, date of birth, which must be at least eighteen years
856 before the date of application, business address, and phone number for each individual
857 representative who is vested with authority to manage or direct the affairs of the legal
858 entity or to bind the legal entity in dealings with third parties;

859 2. Vehicle information including: the make; model; year, which shall be no
860 more than fifteen model years before the application date unless otherwise adjusted by
861 the director by rule; engine type; vehicle identification number; Washington state license
862 plate number; transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency with
863 which the vehicle is affiliated; and vehicle number if previously assigned by the director.
864 The vehicle must be a passenger car as defined in RCW 46.04.382;

865 3. Certificate or other proof of affiliation with a transitional regional dispatch
866 agency or regional dispatch agency;

867 4. Insurance policy as required by this chapter;

868 5. A copy of the state of Washington vehicle registration or confirmation of
869 vehicle registration on a form or in a format accepted by the director. The applicant does
870 not need to be the registered owner;

871 6. Certificate of safety based on a vehicle safety inspection conducted annually
872 by an approved mechanic; and

873 7. Any other information the director may reasonably require in order to make a
874 licensing decision, take enforcement action, or perform any other duties of the director
875 authorized by this chapter.

876 D. The application and information required in this section must also be
877 completed and supplied during each annual medallion renewal. The director will not
878 process a medallion application if any required information or documentation is missing
879 or incomplete. Completed applications and copies of required documentation shall be
880 provided to the director by the medallion owner, or the transitional regional dispatch
881 agency or regional dispatch agency on behalf of the medallion owner.

882 E. If any of the information in the application changes, ceases to be true, or is
883 superseded in any way by new information, the applicant shall within seven days of the
884 change:

- 885 1. Inform the director, or
886 2. Inform the transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency,
887 if the application was submitted on behalf of the applicant.

888 F. A medallion shall not be renewed if the medallion does not have an associated
889 vehicle or if the vehicle to which the medallion is associated is not affiliated with a
890 transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency. In such cases, the
891 owner of the medallion shall initiate a temporary deactivation with the director.

892 NEW SECTION. SECTION 31.

893 A. At all times while operating as a taxicab or for-hire vehicle, there must be
894 valid insurance as described in this section. All insurance policies shall either comply
895 with chapter 46.72 RCW and have underinsured motorist coverage of at least one

896 hundred thousand dollars per person and three hundred thousand dollars per accident; or
897 comply with the coverage amounts required by RCW 46.72B.180. All insurance policies
898 that cover a vehicle while operating as a taxicab or for-hire vehicle and for which a
899 medallion is required shall be filed with the director. The insurance policy shall:

900 1. Be issued by an admitted carrier in the state of Washington with an A.M.
901 Best Rating of not less than B- and be not less than A.M. Best Financial Size Category
902 VII or show evidence to the director of surplus lines from an insurer with an A.M. Best
903 Rating of not less than B and be not less than A.M. Best Financial Size Category VII;

904 2. Name King County, its officers, officials, agents, and employees as an
905 additional insured on the insurance policy;

906 3. Provide that the insurer will notify the director, in writing, of cancellation for
907 nonpayment of premium no less than ten days before the cancellation takes effect, or of
908 cancellation for any other reason no less than thirty days before the cancellation or
909 nonrenewal takes effect. If an insurance policy is cancelled or not renewed, proof of a
910 new policy must be filed before the expiration of the policy. The taxicab or for-hire
911 vehicle is automatically suspended and cannot operate until coverage is secured;

912 4. Not include aggregate limits, named driver requirements or exclusions, or
913 radius restrictions. Other limitations or restrictions beyond standard insurance services
914 office business auto policy form are subject to approval by the director; and

915 5. Be in effect at any time the taxicab or for-hire vehicle is operating.

916 B. When a taxicab or for-hire vehicle is dispatched by a transportation network
917 company, the taxicab's or for-hire vehicle's insurance covers that trip, unless the

918 transportation network company maintains an insurance policy that includes trips
919 provided by a taxicab or for-hire vehicle.

920 C. The director may suspend or suspend and modify any requirements of this
921 section when no other viable insurance options are available to the industry.

922 NEW SECTION. SECTION 32.

923 A. The vehicle safety inspection and certificate of safety required by section
924 30.C.6. of this section shall be provided by an approved mechanic and shall certify that
925 the following items on taxicab or for-hire vehicle are mechanically sound and fit for
926 driving:

- 927 1. Foot brakes;
- 928 2. Emergency brakes;
- 929 3. Steering mechanism;
- 930 4. Windshield;
- 931 5. Rear window and other glass;
- 932 6. Windshield wipers;
- 933 7. Headlights;
- 934 8. Taillights;
- 935 9. Turn indicator lights;
- 936 10. Stop lights;
- 937 11. Front seat adjustment mechanism;
- 938 12. Doors, including that the doors properly open, close, and lock;
- 939 13. Horn;
- 940 14. Speedometer;

941 15. Bumpers;

942 16. Muffler and exhaust system, except for where vehicle propulsion systems

943 emit zero emissions such as in battery electric vehicles;

944 17. Condition of tires, including tread depth;

945 18. Interior rear view mirror and exterior side view mirrors;

946 19. Safety belts and air bags for driver and a passenger or passengers; and

947 20. Other items reasonably required by the director.

948 B. If the vehicle is sold, the certificate of safety remains valid until the next

949 medallion renewal date.

950 C. An approved mechanic who performs vehicle safety inspections must not have

951 a conflict of interest as defined by the director by rule. The director may remove an

952 approved mechanic from the list maintained by the director for a violation of this chapter

953 or rules prescribed by the director or due to substantiated complaints from drivers.

954 D. Vehicles shall be maintained consistent with the service standards

955 recommended by the vehicle manufacturer. The vehicle owner and driver shall keep all

956 maintenance and service records for all vehicles owned and used for for-hire

957 transportation services for three years.

958 E. The vehicle owner and driver shall remedy a vehicle defect in a manner

959 consistent with a vehicle safety recall notice issued by the vehicle manufacturer and/or

960 the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, after being notified of the recall by

961 the vehicle manufacturer, the driver's affiliated agency or company, or the director.

962 F. The vehicle owner and driver shall ensure that all requirements in this section

963 are met and continually maintained.

964 G. A vehicle that has been in a collision and determined by the insurance adjuster
965 to be a total wreck or total loss shall not be placed back in service until an approved
966 mechanic with a current certification in structural analysis and damage repair or airbags
967 has verified that there is no damage to the vehicle frame and that the airbag system is
968 working properly. The inspection is separate from the vehicle safety inspection
969 completed each year.

970 H. The director shall summarily suspend a medallion and place a vehicle out of
971 service if the vehicle fails a vehicle safety inspection or the director determines that a
972 violation of this section is an immediate safety hazard and it is necessary to prevent a
973 clear, substantial and imminent hazard to life, safety, or property.

974 NEW SECTION. SECTION 33. In addition to meeting all vehicle standards
975 established in this chapter, the following requirements apply to wheelchair accessible
976 vehicles:

977 A. The vehicle must conform to the vehicle accessibility requirements of the
978 regulations of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Title 49 C.F.R. Chapter 38,
979 Subpart B, as amended;

980 B. Taxicabs and for-hire vehicles may not convert to wheelchair accessible
981 vehicles without director approval. The director may approve applications for conversion
982 consistent with criteria prescribed by rule;

983 C. A vehicle operating with a wheelchair accessible taxicab medallion must be a
984 wheelchair accessible vehicle; and

985 D. Before being placed into service and annually thereafter, a separate inspection
986 of the vehicle and any installed accessibility equipment must occur. In addition to

987 checking for conformance with vehicle accessibility requirements in accordance with this
988 subsection, the vehicle driver or drivers may be required to pass a practical demonstration
989 of proper wheelchair securement techniques during this inspection. If a driver of the
990 vehicle is unable to demonstrate proper securement techniques during this inspection, the
991 director shall suspend the driver's regional for-hire driver's license wheelchair accessible
992 vehicle endorsement and may require the driver to undergo additional training before
993 returning to try the practical demonstration again. A wheelchair accessible vehicle shall
994 not pass the inspection unless the driver is able to pass a practical demonstration of
995 proper wheelchair securement techniques. Upon passing the practical demonstration of
996 proper wheelchair securement techniques, the driver's regional for-hire driver's license
997 wheelchair accessible vehicle endorsement will no longer be suspended and is effective.

998 E. If prescribed by the director by rule, affiliated wheelchair accessible vehicles
999 shall participate in a director-approved dispatch system for wheelchair accessible trips.

1000 NEW SECTION. SECTION 34.

1001 A. The director may establish a rule to determine the viability of electric vehicles
1002 for taxicab and for-hire vehicle owners and regional for-hire drivers and, if viable, create
1003 incentives to promote the use of electric vehicles. When determining electric vehicle
1004 viability for for-hire transportation services, the director shall consider, but not be limited
1005 to, the following factors:

1006 1. The price of new or used electric vehicles compared to new and used
1007 nonelectric vehicles;

1008 2. If the mileage range for new and used electric vehicles meets the needs of
1009 full-time for-hire transportation services;

1010 3. The availability of recharging infrastructure in locations and at times that are
1011 convenient for regional for-hire drivers, and if recharging time conflicts with the regional
1012 for-hire driver’s need to operate the vehicle; and

1013 4. If the vehicle life cycle for existing and new electric vehicles creates an
1014 undue burden for the vehicle owner or regional for-hire driver.

1015 B. Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require or restrict a regional for-
1016 hire driver's use of electric vehicles for for-hire transportation services.

1017 NEW SECTION. SECTION 35.

1018 A. A taxicab or for-hire vehicle with a valid medallion may operate if the taxicab
1019 or for-hire vehicle:

1020 1. Is operated by a driver with a valid regional for-hire 'driver’s license issued
1021 under this chapter;

1022 2. Has insurance as required by this chapter;

1023 3. Displays, in a location specified by the director, a current taxicab or for-hire
1024 vehicle medallion plate or decal issued by the director; however, a licensed taxicab or
1025 for-hire vehicle does not require a transportation network company endorsement decal
1026 when dispatched by a transportation network company;

1027 4. Displays the vehicle medallion number and name of the affiliated transitional
1028 regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency on the exterior of the vehicle and
1029 displays any rates that apply to a trip not requested via an application dispatch system, as
1030 prescribed by the director by rule;

1031 5. Is equipped to accept electronic payment of fares and issue receipts;

1032 6. When operating with a taxicab medallion, is equipped with an approved and
1033 properly functioning taximeter or smart taximeter and is connected to a mobile data
1034 terminal to accept electronic payment of fares and issue receipts;

1035 7. Displays any passenger information prescribed by the director by rule;

1036 8. Displays on or in the vehicle signs, including notices, announcements,
1037 pictures, advertisements, or other messages, that do not create a visible distraction or
1038 safety hazard for the driver of the vehicle or for other vehicles on the road. The director
1039 may prescribe by rule the manner in which the signs may be displayed, including, but not
1040 limited to, requirements concerning the number of signs per vehicle, placement on or
1041 within vehicles, size limitations, and devices or mechanisms used to display the signs;

1042 9. Is equipped with a monitored duress alarm approved by the director in
1043 accordance with specifications prescribed by the director by rule;

1044 10. Is equipped with a monitored vehicle tracking system, which may be part of
1045 an approved smart taximeter system or application dispatch system, in accordance with
1046 specifications prescribed by the director by rule;

1047 11. Maintains a continuous connection between the taximeter and the dispatch
1048 system or between the taximeter and the application dispatch system;

1049 12. Operates on a dispatch system of the affiliated transitional regional dispatch
1050 agency or regional dispatch agency and may also operate on one or more approved
1051 application dispatch systems, including those operated by a licensed transportation
1052 network company;

1053 13. Is affiliated with a transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch
1054 agency and adopts the uniform color scheme of that transitional regional dispatch agency

1055 or regional dispatch agency unless otherwise authorized by the director. The director
1056 may prescribe by rule any additional criteria for vehicle colors and markings;

1057 14. Meets current taximeter standards and has installed and uses a smart
1058 taximeter when a smart taximeter system is implemented by the affiliated regional
1059 dispatch agency;

1060 15. Is compliant with policies and procedures established by the transitional
1061 regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency to meet the requirements of this
1062 chapter and ensure customer satisfaction; and

1063 16. Meets any other requirement established by the director by rule as
1064 authorized by this chapter

1065 B. To operate a taxicab or for-hire vehicle, the medallion owner or vehicle owner
1066 shall:

1067 1. Not have any outstanding monetary penalties issued under this chapter;

1068 2. Inform the director within five business days if the vehicle is no longer
1069 operating; and

1070 3. Inform the director and the prior transitional regional dispatch agency or
1071 regional dispatch agency within five business days of the vehicle affiliating with a new
1072 transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency.

1073 C. A citation, license action, or both issued for a violation of this section 36 shall
1074 be issued to the medallion owner, the medallion lessee, the person operating the vehicle,
1075 or any combination thereof, as appropriate.

1076 NEW SECTION. SECTION 36.

1077 A. All lease agreements for taxicabs or for-hire vehicles shall be in writing, and
1078 the lessor shall file the original lease agreement with the director prior to the effective
1079 date of the lease in a manner specified by rule adopted by the director.

1080 B. If a change of transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch
1081 agency is made, any existing vehicle lease must be filed with the new agency at the time
1082 of the change.

1083 C. The lease amount charged to a lessee shall not exceed the maximum amount
1084 established by rule adopted by the director. In determining the maximum lease amount,
1085 if any, the director shall consider vehicle purchase prices, the cost of insurance premiums,
1086 fuel costs, and variations in the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics Consumer Price Index for
1087 All Urban Consumers (CPI-U), for the Seattle area, evaluated over a twenty-four month
1088 time period preceding the determination of the lease amount, and may consider any other
1089 factors that may affect the market for taxicab or for-hire vehicle leases or that may affect
1090 the provision of for-hire transportation services. Costs already factored into the lease
1091 amount shall not be charged to the driver as an additional amount.

1092 D. A vehicle lessee shall not sublease a taxicab or for-hire vehicle.

1093 NEW SECTION. SECTION 37.

1094 A. Taxicab associations and for-hire vehicle companies must transition to
1095 become regional dispatch agencies by March 31, 2025.

1096 B. As of the effective date of this ordinance, a valid King County taxicab
1097 association license or for-hire vehicle company registration shall automatically become a
1098 transitional regional dispatch agency license and shall expire on March 31, 2024. As of
1099 the effective date of this ordinance, every taxicab association with a valid license issued

1100 by the city of Seattle and every for-hire vehicle company recognized by the city of Seattle
1101 shall be issued a transitional regional dispatch agency license by King County and shall
1102 expire on March 31, 2024. A transitional regional dispatch agency license or a regional
1103 dispatch agency license permits the licensee to operate in King County and the city of
1104 Seattle. New taxicab association licenses shall not be issued and new for-hire vehicle
1105 companies shall not be registered after the effective date of this ordinance.

1106 C. Upon initial license renewal, a transitional regional dispatch agency shall
1107 submit for director approval a transition plan on a form provided by the director for
1108 adopting a smart taximeter system. The transition plan must include a clear process for
1109 adopting a smart taximeter system by no later than March 31, 2025. The director may
1110 grant an extension of the deadline for implementing a smart taximeter system for up to
1111 twelve months based upon consideration of the following nonexclusive factors:

- 1112 1. Previous efforts of a transitional regional dispatch agency to implement a
1113 smart taximeter system in its fleet of affiliated vehicles;
- 1114 2. Costs and availability of a smart taximeter system; and
- 1115 3. Economic viability of operating a taxicab.

1116 D. Transitional regional dispatch agencies seeking to continue operating beyond
1117 March 31, 2025, shall apply for a regional dispatch agency license. Unless the director
1118 approves an extension for adopting a smart taximeter system, a valid regional dispatch
1119 agency license is required to operate after March 31, 2025.

1120 NEW SECTION. SECTION 38.

1121 A. It is unlawful for a person to operate as a regional dispatch agency without a
1122 valid regional dispatch agency license. A regional dispatch agency license is valid for

1123 one year and is not transferable. To be licensed as a regional dispatch agency, all
1124 regional dispatch agencies shall meet the criteria necessary for obtaining a regional
1125 dispatch agency license from the city of Seattle, and shall apply for a regional dispatch
1126 agency license from the city of Seattle concurrently with applying for a regional dispatch
1127 agency license from King County, and shall:

- 1128 1. Apply for a license on a form approved by the director;
- 1129 2. Have an identified representative authorized to make business decisions on
1130 behalf of the agency or company;
- 1131 3. Adopt a zero-tolerance policy for alcohol and drug use while operating a
1132 taxicab or for-hire vehicle licensed under this chapter;
- 1133 4. Adopt a policy that prohibits the agency or company, including their
1134 affiliated drivers, from discriminating against passengers or potential passengers on the
1135 basis of race; color; national origin; religious belief or affiliation; sex; disability; age; use
1136 of a service animal; sexual orientation; gender identity; or geographic beginning or
1137 endpoints of the ride, unless the trip covers more than one hundred miles or includes
1138 traveling over a mountain pass or on a ferry;
- 1139 5. Have a process for receiving, tracking, and resolving passenger complaints;
- 1140 6. Have and maintain a secure process for passengers to retrieve items left
1141 behind in an affiliated vehicle as soon as possible but no longer than two calendar days
1142 following the date of the trip. Such policy shall be in writing and readily accessible to
1143 passengers;

- 1144 7. Have a system that enables each passenger to receive an electronic or paper
1145 receipt upon payment of the fare. A receipt shall include at least the following
1146 information:
- 1147 a. the date and time the trip began and ended;
 - 1148 b. the medallion number for a taxicab or for-hire vehicle trip;
 - 1149 c. the driver's regional for-hire driver's license number or unique driver
1150 identification number;
 - 1151 d. the fare charged and any tip paid;
 - 1152 e. the transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency with
1153 which the vehicle is affiliated; and
 - 1154 f. a phone number, email address, or website to submit passenger feedback and
1155 inquiries to the transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency;
- 1156 8. Have an approved smart taximeter system that includes the following
1157 functions:
- 1158 a. is capable of metering a trip using an onboard diagnostic connection to the
1159 vehicle or the use of location tracking technology, or some combination of the two, to
1160 measure time and distance traveled;
 - 1161 b. has an integrated payment and receipting system that accepts credit cards
1162 and other electronic payments such as electronic taxi scrip, promotional codes, and
1163 alternative payment channels;
 - 1164 c. has an integrated dispatch system that:
 - 1165 (1) supports two-way communication between the dispatcher and the driver;

- 1166 (2) is equipped with monitored vehicle tracking technology and be able to
1167 track vehicle location in real time;
- 1168 (3) does not exclusively dispatch calls by phone or radio; and
- 1169 (4) provides a duress alarm for the driver;
- 1170 d. supports pricing based on static and dynamic market conditions;
- 1171 e. has the ability to calculate an upfront fare to present to a passenger before
1172 the passenger accepts the ride;
- 1173 f. is capable of notifying a passenger if a convenience fee for electronic
1174 payment, or other known fees, will be added to the fare;
- 1175 g. includes driver authentication and system security features;
- 1176 h. automates data collection and reporting;
- 1177 i. provides geographic location information;
- 1178 j. incorporates a director-approved mobility data standard for on-demand for-
1179 hire vehicles to support external integration;
- 1180 k. can be used and configured for one or more regional dispatch agencies and
1181 can dispatch vehicles from one or more registered trade names;
- 1182 l. if required by the director by rule, is connected to a director-approved
1183 external dispatch system for the purpose of dispatching wheelchair accessible vehicles;
1184 and
- 1185 m. meets any other requirement prescribed by the director by rule; and
- 1186 9. Have a driver training program, for for-hire drivers, approved by the director.

1187 B. Prior to obtaining a regional dispatch agency license, transitional regional
1188 dispatch agencies shall comply with regional dispatch agency licensing and operating
1189 requirements in this section, except that:

1190 1. A transitional regional dispatch agency shall not be required to have a smart
1191 taximeter system; and

1192 2. A transitional regional dispatch agency that is affiliated with taxicabs at the
1193 time of being issued a transitional regional dispatch agency license that does not have a
1194 smart taximeter system approved by the director, shall provide a dispatch system
1195 integrated with the vehicle's taximeter for all affiliated vehicles.

1196 NEW SECTION. SECTION 39. A transitional regional dispatch agency license
1197 or regional dispatch agency license issued by King County and a corresponding regional
1198 dispatch agency license or transitional regional dispatch agency license issued by the city
1199 of Seattle shall be considered one, inseparable license.

1200 NEW SECTION. SECTION 40.

1201 A. At all times, a transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch
1202 agency shall:

1203 1. Operate with a valid transitional regional dispatch agency or regional
1204 dispatch agency license;

1205 2. Ensure all information provided to the director does not misstate or omit
1206 material facts;

1207 3. Inform the director in writing within seven days if any of the information
1208 provided in the transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency license
1209 application changes, ceases to be true, or is superseded in any way by new information;

1210 4. Ensure any driver of an affiliated vehicle possesses a valid regional for-hire
1211 driver's license, enhanced regional for-hire driver's license, or regional for-hire driver's
1212 license wheelchair accessible vehicle endorsement, or any combination thereof, as
1213 applicable to either the ride type or the vehicle type, or both;

1214 5. Require affiliated vehicles to meet all requirements of this chapter, including
1215 but not limited to passing an annual vehicle safety inspection and being licensed,
1216 endorsed, and insured;

1217 6. Notify the director in writing within seven days upon adding or removing an
1218 affiliated vehicle;

1219 7. Require affiliated vehicles to be fully equipped as required by this chapter
1220 whenever operating as a taxicab or for-hire vehicle;

1221 8. Accept service of general correspondence, license actions, citations, and
1222 notices of complaints on behalf of an affiliated driver or vehicle owner and forward such
1223 to the respective affiliated driver or vehicle owner;

1224 9. Prioritize dispatch services to passengers in wheelchairs or other mobility
1225 devices when dispatching affiliated wheelchair accessible vehicles;

1226 10. Allow passengers to indicate whether they require a wheelchair-accessible
1227 vehicle and connect passengers to those services either directly or via a weblink,
1228 application, or phone number, if no wheelchair accessible vehicles are available on the
1229 agency's application dispatch system. The director may suspend or alter this requirement
1230 by rule if a director-approved dispatch system is established for wheelchair accessible
1231 trips;

1232 11. Maintain a phone number, mailing address, and email address for customer
1233 service;

1234 12. Record all trips, process all payments, and issue a receipt for all payments
1235 through the dispatch system, a smart taximeter system, or an application dispatch system
1236 provided to affiliated drivers;

1237 13. Comply with the data reporting requirements established in this chapter;

1238 14. Operate only director approved application dispatch systems ;

1239 15. Require affiliated vehicles to comply with applicable rate structures defined
1240 in this chapter;

1241 16. Have, maintain, and monitor, while one or more affiliated vehicles are
1242 active, a duress alarm for the driver;

1243 17. Establish and enforce operating standards for affiliated drivers and vehicles
1244 to ensure code compliance and customer satisfaction;

1245 18. Satisfy every request for service as long as there are affiliated taxicabs or
1246 for-hire vehicles available; except that transitional regional dispatch agencies, regional
1247 dispatch agencies, and regional for-hire drivers, that refuse service within the meaning of
1248 section 20.L. of this ordinance, shall not be subject to any penalties by the director, and,
1249 in the case of regional for-hire drivers, by the transitional regional dispatch agency or
1250 regional dispatch agency;

1251 19. Require affiliated vehicles to use a uniform color scheme or any associated
1252 graphics, or both, approved by the director;

1253 20. Provide a supervisor at a taxicab zone whenever such zone is used by
1254 affiliated taxicabs if the director determines that it is necessary due to complaints

1255 received from passengers and adjacent property owners or improper use of nearby
1256 passenger load zones, truck load zones, and charter bus zones. If the transitional regional
1257 dispatch agency, or regional dispatch agency, fails to provide a supervisor as required by
1258 the director, the director may prohibit all affiliated taxicabs from using the taxicab zone;

1259 21. Require affiliated vehicles to operate on an approved taximeter, smart
1260 taximeter system, or application dispatch system as required in this chapter;

1261 22. Remit fares made via electronic payment to regional for-hire drivers within
1262 two business days after the ride was completed;

1263 23. Remit fares made via electronic payment through the smart taximeter
1264 system to regional for-hire drivers in amounts not less than the amount received by the
1265 transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency for each transaction,
1266 excluding deductions for fees agreed to in accordance with section 41 of this ordinance;

1267 24. Comply with applicable business license requirements for any jurisdiction
1268 for which the transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency operates;
1269 and

1270 25. Meet any other requirement established by the director by rule as authorized
1271 by this chapter.

1272 B. A transitional regional dispatch agency that is not affiliated with taxicabs at
1273 the time of being issued a transitional regional dispatch agency license does not need to:

1274 1. Affiliate with taxicabs;

1275 2. Have or operate a taximeter;

1276 3. Comply with taximeter rates; or

1277 4. Provide a supervisor at a taxicab zone because for-hire vehicles are not
1278 permitted to operate at a taxicab zone.

1279 C. Persons not previously licensed as a taxicab association or registered as a for-
1280 hire vehicle company may apply for a transitional regional dispatch agency license in a
1281 manner determined by the director.

1282 D.1. Transitional regional dispatch agencies and regional dispatch agencies shall
1283 maintain accurate and complete operational records for all affiliated vehicles and shall
1284 submit quarterly reports, in an electronic format approved by the director.

1285 2. Reports shall include the following:

1286 a. a total count of ride per origination ZIP Code;

1287 b. a total count of ride per destination ZIP Code;

1288 c. a total count of unfulfilled ride requests by ZIP Code;

1289 d. a total count of rides provided by a wheelchair accessible vehicle by ZIP

1290 Code;

1291 e. a total count of unfulfilled ride requests for a wheelchair accessible vehicle

1292 by ZIP Code;

1293 f. a list of vehicle collisions; including the vehicle medallion number, regional

1294 for-hire 'driver's license number, and if known, whether the collision was the fault of the

1295 regional for-hire driver; and whether the collision resulted in any injuries;

1296 g. a list of crimes committed against drivers;

1297 h. a list of passenger complaints; and

1298 i. any other data required by the director to ensure compliance.

1299 3. Transitional regional dispatch agencies and regional dispatch agencies shall
1300 retain records related to the reports required under subsection D. of this section for the
1301 current year and at least the two prior calendar years. Records may be maintained
1302 electronically.

1303 4. If a public records request is made of the county for documents that have
1304 been designated by a licensee as confidential or proprietary, the county may provide third
1305 party notice to the providing party prior to disclosure.

1306 E. A transitional regional dispatch agency and regional dispatch agency shall
1307 store, and upon request permit the director to review, all records required by this chapter
1308 for affiliated drivers and vehicles including, but not limited to, copies of regional for-hire
1309 driver's licenses, taxicab and for-hire vehicle medallions, lists of all affiliated drivers and
1310 their affiliated vehicles, passenger feedback, new driver training records, dispatch
1311 records, and proof of vehicle insurance and vehicle registration. In addition, the
1312 transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency shall:

1313 1. Retain records, electronically or otherwise, for the current year and at least
1314 the prior two calendar years;

1315 2. Provide the director with any other information the director may reasonably
1316 require upon request; and

1317 3. Timely respond to the director's request for information.

1318 F. The director may authorize a transitional regional dispatch agency or regional
1319 dispatch agency to submit regional for-hire driver's license applications on behalf of its
1320 affiliated drivers, in a manner approved by the director.

1321 G. A transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency may
1322 maintain a rating system for drivers and passengers to rate each other following a trip.

1323 NEW SECTION. SECTION 41.

1324 A. A transitional regional dispatch agency and regional dispatch agency shall put
1325 in writing all policies that affect affiliated medallion owners, vehicle owners, and
1326 regional for-hire drivers.

1327 B. Prior to implementing or changing a policy, the transitional regional dispatch
1328 agency or regional dispatch agency shall provide a copy of the draft policy to the
1329 affiliated medallion owner, vehicle owner, or regional for-hire driver, or post a copy of
1330 the draft policy in the transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency
1331 office and send via electronic transmittal a copy of the draft policy to the affiliated
1332 medallion owners, vehicle owners and regional for-hire drivers. Affiliated medallion
1333 owners, vehicle owners and regional for-hire drivers shall have a minimum of twenty
1334 days to review and provide input on the draft policy before the policy takes effect.
1335 Notwithstanding this twenty-day timeline, a policy proposed for purposes of addressing
1336 an emergent issue may be temporarily established for up to thirty days. After thirty days,
1337 medallion owners, vehicle owners, and regional for-hire drivers shall be given an
1338 opportunity to provide input before the policy may be permanently adopted.

1339 C. A transitional regional dispatch agency and regional dispatch agency shall
1340 make known to the regional for-hire driver the amount of the fare for each trip provided
1341 by that driver. If the amount remitted to the driver is less than the full fare paid by the
1342 passenger, the remittance to the driver shall include a description detailing the deductions
1343 made.

1344 D. A transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency shall
1345 establish a written policy governing an owner's or driver's access to the smart taximeter
1346 system or application dispatch system. The policy must include written notice of
1347 impending deactivation, an opportunity for the owner or driver to be heard, and a period
1348 for the owner or driver to cure the violation before deactivation begins, unless the
1349 deactivation is ordered by the director or is an immediate threat to public safety.

1350 NEW SECTION. SECTION 42.

1351 A. Regional taximeter rates are in this subsection A.

1352 1. Unless specified elsewhere in this section or prescribed by the director by
1353 rule, it shall be unlawful for anyone operating a taxicab licensed by King County to
1354 advertise, charge, demand or receive any greater or lesser rate than the following regional
1355 taximeter rates:

- 1356 a. drop charge: for passengers for first 1/9 mile: \$2.60;
- 1357 b. Per mile: For each 1/9 mile or fraction thereof after the first 1/9 mile: \$0.30;
- 1358 c. For every one minute of waiting time: \$0.50, charged at \$0.30 per 36
1359 seconds. Waiting time rates are charged when taxicab speed is less than 11 miles per
1360 hour or when a taxicab driver is asked to wait for the customer;
- 1361 d. Additional per passenger charge for more than two persons, excluding
1362 children under twelve years of age: \$0.50; and

1363

1364 2. The director may adjust or prescribe new regional taximeter rates and other
1365 rates, such as minimum fares for trips, or both, by rule. In determining new regional
1366 taximeter rates, the director may consider, among other things, the following factors:

1367 a. operational data supplied by a regional dispatch agency or data obtained by
1368 the director through other sources, including, but not limited to, regional consumer price
1369 index data;

1370 b. the public's need for adequate for-hire transportation services at reasonable
1371 rates consistent with the provision, maintenance, and continuation of such services;

1372 c. the rates of other for-hire transportation providers operating in similar areas;

1373 d. rates paid by passengers using other modes of transportation;

1374 e. the need to cover all operating costs incurred by the owner and driver;

1375 f. other regulatory, access, or similar fees paid by drivers to serve the
1376 transportation needs of the region; and

1377 g. alignment with rates established by the city of Seattle.

1378 3. Regional taximeter rates are exclusive of any per-trip fee established by the
1379 Port of Seattle and set forth in any operating agreement or tariff, a temporary fuel
1380 surcharge authorized by the director, a technology fee if authorized by the director, a
1381 convenience fee for electronic payment of fares, or any toll or charge established for
1382 roads, bridges, tunnels, or ferries.

1383 4. A regional dispatch agency's affiliated taxicabs shall have regional taximeter
1384 rates programmed into its smart taximeter system. Variations from regional taximeter
1385 rates are permitted, as follows:

1386 a. Variations from regional taximeter rates may be applied to contract trips,
1387 upfront fares, dynamic pricing, fare splitting, trip bidding, and unless prohibited by the
1388 director by rule, for flat-rate fares, minimum trip fares, or when operating on an
1389 application dispatch system;

1390 b. The director may prescribe by rule variations from regional taximeter rates;

1391 c. Unless prescribed otherwise by the director by rule, any variation from
1392 regional taximeter rates shall be established by a regional dispatch agency and not by an
1393 individual driver. A regional dispatch agency shall not vary a rate so that it results in a
1394 higher dispatch fee or other fee to be paid by an affiliated driver;

1395 d. Variations from regional taximeter rates shall be applied in a manner that
1396 does not discriminate on the basis of a protected class or on the basis of the ride's
1397 geographic beginning or endpoints;

1398 e. Unless a trip is dispatched via an application dispatch system, an upfront
1399 fare shall be based on the estimated time and distance calculated by the smart taximeter
1400 and multiplied by the regional taximeter rate. If the passenger rejects an upfront fare, the
1401 regional taximeter rates apply; and

1402 f. If a flat rate between two defined points has been established, the flat rate
1403 shall be made available to the passenger prior to accepting a ride. Regional dispatch
1404 agencies must maintain a list of all established flat rates, including their defined origin
1405 and destination points, and make such list available for inspection upon request of the
1406 director.

1407 5. Contract rates shall be in writing, be retained by the regional dispatch agency,
1408 and be available for inspection upon request of the director.

1409 6. Before a licensee may use a smart taximeter system that is integrated with an
1410 application dispatch system, the director must first determine the application dispatch
1411 system rates are transparent under subsection B. of this section.

1412 B. Application dispatch system rates are in this subsection B.

1413 1. Before using an application dispatch system, or using a smart taximeter
1414 system as an application dispatch system, the transitional regional dispatch agency or
1415 regional dispatch agency shall provide to the director either written documentation or a
1416 physical demonstration, or both, that the application dispatch system rate structure is
1417 transparent to the passenger prior to confirming the ride. Application dispatch system
1418 rates do not need to be filed with the director unless this chapter specifies otherwise. The
1419 director shall determine that the rate structure is transparent if:

1420 a. one of the following methodologies is used:

1421 (1) the rate by either distance or time, or a combination of distance and time,
1422 and the total fare or fare range is clearly displayed on the application dispatch system to
1423 the passenger upon requesting a ride, but before confirming the ride; or

1424 (2) the fare for the ride is made clear to the passenger prior to confirming the
1425 ride through an alternative method deemed acceptable by the director;

1426 b. any additional or higher charges such as tips, waiting time, tolls, or any
1427 other charges not included in subsection B.1.a. of this section shall be clearly identified
1428 by specific amount, if known, or by category, on the application dispatch system before
1429 confirming a ride; and

1430 c. the receipt showing all charges paid by the customer is available to the
1431 regional for-hire driver in the application dispatch system.

1432 2. During an abnormal disruption of the market, lasting for no longer than
1433 twelve consecutive hours in King County, a transitional regional dispatch agency or
1434 regional dispatch agency shall not raise its normal range of fare more than two times the
1435 fare that would otherwise be applicable.

1436 C. For-hire vehicle rates are in this subsection C.

1437 1. For-hire vehicles must charge for service based on: a written contract; flat
1438 rate per trip or by zone; or by an hourly rate with minimum increments of thirty minutes.
1439 Flat charges by zone or hourly rate may vary by time of day. Zone boundaries shall be
1440 set by the director by rule and shall be consistent across all for-hire vehicle operators.

1441 2. Records of all for-hire vehicle rates in place prior to implementing a smart
1442 taximeter system shall be maintained by the for-hire vehicle company and be made
1443 available for inspection upon request by the director. All rates and charges shall be
1444 conspicuously available in the interior of the for-hire vehicle.

1445 3. The for-hire vehicle rate structure shall remain in effect until the vehicle
1446 transitions to a taxicab or March 31, 2025, whichever occurs sooner. After March 31,
1447 2025, all for-hire vehicles shall have transitioned to taxicabs and are subject to the
1448 regional taximeter rates and application dispatch system rate requirements under this
1449 chapter.

1450 4. If using an application dispatch system, the director must first determine that
1451 the rates are transparent to the passenger under subsection B. of this section.

1452 D. If the director establishes a minimum fare, or flat rate from one location to
1453 another location, or based on the factors identified in subsection A.2. of this section, such
1454 minimum fare or flat rate shall apply whether the trip originated via a taximeter, a smart
1455 taximeter, or, if specified by the director, an application dispatch system. In addition to
1456 the general authority authorized in this subsection D, the following shall apply:

1457 1. For all trips originating at SeaTac International Airport, and no later than
1458 December 31, 2023, the director shall establish a minimum fare by rule; and

1459 2. On the effective date of this ordinance, and expiring on December 31, 2023,
1460 or upon the date the director's rule goes into effect, whichever is earlier, in accordance
1461 with subsection D.1. of this section, the minimum fare for all trips originating at SeaTac
1462 International Airport shall be twenty dollars exclusive of any fees as indicated in
1463 subsection A.3. of this section. Any flat rate, dynamic price, or other method of pricing
1464 established by a transitional regional dispatch agency or a regional dispatch agency shall
1465 not be below this minimum for trips that originate at Sea-Tac International Airport.

1466 E. Other rate and fare requirements are in this subsection E.

1467 1. It is unlawful to charge additional fees for carrying individuals with
1468 disabilities and their equipment or to charge rates higher to passengers with a disability
1469 than are charged to other persons. To promote equitable access to for-hire transportation
1470 for persons with disabilities, and to ensure that wheelchair accessible vehicle service is
1471 reliably available at reasonable and predictable rates, the director may prescribe by rule
1472 fares for wheelchair accessible trips or other conditions on the rates, fares, fees, and other
1473 surcharges, or both, for providing wheelchair accessible transportation services to persons
1474 with disabilities.

1475 2. The director is authorized to establish a fuel surcharge to the regional
1476 taximeter rate, or that can be added as an amount to the passenger's total fare, any time
1477 the price of fuel, as published by the American Automobile Association for the local area,
1478 exceeds a fuel surcharge trigger price established in accordance with a rule adopted by
1479 the director. The surcharge shall be an amount necessary to recoup the increased fuel
1480 costs.

1481 3. A toll or charge established for roads, bridges, tunnels, or ferries while
1482 passengers are being transported may be added to the 'passenger's total fare if such
1483 charges are not already included in the calculation of the fare.

1484 4. Discriminatory charges are prohibited. For the purposes of this subsection
1485 E.4., "discriminatory charges" means policies or practices that result in higher charges or
1486 rates being applied to passengers belonging to a protected class compared to other
1487 passengers.

1488 5. The director may establish by rule the process and criteria associated with the
1489 director's review and approval of a technology fee that is intended to help offset the cost
1490 of implementing, operating and maintaining a smart taximeter system and that may be
1491 added to the fare for all trips subject to the taximeter rates in subsection A.

1492 NEW SECTION. SECTION 43.

1493 A. The director may prescribe by rule the implementation of a discrete licensing
1494 program for emerging for-hire transportation models that do not fit within the parameters
1495 of this chapter or K.C.C. chapter 6.64.

1496 B. The director shall determine whether a proposed business activity is an
1497 emerging business type or a nontraditional business activity that falls outside the
1498 parameters of any existing license under this chapter or K.C.C. chapter 6.64, and whether
1499 the proposed business activity presents potential risks to the public health, safety, and
1500 welfare such that, for the protection of the public, the activity must be regulated and
1501 licensed.

1502 C. The director may grant the applicant an emerging for-hire transportation
1503 license to operate in the proposed business activity on a pilot basis.

1504 D. The emerging for-hire transportation license shall be renewed annually for a
1505 maximum of two years, after which the license shall expire. The emerging for-hire
1506 transportation license shall be a personal privilege and not property. The emerging for-
1507 hire transportation license shall not be transferrable to another location, person, or
1508 business entity.

1509 E. The director may attach conditions to the emerging for-hire transportation
1510 license as are reasonably required to protect the public health, safety, and welfare from
1511 risks including, but not limited to: adverse impact on public health; public safety;
1512 increased demand on government services; increased environmental impacts; or increased
1513 traffic or congestion in the public way. The director may attach any such conditions
1514 when the emerging for-hire transportation license is issued, or the director may attach,
1515 remove, or modify conditions at any time during the term of the permit, upon reasonable
1516 notice to the licensee.

1517 F. The director may determine at any time during the term of the emerging for-
1518 hire transportation license that the licensed business activity as conducted presents an
1519 unreasonable risk to public health and safety that cannot be mitigated, and may revoke
1520 the license, with or without prior notice. If a license is revoked, the licensee shall be
1521 given the opportunity to appear before the director for an informal hearing to introduce
1522 any evidence to appeal the revocation before the revocation is effective or no later than
1523 ten days after the revocation is effective. The director shall render a decision affirming or
1524 reversing the revocation within three business days after conclusion of the hearing. The
1525 decision of the director is final.

1526 G. If the director determines that a type of emerging business model that has been
1527 issued an emerging for-hire transportation license should be regulated by ordinance, the
1528 director shall convey the determination to the council prior to the expiration of the
1529 license. The license shall not be extended beyond two years unless an ordinance
1530 regulating the emerging business model is effective and the emerging business has
1531 obtained any necessary license under that ordinance.

1532 NEW SECTION. SECTION 44. The director may establish, in conjunction with
1533 the city of Seattle and the Port of Seattle, a shared process to receive and, when
1534 appropriate, resolve consumer feedback and may communicate the process to consumers.

1535 NEW SECTION. SECTION 45.

1536 A. Upon receiving a written complaint involving the conduct of a licensee, where
1537 the conduct may be a violation of this chapter, the director shall review the complaint,
1538 and if appropriate:

1539 1. Issue a notice of complaint to the licensee, and if applicable, the affiliated
1540 transitional regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency, advising them of the
1541 allegation or allegations made in the complaint;

1542 2. Require the licensee and, if applicable, the affiliated transitional regional
1543 dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency, to respond in writing or by contacting the
1544 issuing inspector to provide a response to the allegation or allegations in the notice of
1545 complaint within fifteen calendar days from the date the notice of complaint was issued;

1546 3. Investigate the allegations in the written complaint and the response
1547 submitted by the licensee and if applicable, the response submitted by the transitional
1548 regional dispatch agency or regional dispatch agency representative; and

1549 4. Make a finding as to the validity of the allegations in the written complaint. If
1550 the complaint is found to be valid the director may take enforcement action consistent
1551 with this chapter.

1552 B. Failure to respond to a notice of complaint, either in writing or by contacting
1553 the issuing inspector, within fifteen calendar days shall constitute a waiver of the
1554 licensee's and, if applicable, the affiliated agency's right to respond to the allegations in
1555 the written complaint and shall be prima facie evidence that the allegations are valid.

1556 NEW SECTION. SECTION 46.

1557 A. It is a violation for any person to not meet or maintain compliance with any
1558 requirement of this chapter or rule issued by the director. If the director determines that
1559 any of this chapter's requirements or rules have been violated, the director may issue:

- 1560 1. A citation;
1561 2. A license action; or
1562 3. A citation and a license action.

1563 B. The director shall reject a license or medallion application if it has a material
1564 misstatement or omission.

1565 C. In determining a monetary penalty, the director shall consider the gravity of
1566 the violation; the number of past violations committed; the size of the business of the
1567 violator; the deterrent effect of monetary penalties; and the good faith of the violator in
1568 attempting to achieve compliance after notification of the violation.

1569 D. A person shall pay all fees, surcharges, and monetary penalties that are owed
1570 under this chapter. If the person cited fails to pay a monetary penalty imposed under this
1571 chapter, the monetary penalty may be referred to a collection agency. The cost to the

1572 director for the collection services will be added to the penalty. Alternatively, the
1573 director may pursue collection in any other manner allowed by law. The director shall
1574 refuse to issue a license, endorsement, or medallion at the time of renewal if the person
1575 has outstanding fees, surcharges, or monetary penalties issued under this chapter.

1576 E. Each day a person violates or fails to comply with one of the requirements of
1577 this chapter may be considered a separate violation for which a citation may be issued.

1578 F. It is a misdemeanor for any person to violate the operating standards
1579 established in this chapter if the person demonstrates a habitual disregard for the
1580 standards in this chapter. The director may refer such a person for prosecution as an
1581 alternative to the citation and license action procedures outlined in this chapter.

1582 G. The director may seek legal or equitable relief to enjoin any acts or practices
1583 when necessary to achieve compliance.

1584 H. Nothing in this section limits or precludes any action or proceeding to enforce
1585 this chapter, and nothing obligates or requires the director to issue a citation or license
1586 action prior to the imposition of criminal penalties.

1587 NEW SECTION. SECTION 47. The following shall be assessed for violations
1588 of the listed sections or subsections of this chapter:

1589 A. The director shall assess a Class A penalty, which is a one-hundred-twenty-
1590 five-dollar civil penalty for a first offense, a two-hundred-fifty-dollar penalty for a second
1591 offense, or a five-hundred-dollar civil penalty for a third or subsequent offense:

- 1592 1. Section 19.A., B., D., L., N., Q., and U. of this ordinance;
- 1593 2. Section 20.B, M, and N. of this ordinance;
- 1594 3. Section 21.A.1., 2.,and 3. of this ordinance;

- 1595 4. Section 32.D., E., and F. of this ordinance; and
- 1596 5. Section 35.A.4., 5., 6., 7., and 8. of this ordinance;
- 1597 B. The director shall assess a Class B penalty, which is a two-hundred-fifty-
- 1598 dollar civil penalty for a first offense, a five-hundred-dollar civil penalty for a second
- 1599 offense, or a one-thousand-dollar civil penalty for a third or subsequent offense:
- 1600 1. Section 19.C., E., F., G., H., I., J., K., and M. of this ordinance;
- 1601 2. Section 20.A., D., G., I., J., K., and L. of this ordinance;
- 1602 3. Section 21.A.4. and 5. of this ordinance;
- 1603 4. Section 35.A.3, 9., 10., 11., 12., 13., 14., and 15. of this ordinance; and
- 1604 5. Section 35.B.2, and 3. of this ordinance;
- 1605 C. The director shall assess a Class C penalty, which is a one-thousand-dollar
- 1606 civil penalty for an offense:
- 1607 1. Section 20.F. of this ordinance;
- 1608 2. Section 40.A.1., 3., 4., 5., 6., 7., 8., 9., 10., 11., 12., 13., 14., 15., 16., 17., 18.,
- 1609 19., 20., 21., 22., and 23. of this ordinance; and
- 1610 3. Section 41.A., B., C., and D. of this ordinance;
- 1611 D. The director shall assess a one-thousand-dollar civil penalty for the first
- 1612 offense and suspend the license or medallion for the second and subsequent offenses:
- 1613 1. Section 36.A. and C. of this ordinance;
- 1614 2. Section 40.D. and E. of this ordinance; and
- 1615 3. Section 42.A.4. of this ordinance;

1616 E. The director shall assess a one-thousand-dollar civil penalty for each offense.

1617 It is a criminal misdemeanor for the second and subsequent offenses, which the director

1618 may refer for prosecution:

1619 1. Section 10.A. of this ordinance;

1620 2. Section 26 of this ordinance; and

1621 3. Section 30.B. of this ordinance;

1622 F. The director shall act as listed on a license or medallion for offenses violating

1623 the following:

1624 1. Section 12.A., B., E., F., G., H., I., J., K., L., and M. of this ordinance, denial;

1625 2. Section 19.O., R., and S. of this ordinance, revocation;

1626 3. Section 20.C., E., and H. of this ordinance, suspension;

1627 4. Section 24.G. of this ordinance, revocation;

1628 5. Section 27.E. of this ordinance, denial;

1629 6. Section 30.A. of this section, revocation;

1630 7. Section 30.C. of this ordinance, denial;

1631 8. Section 32.A., G., and H. of this ordinance, summary suspension;

1632 9. Section 33.C. of this ordinance, suspension;

1633 10. Section 33.D. of this ordinance, suspension of the regional for-hire driver's

1634 license wheelchair accessible vehicle endorsement;

1635 11. Section 35.A.1. and 2. of this ordinance, summary suspension;

1636 12. Section 37.A. of this ordinance, revocation;

1637 13. Section 38.A. of this ordinance, denial; and

1638 14. Section 40.A.24. of this ordinance, suspension;

1639 G. The director shall suspend a license or medallion, or shall deny a license or
1640 medallion application at renewal:

- 1641 1. Section 30.E. of this ordinance;
- 1642 2. Section 31.A. of this ordinance;
- 1643 3. Section 35.B.1. of this ordinance; and
- 1644 4. Section 40.A.2. of this ordinance;

1645 H. The director shall assess a two-hundred-fifty-dollar civil penalty for the first
1646 offense and a one-thousand-dollar civil penalty for second and subsequent offenses of
1647 section 11 of this ordinance;

1648 I. The director shall revoke a license or deny a license application at renewal for
1649 an offense of section 20.O. of this ordinance;

1650 J. For rules promulgated in accordance with section 19.V. of this ordinance,
1651 section 35.A.16. of this ordinance, and section 40.A.25. of this ordinance, the director
1652 shall specify any applicable civil penalty or license action in the rule itself.

1653 K. Any violation not enumerated in this section 48 that does not pose a threat or
1654 hazard to life, safety, or property shall have a civil penalty of up to five-hundred-dollars.
1655 Any violation not enumerated in this section that poses a threat or hazard to life, safety,
1656 or property shall have a civil penalty of up to one-thousand-dollars.

1657 NEW SECTION. SECTION 48

1658 A. The director may issue citations and suspend, summarily suspend, deny, or
1659 revoke any license, endorsement, or medallion of any person for violating or failing to
1660 comply with any applicable provision of this chapter.

1661 B. Notwithstanding any other provision of this chapter, the director may
1662 summarily suspend a license, endorsement, or medallion issued under this chapter, with
1663 the suspension to take effect immediately by order of the director prior to any hearing
1664 upon finding that:

1665 1. There is reasonable cause to believe that the licensee has engaged in activity
1666 that causes or will cause a clear, substantial, and imminent hazard to life, safety, property,
1667 or privacy of the driver, passenger, or public, or any combination thereof; or

1668 2. There is a lapse in coverage or the coverage of any surety bond or public
1669 liability insurance policy required to be filed with the director is less than the minimum
1670 requirements in section 31 of this ordinance.

1671 C. The following applies to license actions:

1672 1.a. Whenever any license, endorsement, or medallion is revoked or summarily
1673 suspended the revocation or summary suspension is effective upon issuance of the notice.
1674 Such notice may be appealed in accordance with the procedures of section 49 of this
1675 ordinance. If a timely appeal is not filed by the licensee, the notice of revocation or
1676 summary suspension shall be final.

1677 b. A final order of revocation shall extend for twelve months, except for a final
1678 medallion revocation. Upon the final order of revocation of a medallion, where all
1679 appellate proceedings, if any, have been concluded, a medallion owner shall immediately
1680 surrender the taxicab or for-hire vehicle medallion plate or decal to the director and has
1681 sixty days to transfer the medallion as prescribed by section 27 of this ordinance.

1682 c. A final order of summary suspension shall extend until the license,
1683 endorsement, or medallion expires or until evidence satisfactory to the director is
1684 produced showing that the violation is cured, whichever occurs first;

1685 2. If the licensee does not file a timely appeal in accordance with section 49 of
1686 this ordinance, the notice of suspension shall be final. Suspensions are effective upon the
1687 date included in the notice of suspension or if timely appealed under section 49 of this
1688 ordinance, when an order on appeal affirming such notice becomes final. Suspensions
1689 shall extend until the license or endorsement expires or until evidence satisfactory to the
1690 director is produced showing that the violation is cured, whichever occurs first; and

1691 3. Except in the case of revocation or summary suspension, whenever a timely
1692 appeal is filed in accordance with section 49 of this ordinance, a licensee may continue to
1693 operate pending a final decision on appeal; however, an applicant not licensed in the
1694 preceding license year may not engage in the activity for which the license is required
1695 pending a final decision on appeal.

1696 NEW SECTION. SECTION 49.

1697 A. A citation or license action shall include the following:

1698 1. The name and address of the person to whom the citation or license action is
1699 issued;

1700 2. The address of the location, if relevant, where the violation occurred;

1701 3. A separate statement of each provision violated;

1702 4. The date of the violation;

1703 5. The applicable monetary penalty;

1704 6. A statement that the person cited must respond to the citation or license
1705 action within twenty-four calendar days after service;

1706 7. A statement that a response must be sent to the hearing examiner and
1707 received not later than 4:30 p.m. on the day the response is due;

1708 8. Contact information for where the citation or license action is to be filed;

1709 9. A statement that the citation or license action represents a determination that
1710 a violation has been committed by the person named in the citation or license action and
1711 that the determination shall be final unless appealed in accordance with this chapter; and

1712 10. A statement certified under penalty of perjury by the director's
1713 representative issuing the citation or license action setting forth facts supporting issuance
1714 of the citation or license action.

1715 B. The citation or license action shall be addressed to the person allegedly
1716 responsible for the violation, and be served by first-class mail, electronically, or in
1717 person. Service by first-class mail shall be deemed complete three days after the mailing.
1718 If a citation or license action sent electronically or by first class mail is returned as
1719 undeliverable, the citation or license action may be served in person. The director shall
1720 respond to inquiries concerning the facts and process of the decision and request for any
1721 files that detail the facts on which the director based the ruling.

1722 C. A person cited must respond to a citation in one of the following ways:

1723 1. Pay the amount of the monetary penalty specified in the citation within thirty
1724 calendar days of issuance, in which case the record shall show a finding that the person
1725 cited committed the violation;

1726 2. Timely request in writing a hearing to mitigate, by explaining the
1727 circumstances surrounding the commission of the violation, and providing an address to
1728 which notice of the hearing may be sent; or

1729 3. Timely request in writing a hearing to appeal, by disputing the commission of
1730 the violation, and providing an address to which notice of the hearing may be sent.

1731 D. The director's license action is final unless the person cited timely requests in
1732 writing a hearing to appeal the license action and provides an address to which notice of
1733 such hearing may be sent.

1734 E. If requesting a hearing, a response to a citation or license action must be
1735 received by the hearing examiner no later than twenty-four calendar days after the date
1736 the citation is served. When the last day of the appeal period so computed is a Saturday,
1737 Sunday, or holiday, the period shall run until 4:30 p.m. on the next business day. If a
1738 person fails to respond to a citation or license action within twenty-four calendar days of
1739 service, the citation and monetary penalty or license action shall become the final order
1740 of the director and is unreviewable by the hearing examiner.

1741 F. Appeals of license actions shall be heard by the hearing examiner of the
1742 jurisdiction issuing the license action. The presiding hearing examiner shall decide the
1743 appeal under the applicable portions of both the King County Code and the Seattle
1744 Municipal Code. The King County hearing examiner is bound by any interpretation of
1745 the applicable Seattle Municipal Code by the city hearing examiner in a license action
1746 appeal. The King County hearing examiner shall forward all decisions made under this
1747 subsection F. to the Seattle hearing examiner within ten business days of issuing the
1748 decision. Appeals of citations shall be heard by the hearing examiner of the jurisdiction

1749 issuing the citation, and the hearing examiner shall decide the appeal under the King
1750 County Code. The hearing for a license action or a citation shall be held within forty-five
1751 calendar days after written response is received by the hearing examiner, except that
1752 hearings for summary suspensions shall be held within ten business days of the request,
1753 unless a later date is agreed to by the person issued the license action. With the exception
1754 of summary suspension hearings, notice of the time, place, and date of the hearing shall
1755 be sent to the address specified in the request for hearing not less than ten calendar days
1756 before the hearing.

1757 G. Hearings to appeal the citation or license action shall be conducted in
1758 accordance with the procedures and rules of the hearing examiner. The issues heard at
1759 the hearing shall be limited to those that are raised in writing in the response to the
1760 citation or license action and that are within the jurisdiction of the hearing examiner. The
1761 hearing examiner may issue subpoenas for the attendance of witnesses and the production
1762 of documents. The director shall have the burden of proving by a preponderance of the
1763 evidence both that the violation occurred and the appropriateness of the remedy the
1764 director has imposed.

1765 H. A citation or license action shall not be deemed insufficient for failure to
1766 contain a detailed statement of the facts constituting the specific violation that the person
1767 is alleged to have committed or by reason of defects or imperfections, but only if the lack
1768 of detail, or the defects or imperfections, do not prejudice substantial rights of the person.
1769 A citation or license action may be amended before the conclusion of the hearing to
1770 conform to the evidence presented if substantial rights of the affected person are not
1771 thereby prejudiced.

1772 I. The certified statement or declaration authorized by chapter 5.50 RCW shall be
1773 prima facie evidence that a violation occurred and that the person listed on the citation or
1774 license action is responsible. The certified statement or declaration authorized under
1775 penalty of perjury and any other evidence accompanying the report shall be admissible
1776 without further evidentiary foundation. In cases where the person seeks to mitigate the
1777 citation, the person may explain the circumstances surrounding the commission of the
1778 violation. In cases where the person disputes the citation or license action, the person
1779 may rebut the director's evidence and establish that the violation or violations preceding
1780 the citation or license action did not occur or that the person appealing the citation or
1781 license action is not responsible for the violation.

1782 J. In a mitigation hearing, the hearing examiner shall determine whether the
1783 person's explanation justifies reduction of the monetary penalty. However, the monetary
1784 penalty may not be reduced unless the director affirms or certifies that the violation has
1785 been corrected prior to the mitigation hearing. Factors that may be considered in whether
1786 to reduce the penalty include: whether the violation was caused by the act, neglect, or
1787 abuse of another; or whether correction of the violation was commenced before the
1788 issuance of the citation but full compliance was prevented by a condition or circumstance
1789 beyond the control of the person cited. The hearing examiner shall enter an order finding
1790 that the person cited committed the violation and assess a monetary penalty.

1791 K. If the citation or license action is sustained at the hearing, the hearing
1792 examiner shall enter an order finding that the person committed the violation and impose
1793 the applicable monetary penalty or enter an order affirming the license action. The
1794 hearing examiner may reduce the monetary penalty of a citation in accordance with

1795 subsection J. of this section. If the hearing examiner determines that the violation did not
1796 occur, the hearing examiner shall enter an order dismissing the citation or denying the
1797 license action.

1798 L. Failure to appear for a requested hearing will result in the hearing examiner
1799 entering an order finding that the person committed the violation and assessing the
1800 penalty specified in the citation or finding that the person committed the violation and
1801 affirming the license action. For good cause shown and upon terms the hearing examiner
1802 deems just, the hearing examiner may set aside an order entered upon a failure to appear
1803 and schedule a new hearing date.

1804 M. If a license action involving a vehicle is upheld, and the vehicle is to be
1805 temporarily or permanently placed out of service, the director shall initiate the temporary
1806 deactivation process authorized under this chapter and the licensee shall immediately
1807 surrender all applicable vehicle medallion plates or decals to the director.

1808 N. The decision of the hearing examiner shall be final and conclusive unless
1809 review is timely filed with the appropriate court.

1810 O. The hearing examiner may affirm, modify, or reverse the decisions of the
1811 director.

1812 P. The director may contract with a third party to serve as the hearing examiner
1813 for purposes of this chapter, if done in conjunction with the city of Seattle.

1814 NEW SECTION. SECTION 50. The director shall issue a joint annual report
1815 with the city of Seattle on the state of for-hire transportation in the region on or before
1816 April 30 of each year, and the director shall make the annual report, for the previous

1817 calendar year, publicly available on the director's website. The report may include but is
1818 not limited to the following:

1819 A. The number of licensed vehicles providing for-hire transportation services in
1820 King County and the city of Seattle during the reporting period and during the preceding
1821 year;

1822 B. The number of licensed regional for-hire drivers in King County and the city
1823 of Seattle during the reporting period and during the preceding year;

1824 C. The numbers and nature of complaints;

1825 D. The results of any survey of taxicab response times and any changes in
1826 response times from the previous year;

1827 E. What, if any, organizations have been authorized to operate as an emerging
1828 for-hire transportation model; and

1829 F. Any other information or recommendations deemed appropriate by the
1830 director.

1831 NEW SECTION. SECTION 51.

1832 A. The director is authorized to implement, enforce, and administer this chapter.
1833 The director is authorized to adopt, revise, or rescind rules, and regulations deemed
1834 necessary, appropriate, convenient, or efficient to implement, enforce and administer this
1835 chapter under the procedures specified in K.C.C. chapter 2.98.

1836 B. The director may suspend or suspend and modify requirements of this chapter
1837 by rule related to licensing and operating standards, fees, and rates. In suspending or
1838 suspending and modifying requirements of this chapter, the director shall analyze one or
1839 more of the following nonexclusive factors:

1840 1. Whether the action would serve the public interest, including the public's
1841 need for safe, reliable, and effective for-hire transportation;

1842 2. Whether technology has changed such that the requirements are no longer
1843 necessary;

1844 3. Whether such action would improve the economic viability for drivers and
1845 vehicle owners; and

1846 4. Whether such action would encourage and enable companies and agencies to
1847 innovate and improve customer service and increase access to for-hire transportation
1848 options.

1849 C. The director may establish rules either for taxicabs or for-hire vehicles, or for
1850 both, to operate when equipped with an automated driving system, and may establish
1851 associated penalties. Unless granted such authority by the director by rule, an
1852 autonomous vehicle providing for-hire transportation services is prohibited from
1853 autonomous operation.

1854 NEW SECTION. SECTION 52. Notwithstanding the existence or use of any
1855 other remedy, the prosecuting attorney may seek legal or equitable relief to enjoin an act
1856 or practice that constitutes or will constitute a violation of this chapter or an applicable
1857 rule adopted under this chapter.

1858 NEW SECTION. SECTION 53.

1859 A penalty issued under chapter 6.64 K.C.C., regarding matters now in the scope
1860 of this chapter, that was either not appealed or was upheld after review, and that remains
1861 unpaid as of the effective date of this ordinance, shall remain due and payable after the
1862 effective date of this ordinance.

1863 SECTION 54. Ordinance 2165, Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.98.060 are
1864 hereby amended to read as follows:

1865 A.1. Prior to the adoption, amendment or repeal of any rule, each department
1866 shall give at least forty-five days' notice of its intended action, except rules being
1867 adopted, amended or repealed under K.C.C. chapter X.XX (the new chapter created
1868 under section 1 of this ordinance) shall give at least fourteen days' notice of intended
1869 action, by:

1870 a. filing a notice with the executive department responsible for archives and
1871 records management functions;

1872 b. providing, at least in writing or by electronic format, the notice to: all
1873 persons and other parties who have made timely request of the agency for advance notice
1874 of its rulemaking proceedings on a specific topic; the clerk of the council; and each
1875 member of the county council; and

1876 c. giving public notice by one publication in the official newspaper of King
1877 County.

1878 2. The notice shall include:

1879 a. reference to the authority under which the rule is proposed;

1880 b. a statement of either the terms or substance of the proposed rule or a
1881 description of the subjects and issues involved; and

1882 c. the time, place and manner, including at least in writing or by electronic
1883 format, in which interested persons may present their views on the rule. To the extent
1884 practicable, the department should permit persons to present their views at a public
1885 meeting, according to rules established by the department.

1886 B. The department giving the notice required in this section shall consider all
1887 comments received by the prescribed time and shall make reasonable efforts to provide
1888 written responses to the comments before the rule is adopted.

1889 C. Adoption of a rule by a department other than a county board, commission,
1890 committee or other multimember body is accomplished by the department's director or
1891 the sheriff, assessor or director of elections, for the director or other elected official's
1892 respective department, signing the proposed rule. Adoption of a rule by a county board,
1893 commission, committee or other multimember body is accomplished by majority vote in
1894 favor of the rule by the members of the body, as evidenced in the approved minutes of the
1895 body, and in compliance with the Open Public Meetings Act of 1971, chapter 42.30
1896 RCW, as applicable.

1897 D. A rule adopted under this section is not valid unless adopted in substantial
1898 compliance with this section. In any proceeding, a rule shall not be considered invalid on
1899 the ground of noncompliance with the procedural requirements of this section if two
1900 years or more have elapsed from the effective date of the rule.

1901 SECTION 55. Ordinance 2165, Section 8, as amended, and K.C.C. 2.98.080 are
1902 hereby amended to read as follows:

1903 A. Emergency rules adopted under K.C.C. 2.98.070 take effect upon filing with
1904 the executive department responsible for archives and records management functions.
1905 Rules adopted under K.C.C. chapter X.XX (the new chapter created under section 1 of
1906 this ordinance) shall take effect on the date of filing with the executive department
1907 responsible for archives and records management. All other rules adopted under this
1908 chapter take effect thirty days after the date of filing with the executive department

1909 responsible for archives and records management functions, unless a later date is required
1910 by statute or specified in the rule.

1911 B. The executive department responsible for archives and records management
1912 functions shall compile and index all rules adopted by each department. Compilations
1913 shall be supplemented or revised as often as necessary and at least once every year.

1914 SECTION 56. Ordinance 18398, Section 8, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.601.025
1915 are hereby amended to read as follows:

1916 Subject to appropriation by the county council, the following county departments
1917 and agencies are authorized to absorb the operational and business costs accepting
1918 electronic payments, including transaction processing costs, for the specified fees, fines,
1919 charges, fares or other payments listed:

1920 A. The department of executive services, records and licensing services division,
1921 for payments for animal shelter, care and control and pet licensing purposes, including all
1922 fees, donations and penalties in K.C.C. 11.04.035, and for payments of for-hire licensing,
1923 regulatory fees and penalties in K.C.C. chapter X.XX (the new chapter created under
1924 section 1 of this ordinance) and K.C.C. 4A.750.100;

1925 B. District court for court-related fees, fines and other charges;

1926 C. The department of natural resources and parks, parks and recreation division,
1927 for park services and facilities usage provided to the public;

1928 D. The department of natural resources and parks, wastewater treatment division,
1929 for sewage capacity charges;

1930 E. The department of natural resources and parks, solid waste division, for
1931 municipal solid waste fees;

1932 F. The department of public health for public health environmental permits and
1933 community health clinic fees;

1934 G. The department of local services, permitting division, for permitting and
1935 environmental review permit fees;

1936 H. The department of information technology for geographic information system
1937 course fees; and

1938 I. The Metro transit department for public transportation fares.

1939 SECTION 57. Ordinance 10498, Section 6, as amended, and K.C.C. 4A.750.100
1940 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

1941 A. The ~~((following fees shall apply until the director adopts fees under subsection~~
1942 ~~B. of this section))~~ director may set the amount for the fees listed in this subsection. The
1943 records and licensing services division shall make the fees available on the division's
1944 website. The fees are:

1945 1. Taxicab or for-hire vehicle ~~((license))~~ medallion fees

~~((Taxicab license))~~ Annual medallion fee ~~(((\$450.00))~~

Annual medallion reciprocity endorsement fee

Annual ~~((W))~~wheelchair accessible taxicab ~~((No fee))~~

~~((license))~~ medallion fee

Annual wheelchair accessible taxicab medallion

reciprocity endorsement fee

~~((Taxicab license))~~ Medallion or medallion ~~(((\$45.00))~~

reciprocity endorsement late fee

| | |
|--|-------------------------|
| ((For hire vehicle license | \$450.00 |
| For hire vehicle license late fee | \$45.00)) |
| <u>Change of vehicle associated with the medallion</u> | |
| <u>fee</u> | |
| <u>Change or transfer of medallion owner</u> | |
| <u>corporation, limited liability company, or</u> | |
| <u>partnership members fee</u> | |
| Vehicle equipment change <u>fee</u> | ((\$75.00 |
| Change of owner | |
| July/Dec | \$450.00 |
| Jan/June | \$225.00 |
| Replace taxicab)) <u>Replacement medallion plate</u> | ((\$25.00)) |
| <u>or decal fee</u> | |
| ((Vehicle inspection rescheduling fee | \$25.00;)) |
| <u>Wheelchair accessible vehicle and installed</u> | |
| <u>equipment inspection fee</u> | |
| <u>Special inspection fee (for tests and inspections</u> | |
| <u>conducted on vehicles without a medallion)</u> | |
| <u>Change of agency affiliation fee</u> | |
| 1946 | |
| 2. For-hire driver fees, except transportation network company drivers | |
| <u>Annual regional for-hire ((Ø)) driver license fee</u> | ((\$85.00)) |

Driving ~~((abstract))~~ history report fee: ~~((Per charge authorized by RCW 46.52.130))~~

Driving abstract per RCW 46.53.130 fee

Third-party driving history report

~~((License))~~ Late fee (10% of the annual license fee rounded to the nearest whole dollar) ~~(((\$15.00))~~

~~((ID photo~~ \$5.00))

Criminal background check fee

Fingerprinting fee ~~((per charge authorized by RCW 10.97.100))~~

Third-party background check (regional for-hire driver's license)

Fingerprint-based background check (enhanced regional for-hire driver's license)

Replacement license ~~(((\$5.00))~~

Training fees ~~((fee))~~ ~~((per contract))~~

Rescheduling fee ~~(((\$15.00))~~

1947 3. ~~((Taxicab association license fee or for hire vehicle company fee))~~ Regional
1948 dispatch agency fee or transitional regional dispatch agency fee

~~((One to fifteen vehicles))~~ Annual regional ~~(((\$250.00~~
dispatch agency license fee:
~~Sixteen to twenty-five vehicles~~ ~~(\$500.00))~~
Fifty or fewer affiliated vehicles
Fifty-one or more affiliated vehicles
~~((Twenty-six or more vehicles~~ ~~(\$1,000.00))~~
Late regional dispatch agency license renewal fee ~~(((\$100.00; and))~~
Fifty or fewer affiliated vehicles
Fifty-one or more affiliated vehicles
Annual transitional regional dispatch agency
license fee:
Fifty or fewer affiliated vehicles
Fifty-one or more affiliated vehicles
Late transitional regional dispatch agency license
fee
Fifty or fewer affiliated vehicles
Fifty-one or more affiliated vehicles
Additional trade names registration fee

1949 4.a. A transportation network company shall pay a quarterly fee of thirty-five
1950 cents per ride on a schedule determined by the director for all rides originating in:
1951 (1) unincorporated King County; or
1952 (2) any municipality that contracts with the county for the county to license
1953 transportation network companies that operate in the municipality.

1954 b. The fee is for the regulatory and enforcement costs related to the company
1955 and its drivers and endorsed vehicles.

1956 B. By February 15, 2015, the director shall review the fees in subsection A. of this
1957 section in coordination with the city of Seattle. The purpose of the review shall be to
1958 determine the fees that are needed to cover the director's regulatory and enforcement
1959 costs. Thereafter, the director may adjust any fee in subsection A. of this section as
1960 authorized in K.C.C. 6.64.026 and section 7 of this ordinance. In adjusting fees, the
1961 director shall consider at least the following factors:

1962 1. The projected costs and annual budget for regulatory and enforcement costs
1963 related to transportation network companies, taxicabs, for-hire vehicles and for-hire
1964 drivers;

1965 2. The need for increased enforcement activities; and

1966 3. The total number of trips across transportation network companies, taxicabs
1967 and for-hire vehicles.

1968 C. In addition to the fees under subsection A. of this section, each taxicab
1969 licensee, for-hire vehicle licensee or transportation network company shall pay a fee
1970 surcharge of ten cents per ride as prescribed in K.C.C. 6.64.111 and section 8 of this
1971 ordinance.

1972 D. After November 16, 2015, the director may adjust the fee surcharge in
1973 subsection C. of this section under K.C.C. 6.64.026 and section 8 of this ordinance. In
1974 adjusting the fee surcharge, the director shall consider at least the following factors:

1975 1. Reimbursement already made for purchasing and retrofitting wheelchair
1976 accessible taxicabs, for-hire vehicles or transportation network company endorsed
1977 vehicles;

1978 2. The estimated need for purchasing and retrofitting wheelchair accessible
1979 taxicabs, for-hire vehicles or transportation network company endorsed vehicles in the
1980 upcoming year; and

1981 3. Factors that may affect the supply, demand and financial viability of
1982 wheelchair accessible taxi rides.

1983 E. Any late fee established in this Section applies when an application for license
1984 renewal is received later than one business day after the expiration date of the prior
1985 license or a scheduled payment for a fee is overdue.

1986 SECTION 58. Ordinance 18230, Section 79, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.01.150
1987 are each hereby amended to read as follows:

1988 A. The office of the hearing examiner is designated to hear appeals by parties
1989 aggrieved by actions of the director pursuant to any business license ordinance. For
1990 appeals under K.C.C. chapter X.XX (the new chapter created under section 1 of this
1991 ordinance) the office of the hearing examiner is designated to hear such appeals unless a
1992 different party is designated by the director. The examiner may adopt reasonable rules or
1993 regulations for conducting its business. Copies of all rules and regulations adopted by the
1994 examiner shall be delivered to the director, who shall make them freely accessible to the
1995 public. All decisions and findings of the examiner shall be rendered to the appellant in
1996 writing, with a copy to the director.

1997 B. For-hire transportation appeals under chapter 6.64 and shall be filed in
1998 accordance with K.C.C. 20.22.080 and the hearing process conducted in accordance with
1999 K.C.C. chapter 20.22. Appeals under K.C.C. chapter X.XX (the new chapter created under
2000 section 1 of this ordinance) shall be filed in accordance with section 49 of this ordinance
2001 and the hearing process conducted in accordance with that same section. Subsections C.
2002 through H. of this section do not apply to this subsection B.

2003 C. Any person entitled to service under K.C.C. 6.01.130 may appeal any notice and
2004 order or any action of the director by filing at the office of the director within seven days
2005 from the date of service of such order, a written appeal containing;

- 2006 1. A heading in the words: "Before the Office of the Hearing Examiner";
- 2007 2. A caption reading: "Appeal of" giving the names of all appellants
2008 participating in the appeal;
- 2009 3. A brief statement setting forth the legal interest of each of the appellants in the
2010 business or entertainment involved in the notice and order;
- 2011 4. A brief statement in concise language of the specific order or action protested,
2012 together with any material facts claimed to support the contentions of the appellant;
- 2013 5. A brief statement in concise language of the relief sought, and the reasons why
2014 it is claimed the protested order or action should be reversed, modified, or otherwise set
2015 aside;
- 2016 6. The signatures of all parties named as appellants, and their official mailing
2017 addresses; and
- 2018 7. The verification (by declaration under penalty of perjury) of at least one
2019 appellant as to the truth of the matters stated in the appeal.

2020 D. As soon as practicable after receiving the written appeal, the examiner shall fix
2021 a date, time and place for the hearing of the appeal. The date shall be neither less than ten
2022 days nor more than sixty days from the date the appeal was filed with the director. Written
2023 notice of the time and place of the hearing shall be given at least ten days before the date of
2024 the hearing to each appellant by the examiner either by causing a copy of the notice to be
2025 delivered to the appellant personally or by mailing a copy thereof, postage prepaid,
2026 addressed to the appellant at the appellant's address shown on the appeal.

2027 E. At the hearing the appellant shall be entitled to appear in person and be
2028 represented by counsel and offer such evidence as is pertinent and material to the action of
2029 the director.

2030 F. Only those matters or issues specifically raised by the appellant in the written
2031 notice of appeal shall be considered in the hearing of the appeal.

2032 G. Failure of any person to file an appeal in accordance with the provisions of this
2033 section shall constitute a waiver of his right to an administrative hearing and adjudication
2034 of the notice and order, or any portion thereof.

2035 H. Enforcement of any notice and order of the director shall be stayed during the
2036 pendency of an appeal therefrom which is properly and timely filed.

2037 SECTION 59. Ordinance 18230, Section 16, as amended, and K.C.C. 20.22.070
2038 are hereby amended to read as follows:

2039 A. K.C.C. 20.22.080 applies to all appeals to the office of the hearing examiner. If
2040 there is a direct conflict between the appeal provisions in K.C.C. 20.22.080, and the appeal
2041 provisions found in subsection B. of this section, the appeal provisions found in subsection
2042 B. of this section shall control.

- 2043 B. The provisions for appealing the following decisions are found in the
2044 following chapters of the King County Code:
- 2045 1. Career service review, K.C.C. chapter 3.12A;
 - 2046 2. Appeals under K.C.C. Title 6, except for for-hire transportation, K.C.C.
2047 chapter 6.64 and K.C.C. chapter X.XX (the new chapter created under section 1 of this
2048 ordinance), shall follow this chapter;
 - 2049 3. Discrimination and equal employment opportunity in employment by
2050 contractors, subcontractors and vendors, K.C.C. chapter 12.16;
 - 2051 4. Unfair housing practices, K.C.C. chapter 12.20;
 - 2052 5. Denial of C-PACER applications, K.C.C. chapter 18.19;
 - 2053 6. Regional motor sports facility, K.C.C. 21A.55.105;
 - 2054 7. Abandoned, wrecked, dismantled or inoperative vehicles, K.C.C. chapter
2055 23.10;
 - 2056 8. Citations, K.C.C. chapter 23.20;
 - 2057 9. Penalty appeals, K.C.C. chapter 23.32;

- 2058 10. Transit Rider suspension appeals, K.C.C. 28.96.430;
- 2059 11. Other appeals that are prescribed by ordinance.

KING COUNTY COUNCIL
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dave Upthegrove, Chair

ATTEST:

Melani Pedroza, Clerk of the Council

APPROVED this ____ day of _____, _____.

Dow Constantine, County Executive

Attachments: None