



Council Report

For the Meeting of June 23, 2016

To: Council
From: Chris Coates, City Clerk
Subject: Review of Pedicab Regulations

Date: June 9, 2016

RECOMMENDATION

That Council consider giving two readings to the proposed Vehicles for Hire Amendment Bylaw at the June 23, 2016 regular council meeting and direct staff to invite feedback from current and potential pedicab operators in the City on the regulations contained within the proposed Bylaw.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Council has recently given direction to prepare amendments to the *Vehicles for Hire Bylaw* to increase the number of available pedicab licenses in the City from 28 to 46 along with limits on the total number of licenses that can be managed by one entity at 28 and establishing a future management cap of 15 should licences currently held be relinquished. Additional regulations included in the proposed amendments involve establishing the License holder to have procedures in place to ensure safe operation and that the company name be clearly displayed.

Should Council consider the bylaw amendments to be appropriate, consultation with those in the industry can then occur before the proposed regulations are approved by Council.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this report is to bring forward the amendments to the Vehicles for Hire Bylaw in connection with management of pedicabs in the City.

BACKGROUND

Increasing the number of pedicab licenses available in the City originated from a Council member motion in November 2016. That was specifically targeting an increase from 28 to 35. Council's most recent discussion established a further increase to 46 and also identified some process issues in terms of managing the way in which licenses are disbursed at the lottery process for awarding them.

At the May 26, 2016 Committee of the Whole Meeting, Council passed the following motion:

1. Direct staff to bring forward amendments to the Vehicles for Hire Bylaw that would:

- a) increase the total number of pedicab licenses to 46, to be distributed within a distribution of two blocks, of six licenses each, with one block administered as individual licenses,
 - b) limit the total number of pedicabs that a person can operate to 28,
 - c) require an applicant for a pedicab license to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the License Inspector that the person has procedures in place to ensure that persons operating the pedicab will do so in a safe manner,
 - d) that the name of the company be clearly displayed on the pedicab, and
 - e) that the current license holders can hold 28 pedicab licenses, but the cap for any individual license holder to hold or operate in the future would be 15 pedicabs licenses.
2. Direct staff to invite comments from pedicab operators in the City on the proposed bylaw amendments as outlined in this motion.

ISSUES & ANALYSIS

Council's motion of May 26th gave specific direction to the regulatory elements for the proposed bylaw amendments. In addition, the motion introduced policy framework for conducting the lottery process to allocate the new licenses, including creating the opportunity for single license holders.

The attached draft bylaw accomplishes all of the direction outlined by Council's motion. Council may wish to consider giving the bylaw introductory readings at the June 23, 2016 Council meeting enabling the invitation of comments from the industry in relation to the proposed regulations.

CONCLUSIONS

It is important to balance the City's objectives for development of local businesses in step with promoting the downtown area for residents and visitors as well as ensuring there is sufficient infrastructure capacity in the City. Pedicabs are an important active transportation mode and can continue to provide service without negative impacts on these important City objectives. Further assurances are possible by placing reasonable limits on the number of units in operation and with enhanced operational requirements.

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Coates
City Clerk



Jocelyn Jenkyns
Deputy City Manager

Report accepted and recommended by the City Manager:



List of Attachments

Vehicles for Hire Amendment Bylaw No. 16-057