

Resolution No.: 15-1337
Introduced: February 14, 2006
Adopted: February 14, 2006

**COUNTY COUNCIL
FOR MONTGOMERY COUNTY, MARYLAND**

By: Transportation and Environment Committee

SUBJECT: Executive Regulation 19-05, Taxicab Rates

Background

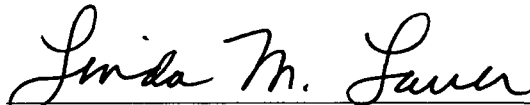
1. Section 53-106 of the County Code provides authority to the County Executive to establish taxicab rates by Method (2) Executive Regulation after holding a public hearing and considering the recommendations of the Taxicab Services Advisory Committee (TSAC). TSAC recommended a rate increase at its May 17, 2005 meeting.
2. The Executive held a public hearing on September 15, 2005.
3. The Executive transmitted Executive Regulation 19-05 to the Council on December 2, 2005 that replaces the \$1.50 fuel surcharge established by Temporary Regulation 22-05T with a \$1.50 increase in the initial charge, bringing that charge to \$4.00/trip. Executive Regulation 19-05 also raises the rate by 10 cents for each one-fourth mile greater than fifteen miles.
4. On January 24, 2006 the Council approved Resolution 15-1285 extending the time for consideration of Executive Regulation 19-05 to April 1, 2006.
5. The Transportation and Environment Committee of the Council met to review Executive Regulation 19-05 on February 3, 2006 and recommended its approval.

Action

The County Council for Montgomery County, Maryland approves the following resolution:

The Council approves Executive Regulation 19-05, Taxicab Rates, and terminates Executive Regulation 22-05T.

This is a correct copy of Council action.



Linda M. Lauer, Clerk of the Council



MONTGOMERY COUNTY EXECUTIVE REGULATION

Offices of the County Executive • 101 Monroe Street • Rockville, Maryland 20850

Subject
TAXICAB RATES

Number
19-05

Originating Department
PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION

Effective Date

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Chapter 53 Section 53-106 of the Montgomery County Code provides authority to the County Executive to establish taxicab rates by Executive Regulation after holding a public hearing and considering the recommendations of the Taxicab Services Advisory Committee (TSAC). The Taxicab Services Advisory Committee recommended a rate increase at their May 17, 2005 meeting.

When the regulation was published fuel prices were approximately \$2.15 per gallon. Prices have increased greatly since and reached a record high of \$3.28 per gallon self-serve unleaded on September 5, 2005. To defray the increases in gasoline prices, the County Executive signed a temporary executive regulation on September 2, 2005, that adds a fuel surcharge of \$1.50 to every taxicab trip to provide some relief to drivers. The temporary regulation will be in effect for 90 days. Gasoline prices remain high and there are a number of conditions that make the outlook an ongoing concern.

The original regulation increased the initial charge per trip from \$2.50 to \$3.00 and eliminated the reduced charge of \$1.20 per mile for trips greater than 15 miles. A Public Hearing took place on September 15, 2005. Testimony was given by eleven people. Many testified that they supported an increase in the initial charge of up to \$4.00. Some in the industry recommended an increase in the per mile rate from \$1.60 to \$1.75. One of the drivers, who did not support an increase, testified that if dispatch was improved drivers would provide more trips and earn more.

The amended regulation still maintains the \$1.60 per mile charge and still includes the elimination of the reduced charge of \$1.20 per mile for trips greater than 15 miles. The revised regulation adds the surcharge to the initial charge, which increases the initial charge from \$2.50 to \$4.00 per trip. The \$1.50 temporary surcharge will be eliminated. This will help cover the increase in fuel costs, provide some long term relief to the taxicab drivers, and encourage drivers to remain in the industry. Without the increase, driver profits are significantly reduced after they pay their daily expenses, especially the costs for gasoline. Additionally, it is difficult for the taxicab companies to recruit and retain drivers when the drivers are unable to make a reasonable profit. Although the rate increase may be a burden for passengers, that concern has to be weighed against the fact that without this increase the County may face a situation in which there are not an adequate number of taxicab drivers to provide service.

ExecRegRateAMB10.05



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THEREFORE, the rates for Montgomery County taxicabs are:

Rate for One Passenger	
Rate for the Initial Charge	\$4.00
For each one-fourth mile	\$.40
Waiting and Traffic Delay Time:	
Rate for time beginning five minutes after the time the taxicab was called for and for, time when the taxicab is stopped, or has slowed to a speed of less than thirteen miles per hour. The extra time it may take to assist a person with disabilities may not be charged as waiting time.	\$24/hr
Additional Passengers:	
Rate for more than one passenger in the same party. There is no charge for a personal care attendant accompanying a person with disabilities for mobility purposes. There is no charge for children under five years of age when accompanied by an adult. All other passengers must pay the additional passenger charge.	\$1.00
Personal Service for Loading Items:	
Charge for any service provided by the driver in loading suitcases, parcels, or other personal effects at the request of the passenger	\$1.00
Pick-up and Delivery	
Charge for pickup and delivery service performed at the request of the passenger.	\$2.00
Snow Emergency	
Charge in the event a snow emergency is declared by the State for the County. DOES NOT APPLY TO INTERSTATE TRIPS.	\$2.50

ExecRegRatAMCC10.05



MONTGOMERY COUNTY EXECUTIVE REGULATION

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Service Animal

Service animal traveling with a person with disabilities must be accommodated at no additional charge. \$0.00

Tolls and Surcharges:

Any toll or surcharge, as required, during the course of the trip. As Required

EFFECTIVE DATE:

This regulation becomes effective when the Council adopts a resolution approving the regulation.

Douglas M. Duncan, County Executive

APPROVED AS TO FORM AND LEGALITY
OFFICE OF COUNTY ATTORNEY

BY Nancy Appel

DATE 10/24/2005

ExecRegRateAMD10.05



MONTGOMERY COUNTY EXECUTIVE REGULATION

Offices of the County Executive • 101 Monroe Street • Rockville, Maryland 20850

Subject
TAXICAB RATES

Number
19-05

Originating Department
PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION

Effective Date 2/14/06

Montgomery County Regulation on:
TAXICAB RATES
DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORTATION

Issued by: County Executive Regulation No. 19-05AM

Authority: Code Chapter 53 Section 53-106

Supersedes: Executive Regulation 25-03

Council Review Method (2) under Code Section 53-104

Comment Date:

Effective Date: February 14, 2006

SUMMARY:

The regulation sets a revised rate schedule for taxicab fares.

Address:

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Executive Office Building, 10th Floor
101 Monroe Street
Rockville, Maryland 20850

Staff Contacts:

Broderick Kelly or Nancy Kutz, Division of Transit Services (240) 777- CABS [2227]

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