

TAXICAB METER RATE CHANGE FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. What prompted the rate change now?

The Taxicab Services Commission and industry stakeholders recommended that an adjustment was necessary to maintain service viability, attract and retain qualified drivers to increase reliability.

2. How was the \$2.50 per-mile rate determined?

The rate was established based on comparisons with surrounding jurisdictions, input from the Taxicab Services Commission, and a goal of balancing driver earnings with passenger affordability.

3. Why compare the rate to neighboring jurisdictions if they can't operate here?

Regional comparisons help assess economic competitiveness and provide context for ensuring Montgomery County's rates are neither unreasonably high nor too low to sustain local service.

4. Why not phase in this change?

This change reflects a long period without adjustment, and a single implementation better addresses the accumulated economic gap and operating cost increases.

5. Why add a nighttime surcharge?

The surcharge is designed to improve late-night service availability by compensating operators for working during hours when demand could be lower and operating costs are higher. There is also a public health and safety aspect to incentivizing more taxicabs to be on the road in the evenings. Montgomery County residents and guests may want to enjoy nighttime activities and ensuring that they have multiple, viable, transportation options is essential.

6. Does the change apply to all taxicabs?

Yes, the rate applies uniformly to all taxicabs, including Wheelchair Accessible Vehicles

7. Could the County offset costs for low-income riders?

The County's Call-n-Ride will continue to provide subsidies to help offset transportation costs for qualifying residents.

