



Taxicab Services Commission

July 23, 2024

6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Meeting held via Microsoft Teams



Attendees:

Commission members present:

Elizabeth “Buffy” Ellis, David Mohebbi, Charles Kauffman, Afework Kidane, Becaye Traore, Willie Sumo, Joyce Plaxen

Commission members absent:

Nelson Biana, Reza Raoofi

MCDOT Staff: Ulysses Delaney, Walton Harris, Kofi Bempah, Kristopher Starks, Ulysses Delaney, Sam Oji

Ex-Officio members Present:

None

Ex-Officio members Absent:

Chris Conklin – Director – Montgomery County Department of Transportation

Evan Glass – Montgomery County Council President and Chair of the Transportation and Environment Committee

Guests:

None

Chair Ellis called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

Action Item:

- Commission member Mohebbi made a motion to approve Taxicab Services Commission meeting minutes from January 24, 2024, March 26, 2024, and May 21, 2024. Commission member Kauffman seconded the motion. The motion was passed unanimously by all commission members present.

Discussion Items:

Discussion – Taxicab Meter Rates

- Commission members Mohebbi, Kidane, and Traore each discussed changes in the meter rate for taxicabs.
- Commission member Mohebbi suggested eliminating reimbursement from the Transportation Services Improvement Fund for mileage while in service and wheelchair accessible vehicle taxicab trips.
- Commission Chair Ellis suggested a pilot program for flat rates to certain destinations (i.e., area airports and County amenities)
- Commission member Mohebbi discussed supply and demand dynamic within the taxicab industry and how it impacts pricing.
- Commission member Sumo discussed improving the mechanism for Medicare payments to taxicab drivers.

New business

- Commission member Kauffman suggested changing the name of the Montgomery County EZ-Ride Program moving forward.

Meeting adjourned:

Commission member Kauffman made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commission member Plaxen. The motion was passed unanimously by those in attendance.

Meeting adjourned at 7:08 p.m.