



Taxicab Services Commission

Tuesday September 26, 2023

6 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Meeting held via Microsoft Teams

Attendees:

Commission members present:

Elizabeth “Buffy” Ellis, Charles Kauffman, David Mohebbi, Afework Kidane, Joyce Plaxen

Commission members absent:

Nelson Biama, Becaye Traore

MCDOT Staff: Sam Oji, Ulysses Delaney and Walton Harris

Ex-Officio members Present:

David Lorenzo-Botello on behalf of Evan Glass – Montgomery County Council President and Chair of the Transportation and Environment Committee

Ex-Officio members Absent:

Chris Conklin – Director – Montgomery County Department of Transportation

Guests:

None

Chair Ellis called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Action Item:

- MCDOT staff indicated to Commission members that, due to a recording error, the minutes from the April 25, 2023, meeting needed to be recreated and that those meeting would be available by the December 5, 2023, TSC meeting.

Discussion Items:

Wheelchair Accessible Vehicle Trip Data for Cumulative FY2023

- MCDOT staff provided, and the commission discussed, FY23 trip data information for wheelchair accessible vehicle (WAV) taxicabs and expenditures from the Transportation Services Improvement Fund (TSIF) related to WAV taxicab activity.

Requesting an increase of the Transportation Services Improvement Fund Surcharge at the Maryland General Assembly

- Commission members discussed drafting and sending correspondence to Director Conklin requesting that he urge the County Executive to work with the Montgomery County Delegation to increase the surcharged imposed on Transportation Network Companies (TNCs)
- Commission member Mohebbi suggested that Commission Chair Ellis should circulate the correspondence to Director Conklin as soon as final edits are made.

Call-n-Ride Plus Program

- MCDOT staff announced to the commission that the funding for the Call-n-Ride Plus was not included in the Fiscal Year 2024 Operating Budget.
- Commission members requested a copy of the transmittal memorandum from MCDOT to the Montgomery County Office of Budget Management for the previous year's request for Call-n-Ride Plus Program Funding.

New business

- Commission Chair Ellis solicited input regarding TSC meeting frequency.
- Commission Chair Ellis requested a volunteer to take meeting minutes for future Commission meetings.
- MCDOT staff suggested that a future TSC meeting be held in person at the Executive Office Building, this would provide taxicab drivers cab are the opportunity to attend and learn about the functions of the TSC.
- Commission member Plaxen suggested that the December 5, 2023, meeting be held in-person.

Meeting adjourned:

Commission member Kaufmann made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Commission member Mohebbi. The motion was passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 7:01 p.m.