

Meeting Summary for Taxi Commission 02-2024

Feb 15, 2024, 06:46 PM Eastern Time (US and Canada) ID: 851 1132 6186

Quick recap

The meeting primarily focused on extending the commission's delegated authority and oversight of the TNC By-law for another two years. There was also a discussion about a potential strike by Uber and Lyft due to financial concerns, prompting Commissioner Dowser to propose reaching out to Uber for more information. Additionally, the commissioners discussed the transformation of the Kingston Area Taxi Commission into a safer, more reliable, and accessible service.

Next steps

Commissioner Dowser will reach out to Uber directly tomorrow to find out more details and report back to the Commission via email.

Summary

Kingston Report, Uber Strike Discussion

Commissioner Dowser began the meeting, noting that two commissioners, including Commissioner Shaves, were unable to attend due to other commitments. The agenda was approved, and the commissioners were invited to disclose any potential interests, with no declarations made. The main focus of the meeting was a briefing on the city of Kingston's report, which was unanimously approved and extended the commission's delegated authority and oversight of the TNC By-law for another two years. There was also a discussion about a potential strike by Uber and Lyft due to financial concerns, prompting Commissioner Dowser to propose reaching out to Uber for more information.

Rebranding and Accessibility of Kingston Taxi Service

Commissioner Dowser presented a video about the rebranding of the Kingston Area Taxi Commission, emphasizing its transformation into a safer, more reliable, and accessible service. The Commission plans to ensure 24/7 access to services, with a goal for a quarter of the fleet, or 25%, to be accessible by

2030. They also aim to expand communication, offer subsidies for accessible vehicle purchases, and provide comprehensive training. However, a technical issue occurred during the presentation where the sound cut out, leading to a discussion about this issue.

Taxi Commission Transformation for Safety and Accessibility

Commissioner Dowser discussed the transformation of the Kingston Area Taxi Commission. The commission has ensured safety, reliability, and accessibility through actions such as live-streaming meetings, extending office hours, and enforcing laws to provide a level playing field within the taxi industry. They have also transitioned to electronic systems for license applications, enhanced background checks, and streamlined the process. The commission has also prioritized accessibility by creating a dedicated committee and offering subsidies for accessible vehicle purchases. The commission aims to have a quarter of the fleet accessible by 2030.

Commissioners Discuss Audio, Video, Strategic Plan, and Condolences

The meeting primarily focused on discussing the audio and video issues that had been resolved, with the unanimous approval of the Commissioners. A motion of condolence was passed for George Corky, a long-standing taxi operator, who had lost his wife. The 2024 strategic plan was adopted unanimously, and the rebranding video of the Kingston Area Taxi Commission was agreed to be posted on the Commission's website and social media channels. The minutes of the January 10th, 2024, meeting were confirmed, and finally, a motion to adjourn was passed.