



**Kingston Area Taxi Commission
Standing Committee
Meeting Number SC-03-2022**

Wednesday, March 16, 2022 at 7:00pm
in virtual, electronic format.

Please provide correspondence or regrets to Chloe Draeger, Licensing Agent at info@katc.ca or 613-547-3763.

Committee Composition

Commissioner Dowser, Chair

Commissioner Aziz

Commissioner Chapelle

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Call Meeting to Order

Roll Call

Approval of Agenda

Approval of Additions

Disclosure of Potential Pecuniary Interest

Delegations

1. Justin Gracie, Placeholder, will be present to speak to the Committee regarding Schedule "A" - Tariff.
2. Mark Greenwood, of Amey's Taxi, will be present to speak to the Committee regarding Schedule "A" - Tariff.
3. Brian Campbell, of Modern City Taxi, will be present to speak to the Committee regarding TNC.

Briefings

Reports

Report Number 03: Received from the Chairman, Commissioner Dowser (Recommend)

Report Number 03

To all members of the Standing Committee:

The Chairman reports and recommends as follows:

That the Commission consent to the approval of the following items:

1. Schedule "A" - Tariff.

That the amended Notice on Motion, attached as Exhibit A to Report Number SC-22-005, be presented to the Commission as Motion 22-006, for all three readings, to amend By-Law Number 2, Schedule "A", being a By-Law to "Tariff" Amount.



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That the Standing Committee recommend to the Commission to call for a Special Meeting as soon as possible.

Motions

Notice on Motions

Other Business

Communications

03-01 Correspondence received from Justin Gracie, Placeholder, on March 2, 2022 via email.

03-02 Correspondence received from Mark Greenwood, owner of Amey's Taxi, on March 2, 2022 via email.

03-03 Correspondence received from Art Prieur, Placeholder, on March 3, 2022 via Facebook.

03-04 Correspondence received from Deanne Buck, Fleet Manager for Amey's Taxi, on March 3, 2022 via email.

03-05 Correspondence received from Kevin Holland, Placeholder, on March 9, 2022 via Facebook.

03-06 Correspondence received from Fouad Gharib, Placeholder, on March 11, 2022 via email.

03-07 Correspondence received from Robert Webster, Placeholder, on March 16, 2022 via email.

Confirmation of Minutes

That the Minutes of the Standing Committee Meeting Number SC-02-2022, held Wednesday February 16, 2022, be confirmed.

(Distributed to all Members of the Committee on March 15, 2022)

Tabling of Documents

Adjournment

Joseph Dowser

From: Justin Gracie [REDACTED]
Sent: March 2, 2022 10:48 AM
To: jdowser@katc.ca
Subject: Joe! We raise the rates!

Hi my name is Justin Gracie, i am a taxi cab owner with amey's taxi the rate of inflation is killing my business especially the gasoline prices its currently 161.9 and expected to increase 10 to 15 cents this week. This hurts a lot and could be financially unsustainable. We are in desperate need of a significant rate increase please! I am even willing to make a petition to prove this what all the owners want!

Rec'd 03/02/2022



Amey's Greenwood Taxi Limited

795 Division Street
Kingston, Ontario
K7K 4C2

Phone: (613) 546-1111
Admin: (613) 549-4444
Fax: (613) 546-0424

December 20, 2021

Dear Owners,

We need a rate increase as you are all aware, due to increases in parts, labour, insurance and gas. I have talked to the commission and they appear to be on board of possibly doing an increase in January or February. With any increase there comes a reduction in the volume of calls, therefor we must be cautious not to raise the fares too much at one time. Though due to the increase of our costs, an increase is needed and justified. Attached you will find the present tariff sheet, and a proposed increase of \$0.30 for both time and distance. I am looking for feed back from the owners, if you think this is too much or not enough. Remembering raising fares too much at one time will hurt our volume of calls. Please review and email me your comments.

Best Regards,

Mark Greenwood, B.A Hon.
President/Owner
Amey's Greenwood Taxi Ltd.

REC'D 03/02/2022

KINGSTON AREA TAXI LICENSING COMMISSION
1201 Division Street, Unit 12, Kingston ON K7K 6X4



SCHEDULE "A" TO BY-LAW NO. 2
TAXI LICENSING COMMISSION



TARIFF

For the first 135 metres or part thereof (\$0.10 administration fee paid to Commission)	\$4.25
For each additional 135 metres or part thereof	\$0.25
For each additional passenger in excess of one (charge does not apply when specific request for van for passengers)	\$0.50
There shall be no charge for children under twelve (12) years of age in the charge of an adult	
For waiting time while under engagement for each twenty-five (25) seconds	\$0.25
For use of trunk or storage area	\$0.50
Briefcases and parcels of comparable size - if loaded or unloaded by passenger	NO CHARGE
Manual wheelchairs, including loading and unloading by driver	NO CHARGE
"Service" dogs accompanying special needs people	NO CHARGE
Walkers used for medical reasons	NO CHARGE
Large items (e.g. bicycles, skis, etc.) At the discretion of the Driver, to be agreed upon between the Driver and passenger(s) before commencement of the trip, but no less than	\$2.00
Delivery of any parcel or document where no passenger is carried, no less than	\$6.35 (minimum charge)
Specific request for vans for passengers (no fee for additional passengers in excess of one) VAN REQUEST FEE DOES NOT APPLY FOR ACCESSIBLE VAN CALLS	\$2.50
The Driver of a Taxicab shall pre-arrange the fare with the customer prior to commencement of the trip for flat rate trips, which originate within the Area of the Commission and end more than five (5) kilometres beyond the Area of the Commission	
Extensive clean up charge (Taximeter printed receipt has to be issued)	\$ 80.50

(HST included)

REC'D 03/02/2022

NO SMOKING IN TAXICAB; AS PER SMOKE FREE ONTARIO ACT 2017

KINGSTON AREA TAXI LICENSING COMMISSION
1201 Division Street, Unit 12, Kingston ON K7K 6X4



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Delivery of any parcel or document where no passenger is carried, no less than	\$6.35 (minimum charge)
Specific request for vans for passengers (no fee for additional passengers in excess of one) VAN REQUEST FEE DOES NOT APPLY FOR ACCESSIBLE VAN CALLS	\$3.00
The Driver of a Taxicab shall pre-arrange the fare with the customer prior to commencement of the trip for flat rate trips, which originate within the Area of the Commission and end more than five (5) kilometres beyond the Area of the Commission	
Extensive clean up charge (Taximeter printed receipt has to be issued)	\$100.00

REC'D 03/02/2022

(HST included)

NO SMOKING IN TAXICAB; AS PER SMOKE FREE ONTARIO ACT 2017



Amey's Greenwood Taxi Limited

795 Division Street
Kingston, Ontario
K7K 4C2

Phone: (613) 546-1111
Admin: (613) 549-4444
Fax: (613) 546-0424

December 30, 2021

Dear Commissioners,

I sent this letter to all the brokers at Amey's Taxi on December 20th and for the most part they are in favour of this rate increase, with a few wanting a greater increase. This increase is needed due to our real increase in cost and hopefully allows us to attract more drivers. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to call me.

Best Regards,

Mark Greenwood, B.A Hon.
President/Owner
Amey's Greenwood Taxi Ltd.

REC'D 03/02/2022



Amey's Greenwood Taxi Limited

795 Division Street
Kingston, Ontario
K7K 4C2

Phone: (613) 546-1111
Admin: (613) 549-4444
Fax: (613) 546-0424

March 1, 2022

Dear Commissioners,

Re: Fare Increase

As everyone I am sure realizes, there has been rampant inflation around the world, especially in the price of gas. It is the highest inflation has been in 40 years. You can see this inflation in the prices at the grocery store, restaurants, gas pumps and everywhere. Our drivers and owners also feel these effects, but unlike most businesses, these increased costs cannot be immediately passed on to the consumer. We have received notice from all our suppliers' justifying increases to their products or services due to the legitimate inflationary pressure they feel. The taxi industry has had to absorb these costs for months, this cannot continue.

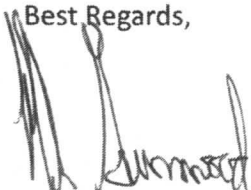
Our second most expensive cost is gas, which has increased dramatically in the last year and due to the tragic events happening in Ukraine, they expect this to get much worse.

This being said, this industry, in order to keep it healthy and serving our beautiful city, needs a rate hike. This, we believe should be the number one priority presently. I sent a letter in

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December asking for an increase and a proposed rate hike. This would help cover our increasing cost and to increase driver income, in order to not only attract more drivers, but also help our present drivers deal with the real cost of living. We have not had an increase in approximately seven years I think and this one is needed, and more than justified. Unlike just about all industries and service providers, we can not automatically pass them on to the customers. The industry does not live in a bubble and is affected by real events we see on the news every night. Your quick action on this would be much appreciated.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mark Greenwood', written over a horizontal line.

Mark Greenwood, B.A Hon.
President/Owner
Amey's Greenwood Taxi Ltd.

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Joseph Dowser

From: Deanne Buck [REDACTED]
Sent: March 8, 2022 3:22 PM
To: Chloe; Dianne Aziz; jdowser@katc.ca; Chapelle, Simon; steve.fraser [REDACTED]
mbudarick@loyalist.ca
Subject: Rate Increase

I noticed this message on Facebook:

With regard to the recent surge in gas prices and the effect on the taxi industry, please be reminded that the Commission is committed to reviewing the drop rate as noted in our January Commission meeting. We will be requesting public and industry submissions later this month to be reviewed by the Standing Committee. It is anticipated that the Committee's recommendation on the drop rate will be brought before the Commission's April meeting.

We encourage you to submit your thoughts on the drop rate when the formal request for submission is made by the Commission later this month.

I am wanting to submit my thoughts.

Please note, you keep mentioning reviewing the "drop rate". I feel it was decided in a January meeting after surveying the industry and community, by 111 individuals, that there was support for a drop rate being increased to \$4.50. That the community understood why there would be an increase. However, the standard committee decided at the time due to the Pandemic to leave the amount at \$4.25

The issues you need to keep in mind are "meter increase" not just "drop rate" as you keep stating.

It is important now more than ever that we move ahead with an increase to keep our industry viable. It is not time to question the community again. We are respectfully asking that while other businesses increase their price without questioning the community, that we too move forward so that we can stay afloat. A well populated and tourist city like Kingston needs taxis. It is in your hands.

It was also requested in December of 2021 that we make changes on the tariff re distance increase, waiting time, large items, van request and clean up as an example. However, it always comes down to only your concern of the drop rate. I am not sure you are clear on the difference.

I want you to understand that this is not something that should be discussed in April and maybe by May or June it is put forward. This is something that needs to be addressed immediately as gas prices and so many other expenses soar.

Thank you.
Deanne Buck
Fleet Manager
Ameys Greenwood Taxi
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]@ameystaxi.com

REC'D 03/03/2022

Joseph Dowser

From: Fouad Gharib [REDACTED]
Sent: March 11, 2022 9:46 AM
To: jdowser@katc.ca
Subject: Taxi meter raise request

Dear sir,

We have never needed to raise the taximeter more than we do now. I'm sure you're aware of the very steep rise in gasoline price, which is reflected in the increasing prices of all other commodities. With every day, taxi drivers are incurring losses and time is of the essence. Acting sooner rather than later will help prevent the accumulation of losses caused by this significant rise in gasoline prices.

We are an industry that works in services and transportation. We use gasoline on a daily basis in order to be able to operate, but this substance has doubled in just one month, so we pay the price difference from our own pockets. This is not suitable for our current situation in the absence of fair income due to COVID-19, and we can no longer continue in this way if you do not take an immediate and urgent decision to raise the taxi meter rate to the extent that it helps us avoid an economic crisis that we are not ready to bear.

We have noticed the decrease in the number of drivers in the previous period, especially at night. This is due to drivers moving to other jobs because the income for drivers has decreased dramatically, makes it no longer enough to catch up with the high prices of services and goods in the market. Thus, we see this industry declining and causing inconvenience for passengers who must wait for the taxi service for a long time due to the shortage of drivers as a result of your policy (i.e., slow raising the taximeter).

Every fair and sane person believes that it is natural considering these stifling conditions that we are all facing. It is time for you to take the serious and vital decision to compensate drivers by raising the taxi meter, and I think that this is the right and natural decision in these exceptional circumstances.

Fouad Gharib,

Taxi driver/lessee with Amey's Greenwood taxi ltd

REC'D 03/11/2022

Joseph Dowser

From: Robert webster [REDACTED]
Sent: March 16, 2022 1:57 PM
To: committee@katc.ca
Subject: [REDACTED] Rate increase

Writing you in regards to the proposed rate increase of \$.10 on each click of the meter I am a plate holder and driver for last 20 years with Ameys. I realize we do need a raise in the rate but I think this is to much at once. Example my last customers going from Kingston shopping center to KGH fare of \$13 would now be \$16.75 with this increase its a huge jump for a older couple on a fixed income or our working class people that take us everyday making minimum wage or just above. I will loss a lot of business and I will forward the customers complaints to you.

The public could stand a \$.05 increase for every click of the meter and maybe in a year or so look at it again. I don't think you want people deciding to drive home from the downtown to the west end after drinking because the taxi fare of \$22 increased to \$27.50 Subtract the drop rate and that meter will change 71 times for \$.25 now increase it to \$.35.

Not everyone taking taxis in Kingston have a big government pension or rich parents living in Toronto and can afford that kind of increase.

I don't like having to work a extra hour each day to make up the gas increase but if we put it all on our customers with a rate increase we won't have any.

Thanks

Bob Webster
[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ameys Taxi

Sent from my iPhone

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