

PRELIMINARY DRAFT

CHAPTER 17

PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION

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ARTICLE I. HACKNEY CARRIAGES

SECTION 17.101. DEFINITION. Every vehicle used or to be used for the conveyance of persons for hire from place to place, within the City, shall be deemed to be a hackney carriage within the meaning of this Article except a street railway car or a trackless trolley vehicle within the meaning of G.L., c. 163, sec. 2, or a motor vehicle, commonly known as a jitney, operated in a manner and for the purposes stated in G.L., c. 159B, sec. 2 et seq., or a sight-seeing automobile, as defined in G.L., 159A App., sec. 1. (G.O. 1943, c. 34, sec. 1)

SECTION 17.102. LIMITATION OF LICENSES. Not more than one hackney carriage license shall be issued for each One Thousand inhabitants of the City or fraction thereof. (Ord. No. 374, Feb. 11, 1953)

SECTION 17.103. INCORPORATION OF LICENSE COMMISSION RULES. The "Rules and Regulations for Hackney Carriage Owners and Drivers 1973" as subsequently amended is hereby adopted and by this reference made a part of these Ordinances with the same force and effect as though set out in full herein. At least three copies of said rules shall be on file and open to public inspection in the office of the City Clerk.

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SECTION 17.104. PROTECTIVE PARTITIONS. Each owner of a motor hackney carriage shall install a protective partition dividing the driver's and the passenger's seats for the safety of the driver, which partition shall meet the following specifications: (a) It must be bullet resistant, extending from top of the seat to the ceiling; it must be made of one-half inch plexiglass or its equal in strength, and the sides must be sufficiently sealed so as to prevent a hand from sliding past the partition.

(b) It must have a change drawer set in the partition.

(c) The partition may provide for a sliding part behind the driver so that he may put his hand through to open the rear (passenger) door in case of emergency. Otherwise it shall be secured at all times with the fastener located on the driver's side of the hackney carriage.

(d) Power-door locks, so called, are permitted to secure the rear passenger doors of the hackney carriage, provided the passengers are able to unlock said doors from their area of the hackney carriage.

(e) This section shall not apply to hackney carriages presently equipped with protective partitions in accordance with any Ordinance heretofore in effect, but shall apply to all automobiles hereafter utilized as Hackney Carriages yet not presently so equipped.

(f) All licensed hackney carriages must be in compliance with this ordinance within ninety days of its final passage.

(g) The License Commission shall require periodic inspections to insure that each owner has complied with the regulations as outlined above. (Ord. No. 359, April 12, 1976)

SECTION 17.105. TAXICAB RATES. The price of rates of fares which drivers of Motor Taxicabs shall charge and demand for services rendered in conveying passengers are as follows: From point to point within the City limits: (a) The initial drop shall be Seventy-five (\$.75) Cents and shall cover the cost of the first one-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) of a mile or fraction thereof; or the first two (2) minutes of waiting time or a combination of both. Each one-fourth ($\frac{1}{4}$) of a mile thereafter or fraction thereof shall be at the rate of Twenty (\$.20) Cents.

(b) Drivers of Hackney Carriages may charge and demand for services rendered in conveying passengers to Logan Airport or to any point requiring the use of the Callahan and Sumner Tunnels a fee of Fifty (\$.50) Cents.

(c) The drivers of Hackney Carriages may charge for each passenger over two (2) Twenty-five (\$.25) Cents, but no such charge shall be made for invalids or children who have not reached the age of sixteen. The Twenty-five (\$.25) cents extra charge shall not be commissionable and will be solely the property of the taxicab driver.

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SECTION 17.106. RATE REDUCTION FOR ELDERLY. (a) Any person sixty-five years of age and over, possessing suitable proof of his or her age, and having prepaid coupons, shall receive a twenty-five (25%) percent reduction in the rates established under Section 17.105 of this chapter.

(b) The License Commission shall regulate the mechanism by which this rate reduction coupon plan shall be implemented.

SECTION 17.107. HIRING BY HOUR OR TRIP. When a motor taxicab is hired by the hour or for a trip wholly or in part outside the limits of the City, the person in charge may suspend, with the consent of the passenger, the use of the taximeter as a means of determining the price to be paid. In such cases the prices shall be agreed upon between the person in charge of the automobile and the passenger.

SECTION 17.108. RATES FOR TRANSPORT OF PERSONS WHO ARE ILL. The maximum price or rate of fare which drivers of vehicles providing transportation for persons who are ill or who are invalids on a mobile stretcher or portable chair in a hackney carriage or motor taxicab may charge and demand for services rendered in conveying such persons from point to point are as follows: (a) First four miles or fraction thereof - \$3.85; each third of a mile thereafter - \$.20.

(b) A vehicle licensed under this chapter for the transportation of those who are ill, or who are invalids or who are elderly may be engaged by an arrangement or agreement between the person in charge of said vehicle and the passenger establishing a flat price per hour, per mile or per trip for the use of the vehicle, and in such instance the use of the meter in said vehicle may be suspended. No vehicle licensed under this section and engaged in transporting any person who is ill or an invalid shall, during this period, pick up any additional fares; this shall not, however, prevent the transportation of persons accompanying or riding in said vehicle with such persons who are ill or invalids.

(c) If a vehicle licensed for the transportation of persons who are ill or are invalids is dismissed at a point more than two (2) miles distant from the place at which it was engaged or from the place in which it was when called, a charge of Twenty (\$.20) Cents for each third (1/3) of a mile in excess of such two (2) miles may be made.

SECTION 17.109. WAITING TIME. (a) Waiting time shall include a l time during which the vehicle is not in motion, beginning five (5) minutes after its arrival at the place to which it has been called. No charge shall be made for time between a premature arrival in response to a call and the time for which the vehicle was ordered nor for time attributable to a breakdown of the vehicle. Waiting time charges shall be made for time lost through interruption of traffic, with the exception of such time lost through the operation of the opening and

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closing of drawbridges and the passengers of railroad trains. Waiting time shall be at the rate of Nine (\$9.00) Dollars per hour.

(b) Waiting time for vehicles designed for the transportation of persons who are ill or who are invalids shall be charged for at the rate of \$3.85 for forty (40) minutes of waiting time or Twenty (\$.20) Cents for each three and one-third (3 1/3) minutes of waiting time, whichever is the lesser, but no charge shall be made for time lost through interruption of street traffic or through the inefficiency of the vehicle or its drivers, or for time between premature arrival in response to a call and the hour for which the vehicle was ordered.

SECTION 17.110. BAGGAGE. Hand baggage may be carried by passengers without charge. The carriage of trunks shall be optional with the person in charge of the vehicle; but, if carried, the charge shall be Fifty (\$.50) Cents for each trunk.

SECTION 17.111. PROPERTY FOUND. Every person having charge of a hackney carriage shall immediately after delivering any passenger search said carriage for any property which may have been left therein, and any property found therein by any person having the care or ordering of any hackney carriage, and not restored to the owner thereof within twenty-four hours, shall be delivered by the finder thereof to the office of the Board of License Commissioners. (G.O. 1943, c. 34, sec. 20)

SECTION 17.112. FAILURE TO PAY FARE. Any person refusing to pay, or attempting to avoid payment of the lawful fare, shall be subject to a fine not exceeding Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars for each offense. (G.O. 1943, c. 34, sec. 16)

SECTION 17.113. PENALTY. Any person who violates any of the provisions of this Article shall be subject to a fine not exceeding Fifty (\$50.00) Dollars for each offense; and any licensed owner or driver who violates any of the provisions of this Article shall, in addition to said penalty, thereupon become liable to forfeit his license and be disqualified to hold a license thereafter. (G.O. 1943, c. 34, sec. 3)

ARTICLE II. VEHICLES OPERATING ON FIXED ROUTES

SECTION 17.201. LICENSE REQUIRED. No person shall operate a motor vehicle in the manner described in G.L., c. 159A, sec. 1, without first obtaining a license therefor from the City Council, subject to the approval of the City Manager, in writing, endorsed thereon. (G.O. 1943, c. 34, sec. 36 as amended)

SECTION 17.202. PROPER SERVICE TO BE MAINTAINED. The Licensee

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shall maintain proper service over the route for which the license is issued.
(G.O. 1943, c. 34, sec. 38)

SECTION 17.203. SUSPENSION OF LICENSE. The City Council may suspend or revoke any license granted for the operation of any such motor vehicle for any reason deemed by the City Council in exercise of its discretion to be sufficient subject to any provisions of law relative to appeals or modifications thereof. (G.O. 1943, c. 34, sec. 45)

