

By Warsame

Amending Title 13, Chapter 341 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances relating to Licenses and Business Regulations: Taxicabs.

The City Council of the City of Minneapolis do ordain as follows:

Section 1: That Section 341.10 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.10. Definitions. Whenever used in this chapter the following words shall mean:

Central business district: The geographic area bounded by and including the Mississippi River southeasterly to Interstate 35; Interstate 35 southerly to Interstate 94; Interstate 94 westerly and northerly to Glenwood Avenue; Glenwood Avenue easterly to North Ninth Street; North Ninth Street northerly to Second Avenue North, and Second Avenue North to the Mississippi River.

Committee: The committee of the city council to which responsibility for licensing and consumer services may be assigned.

Licensing official: The licensing official designated by the director of community planning and economic development, who supervises the licensing and consumer services functions of the city.

Limousine: A luxury passenger automobile with a seating capacity for not more than twelve (12) people, excluding the driver, which does not have a meter, and has a chassis and wheelbase that has been stretched, or is a sedan that the manufacturer promotes as a luxury automobile. A limousine does not include a bus, a pickup truck, station wagon, taxicab, truck, van, multipurpose vehicle, or sport utility vehicle.

Limousine service: A service that is for-hire, is provided in a limousine, is not provided on a regular route, provides only prearranged pickup and charges more than a taxicab for a comparable trip.

Motor carrier of passengers: A person engaged in the for-hire transportation of passengers in vehicles designed to transport eight (8) or more persons, including the driver.

Service company: The company which, for each group of taxicab owners operating under a common color scheme, provides common services and facilities such as radio dispatching, color rights, advertising, telephone listings, maintenance, insurance, credit accounts, driver assignments, and record keeping.

Seven-county metropolitan area: The counties of Anoka, Carver, Dakota, Hennepin, Ramsey, Scott and Washington, within the State of Minnesota.

Taxi driver's license: A license granted in accordance with Article III of this chapter.

Taxicab: Any motor vehicle, except a limousine or motor carrier of passengers, or a transportation network company authorized vehicle as defined in Chapter 343 of this code, regularly engaged in the business of carrying passengers for hire, having a seating capacity

of seven (7) or fewer persons including the driver and not operated on a fixed route or schedule.

Taxicab license: A license granted in accordance with Article IV of this chapter.

Taximeter: An instrument or device ~~attached to a vehicle and~~ designed to accurately measure mechanically the distance traveled by such vehicle, to record the time said vehicle travels or is in waiting and to indicate upon such record the fare to be charged. Such fare shall be visible to the passengers at all times.

Wheelchair accessible taxicab: A motor vehicle for hire of a distinctive color or colors operated at rates per mile or upon a waiting-time basis, or both, which is a minivan or similar vehicle specially adapted for wheelchair users, which is also equipped with a taximeter, and which prioritizes requests for service from wheelchair users for purposes of transportation over and along the public streets, not over a defined route but, as to the route and destination, in accordance with and under the direction of the passenger or person hiring such vehicle.

Section 2: That Section 341.140 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.140. Duty to inspect vehicle. Every taxicab driver prior to the beginning of each shift and at the end of each shift shall inspect the taxi vehicle to make sure that all equipment on the vehicle is operating properly and that there is no major body damage to the cab. ~~An entry shall be made on the trip sheet or service company inspection form showing the date and times these inspections were conducted.~~ All equipment defects or body damage shall immediately be reported to the owner and service company. No driver shall knowingly operate any taxi vehicle which is unsafe or not in compliance with section 341.590.

Section 3: That Section 341.160 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.160. Lost articles. Every taxicab driver shall inspect his or her vehicle after the departure of each passenger to ascertain that no article has been left behind. In the event that a passenger does leave an article in a cab, the driver shall immediately attempt to return it, and if unsuccessful, turn it in to the service company office within 24 hours. If the driver is unable to immediately return the article, the dispatcher shall be notified and the article shall be turned in to the service company office not later than the end of the driver's shift. A taxicab driver or service company may not require or request a charge in exchange for the return of the article, except a driver may charge the legal rate of fare when requested to deliver the article to its owner. The taxicab owner and service company shall make a diligent effort to locate the owner of any lost article and shall retain the article at the service company officer for at least thirty (30) days ~~and shall maintain a log with a description of each lost article inclusive of any identifying information.~~

Section 4: That Section 341.170 of the above-entitled Ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.170. Duty to accept passengers. No driver shall refuse or neglect to convey any orderly person or persons upon request anywhere in the city unless previously engaged, provided that such person agrees to pay the legal rate of fare. No taxicab driver shall refuse or fail to provide services to any person protected under the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances section 139.10. No taxicab driver shall carry any other passenger than the person first employing the taxicab, ~~except as provided in section 341.730, and then only~~ with the express consent of the first passenger or passengers.

Section 5: That Section 341.185 of the above-entitled Ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.185. Credit cards. (a) Effective June 1, 2012, all taxicabs shall be equipped with electronic credit and debit card processing capability. Such equipment shall list fare, tolls, fees and tip separately for processing purposes. Such equipment shall have the ability to authorize the transaction in a timely manner.

(b) Taxi drivers shall accept credit and debit cards for payment of taxicab fares, provided the credit card company is likewise accepted as payment by the City of Minneapolis. No surcharge shall be imposed upon the passenger for the use of a credit or debit card to pay a fare. No request for taxi service may be refused to any person desiring to use a credit or debit card on any grounds, including that a trip will not exceed a minimum length or generate a minimum fare. A taxi service company shall provide cashiering services to any taxi driver for credit and debit card transactions collected by the taxi driver as payment of taxi fare while that driver was operating a taxi vehicle under that taxi service company's color scheme. No taxicab vehicle licensee shall obtain cashiering services for credit and debit card transactions collected as payment of taxi fare from an entity other than the taxicab licensee's assigned taxi service company.

(c) Taxicab vehicles found not in compliance with this section may be placed out of service by the licensing official or their designees. Vehicles placed out of service may return to service upon inspection and approval by the licensing official or their designee.

Section 6: That Section 341.200 of the above-entitled Ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.200. Receipts for fares. Every taxicab driver shall, upon request of the person paying for the taxicab ride, provide a ~~written~~ receipt to that person. The receipt shall contain in legible type or writing the name of the service company, the number of the meter in case of an automatic receipt, or the taxicab vehicle number in the case of a written receipt, the total amount paid and the date and time of payment. Every taxicab shall have displayed on the inside of the cab a printed card, in letters plainly visible to passengers seated in the taxicab, stating that such passengers, upon payment of the fare and upon request, shall be entitled to receive a receipt for the amount paid.

Section 7: That Section 341.230 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.230. Map required.** Every taxicab driver shall carry in his or her taxicab at all times a current detailed street map of the seven-county metropolitan area and shall contact his or her dispatcher when in doubt of the most direct route. The map shall be required even if the vehicle is equipped with a global positioning system or similar electronic device.~~

Section 8: That Section 341.240 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.240. Trip sheets.** At the start of each shift, each driver shall enter the following information onto the trip sheet required by this section: (1) date, (2) shift start time, (3) driver name, (4) vehicle number, (5) and a written affirmation that a vehicle inspection was completed in compliance with section 341.140. Every taxicab driver shall keep a trip sheet, current to the last run taken, upon which shall be noted the starting location and time, and the drop-off location and time of each trip, the place of discharge of each passenger, the amount of the fare charged, whether upon the meter, flat rate or trip basis, the time reporting and going off duty. Every taxicab driver shall also indicate on the trip sheet which runs included wheelchair accessible fares and shall indicate such fares with the letters "WC" by that run on the trip sheet. Such sheet shall be filed with and as part of the records of the taxicab vehicle licensee, and at the office of the service company with which the taxicab vehicle is~~

~~associated. Trip sheets shall be filed not later than seventy-two (72) hours after the completion of the driver's shift, or immediately on demand of a police officer, traffic control officer or license inspector. The trip sheets shall be open to inspection by the chief of police, licensing official, or their representatives at all times, and failure to so make and keep such trip sheets or the falsification of such trip sheets shall constitute a violation of this chapter and shall be cause for the revocation of the driver's taxicab license or, in the event such failure is by the vehicle licensee, shall be cause for the revocation of the taxicab license of such licensee. Each taxicab service company shall preserve trip sheets for a period of six (6) months, and submit upon request of the city council or licensing official, any information contained in the driver's trip sheets, together with the true and correct information as to the orders or calls for taxicabs and the disposition of same. Service companies shall file trip sheets by cab number, chronologically.~~

Section 9: That Section 341.250 of the above-entitled Ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.250. Prohibited acts. No taxicab driver shall:

- (1) Operate a taxicab in violation of state or local traffic regulations, or in any event without proper regard for the traffic, surface, and width of the street or highway and the hazards at intersections and any other conditions then existing, nor in such a manner or condition as to endanger or to be likely to endanger the safety of passengers, pedestrians, vehicles or the persons and property of others;
- (2) Interfere with, impede, obstruct the legal operation of, or intentionally damage any vehicle or its equipment;
- (3) Threaten, abuse, insult, provoke, interfere with, detain, impede or obstruct any other licensed driver, any passenger, prospective passenger or any other person in connection with operations under this chapter;
- (4) Operate a taxicab in violation of the Minnesota Clean Indoor Air Act;
- (5) Have in his or her possession while operating a taxicab, any firearm, knife with a blade length in excess of four (4) inches, or any assault weapon, as defined in section 393.85;
- (6) Provide any payment to any doorman, bellhop, taxicab starter, bartender or any other person within the City of Minneapolis in return for the referral of passengers;
- (7) Block the normal flow of traffic, except while parallel parking or actively and lawfully loading and unloading passengers;
- (8) Knowingly and with intent to disrupt communication on a two-way radio system, manipulate a microphone switch or other jamming device;
- (9) Provide false information to or refuse to obey or to comply with any lawful order or direction of the license inspector or any police officer, or traffic-control officer, nor shall any licensee use profane language or otherwise interfere with such officials while in the performance of their duties;
- (10) Report a false location for purposes of gaining an unfair advantage in bidding to provide service;
- (11) Fail to engage the taximeter when the taxicab is in motion and a passenger is present, unless a method of computing the fare without use of the meter is expressly authorized by a provision of this chapter;

- (12) Solicit passengers in the City of Minneapolis, or lay hands upon the person or baggage of any person without the express consent of that person, or obstruct the movement of any persons, or follow any person for the purpose of soliciting business. Display of a sign on the taxicab to indicate that it is not engaged shall not be considered solicitation;
- (13) Deceive any person as to destination, route, authorized taxicab rates, or fare;
- (14) Overcharge;
- (15) Take a circuitous route to a destination, or any route other than the most direct route, without the express consent of the passenger;
- (16) Drop a passenger at a location other than the location requested unless prohibited by law;
- (17) Refuse to convey an orderly passenger;
- (18) Report for another driver's order;
- (19) Fail to provide a receipt upon request;
- (20) Play a radio or tape player without the consent of the passengers, with the exception of the vehicle's two-way radio;
- (21) Engage in, or permit the use of a taxicab for, illegal gambling, prostitution, or trafficking in alcoholic beverages or controlled substances;
- (22) Be in possession of or consume any alcoholic beverage or controlled substance while on duty; consume any alcoholic beverage or controlled substance within four (4) hours before beginning a shift;
- (23) Drive a taxicab for more than twelve (12) hours in any twenty-four-hour period or for more than seventy-two (72) hours in any seven-day period;
- ~~(24) Park a taxicab in a residential area in violation of section 478.240 of this Code;~~
- (254) Allow more passengers to occupy the vehicle than is provided for by its normal seating capacity, as indicated on the vehicle application. In no event shall more than two (2) persons in addition to the driver be permitted in the front seat of such vehicle;
- (265) Lock, disable or refuse to unlock any taxicab door for the purpose of detaining or impeding a passenger;
- (276) Operate a taxicab while using an electronic wireless communications device to write, send or read a text-based communication, unless such taxicab shall be lawfully standing or parked;
- (287) Operate a taxicab while using a wireless telephone, including a wireless telephone equipped with hands-free technology, when a passenger is present, except for emergency purposes;
- (298) Knowingly continue to operate a taxicab for hire when the condition of the vehicle is in violation of section 341.590, or otherwise detrimental to public safety;
- ~~(3029)~~ Knowingly disable, alter, damage or otherwise render inoperable any mandatory safety equipment required pursuant to section 341.597.

Section 10: That Section 341.290 of the above-entitled Ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.290. Overall service required. (a) Generally. Companies, associations and individuals licensed under this chapter shall render an overall service to the public desiring to use taxicabs. ~~They shall maintain a central place of business and keep the same open twenty-four (24) hours a day for the purpose of receiving calls and dispatching taxicabs by way of two-way radio.~~ They shall answer all calls received by them for services within the City of Minneapolis within one-half of an hour of receiving such call and, if services cannot be rendered within such time, they shall then notify the prospective customer as to how long it will be before the call can be answered and give the reason thereof. ~~In cases where a number of individual licensees are grouped in an association operating under a common color scheme, it shall not be necessary that every taxicab belonging to members of that association be in service twenty-four (24) hours a day so long as the association provides adequate overall service.~~

(b) *Additional conditions.* In order to maintain overall service to the public, every firm or individual holding a taxicab vehicle license shall be a member of a company, cooperative, or association which:

~~(1) — C~~consists of at least ~~fifteen (15)~~ five (5) licensed taxicabs operated under a common color scheme with common ~~radio~~ dispatching facilities; ~~a company, cooperative, or association may begin operation in the first year of licensure with a minimum of eight (8) taxicabs licensed by the City of Minneapolis if, including taxicabs licensed by the City of Minneapolis, it consists of a total of at least fifteen (15) taxicabs operated under a common color scheme with common radio dispatching facilities, and if within one calendar year of issuance of the first eight (8) licenses, the company, cooperative, or association adds a sufficient number of taxicab licenses to reach and thereafter maintain a minimum of fifteen (15) taxicabs licensed by the City of Minneapolis in a common color scheme with common radio dispatching services;~~

~~(2) — Maintains in its central place of business and each member taxicab vehicle two-way radios for the purpose of dispatching vehicles and receiving calls from the drivers of such vehicles;~~

~~(3) — Lists its services in both the white pages and yellow pages of the Minneapolis telephone directory.~~

(c) [Exceptions.] Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, a firm or individual holding a taxicab vehicle license or having applied for transfer of a taxicab vehicle license on or before January 21, 1985, which was not a member of a company, cooperative, or association of at least fifteen (15) taxicabs or which was not equipped with two-way radio dispatch equipment may continue to operate after the effective date of this subsection without complying with subsections 341.290(b)(1) and (2), provided ~~the following conditions are met:~~

~~(1) — E~~every such licensee shall maintain twenty-four-hour telephone or electronic communication services at its central place of business and mobile telephone service in each taxicab;

~~(2) — Every such company, cooperative, or association shall maintain at least the number of licensed taxicabs operated under its common color scheme on January 21, 1985;~~

~~(3) — No such taxicab license shall be transferred to or operated under a new color scheme not in existence on January 21, 1985, unless the new color scheme complies with subsection 341.290(b).~~

(d) [Failure to comply.] Failure of the taxicab licensees operating under a common color scheme to maintain the minimum number of licensed taxicabs, or comply with any of the other requirements for overall service set forth in this section, shall be grounds for suspension, revocation, or nonrenewal of all of the taxicab licenses operated under that common color scheme. However, if by reason of revocation or expiration of license, or death or incapacity of a licensee, or other substantial hardship not including a voluntary transfer, a group of taxicab licensees operating under a common color scheme fails to comply with the required minimum number of licenses in this section, the licensees shall be allowed a maximum of ninety (90) days to cure such noncompliance by obtaining the necessary number of additional licenses. Further extensions of time for compliance may be granted only by the city council upon a finding of special hardships or circumstances justifying an additional extension of time.

Section 11: That Section 341.300 of the above-entitled Ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.300. Authorized number of licenses. An applicant or individual may apply for and receive service company licenseure concurrently with new taxicab vehicle licenses. ~~(a) Based upon the public record including the express findings of the city council, it is determined that the public convenience and necessity requires annual increases in the authorized number of taxicab licenses over a five year period and the eventual deregulation of the number of authorized taxicab licenses issued by the city. All existing or new licenses issued pursuant to this ordinance shall be issued in accordance with rules and regulations of the division of business licensing and consumer services.~~

~~(b) — From the effective date of this ordinance until December 1, 2006, the number of licenses currently issued to existing licensed service companies shall not be increased. By December 31, 2007 all licensed service companies in operation in the city on or before November 1, 2006 shall provide documentation to the city that five (5) percent of their operational fleets are wheelchair accessible and an additional five (5) percent are fuel efficient, as determined by the city. By December 31, 2008 all licensed service companies in operation in the city on or before November 1, 2006 shall provide documentation to the city that ten (10) percent of their operational fleets are wheelchair accessible and ten (10) percent are fuel efficient, as determined by the city. By December 31, 2008 all licensed service companies in operation in the city on or before November 1, 2006 shall have a minimum of five (5) licensed taxicabs in their fleets. By December 31 of subsequent years, all licensed service companies in operation in the city on or before November 1 of that year shall provide documentation to the city that an additional ten (10) percent of their operational fleets are fuel efficient, as determined by the city. Wheelchair accessible vehicles are exempt from the fuel efficient standards.~~

~~(c) — On December 1, 2006, up to forty five (45) new taxicab licenses shall be made available to be issued to new or existing licensed service companies as recommended by the division of business licensing and consumer services and approved by the city council. If any licenses are issued to new licensed service companies, ten (10) percent of the taxicabs must be wheelchair accessible and ten (10) percent must be fuel efficient, as determined by the city. Any new taxicab license issued after the effective date of this ordinance shall not be transferable to a third party.~~

~~(d) — On June 1, 2007, up to forty five (45) new taxicab licenses shall be made available to be issued to new or existing licensed service companies as determined by the division of business licensing and consumer services. On June 1 of the years 2008, 2009 and 2010, up to forty five (45) new taxicab licenses shall be made available to be issued to new or existing licensed service companies as recommended by the division of business licensing and consumer services and approved by the city council. If any licenses are issued to new~~

~~licensed service companies, ten (10) percent of the taxicabs must be wheelchair accessible and ten (10) percent must be fuel efficient, as determined by the city. By December 31 of subsequent years, all licensed service companies in operation in the city on or before November 1 of that year shall provide documentation to the city that an additional ten (10) percent of their operational fleets are fuel efficient, as determined by the city. Any new taxicab license issued after the effective date of this ordinance shall not be transferable to a third party.~~

~~(e) — On January 1, 2011, any new or existing licensed service company may apply for any number of new taxicab licenses. Such licenses shall be granted in any number upon the recommendation of the division of business licensing and consumer services to be approved by the city council. If any licenses are issued to new licensed service companies, ten (10) percent of the taxicabs must be wheelchair accessible and ten (10) percent must be fuel efficient, as determined by the city.~~

~~(f) — The minimum number of licensed and operational taxicabs run by any new licensed service company shall be five (5). If the number of licensed and operational taxicabs for any licensed service company drops below five (5), the company shall submit documentation regarding the reduction in taxicabs and a business plan for returning to compliance with this section. All taxicab licenses granted pursuant to this ordinance must be operational and in service. If any licensed taxicab is not operational and in service for more than 30 days in any one year period, the company shall submit documentation regarding the taxicab license in question and a business plan for surrendering the license or returning the taxicab to operational service.~~

~~(g) — Any recommendation to issue and any approval of the issuance of new taxicab licenses to new or existing licensed service companies (and any rule or regulation governing the issuance of new taxicab licenses to new or existing licensed service companies that is promulgated by the division of business licensing and consumer services of the department of regulatory services) shall be based on the determination that the applicant is fit, willing and able to meet the regulatory and service requirements set forth in Title 13, Chapter 341.~~

~~(h) — An applicant may apply for and receive service company licensure concurrently with new taxicab license applications and in anticipation of receiving a sufficient number of new taxicab licenses (or associating with a sufficient number of new or existing taxicab licensees) to meet the regulatory and service requirements set forth in Title 13, Chapter 341 of the Minneapolis Code of Ordinances.~~

Section 12: That Section 341.310 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.310. Seasonal licenses.** — New or existing licensed service companies may apply for seasonal licenses that are valid from October first of each year to April first of each year. The number of seasonal licenses granted on October 1, 2006 shall not exceed one (1) for every five (5) regular licenses held by the new or existing licensed service companies. The number of seasonal licenses granted on October 1, 2007 shall not exceed two (2) for every five (5) regular licenses held by the new or existing licensed service companies. The number of seasonal licenses granted on October 1, 2008 shall not exceed three (3) for every five (5) regular licenses held by the new or existing licensed service companies. The number of seasonal licenses granted on October 1, 2009 shall not exceed four (4) for every five (5) regular licenses held by the new or existing licensed service companies. There will be no limit on the number of seasonal licenses granted on October 1, 2010.~~

Section 13: That Chapter 341 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended by adding thereto a new Section 341.315 to read as follows:

341.315. Wheelchair accessible taxicabs. The licensing official shall establish an incentive system to provide taxicab services that accommodate passengers who use a wheelchair. The licensing official may seek City Council approval to amend the license fee schedule to require taxicab vehicle licensees, and transportation network companies licensed under chapter 343 of this code, to pay an annual surcharge in addition any other license fees required by the license fee schedule if they do not provide full service, full time wheelchair accessible taxicab service. This surcharge can be used to lower the annual license fees of those taxicab vehicle licensees and taxicab service company licensees that provide full service wheelchair accessible taxicab services twenty four hours a day, seven days a week. This surcharge may also be used to provide training to drivers assigned to operate wheelchair accessible taxicabs, and or to provide specialized equipment to better accommodate the needs of disabled taxicab passengers.

Section 14: That Section 341.330 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.330. Neighborhood taxicab stands. (a) The city engineer and the licensing official shall recommend locations on public streets in the vicinity of retail stores, medical facilities and multi-family residential buildings outside of the central business district for the establishment of taxicab stands. The city engineer and the licensing official shall also work with the owners and operators of retail stores, medical facilities and multi-family residential buildings to identify appropriate locations for taxicab stands in the parking lots or driveways of such properties. Upon approval by the city council and the mayor, and with the concurrence of private property owners for taxicab stands to be located on private property, the city engineer shall install appropriate signs and street markings for taxicab stands at these locations.

~~(b) All taxicab operators licensed to operate in Minneapolis may wait for fares at taxicab stands outside of the central business district without first having obtained a downtown taxicab stand permit.~~

Section 15: That Section 341.360 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.360. Prerequisites to license. Every taxicab driver shall meet and maintain the following requirements in order to hold a taxicab driver's license:

- (a) Possess a valid Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license.
- (b) Be a minimum of eighteen (18) years old.
- (c) Have a demonstrated ability to read, write and speak the English language.
- (d) Be clean in dress and person and not addicted to the use of intoxicating liquors or drugs.
- ~~(e) Possess a current D.O.T. medical card.~~
- ~~(f)~~ Shall have no felony convictions in the last five (5) years; shall have no nontraffic gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor convictions in the last three (3) years involving the use or threat of use of force, possession or sale of a controlled substance, prostitution, or indecent conduct. The issuing authority for the license may grant an exception to the above provisions upon evidence that the offense is not related to the occupation of taxicab driver.
- ~~(g)~~ Shall have a driving record meeting the following standards:

(1) No convictions in the last five (5) years for any of the following offenses involving injury or death; no convictions in the last three (3) years for any of the following offenses not involving injury or death:

- a. Hit and run;
- b. Driving under the influence of an alcoholic beverage or drug;
- c. Reckless or careless driving.

(2) For original licensure: No more than three (3) moving violations within the last three (3) years, and no more than two (2) moving violations in the last year. For renewal: No more than four (4) moving violations within the last three (3) years and no more than two (2) moving violations in the last year.

(3) Every new applicant shall have at least one year's driving experience as a licensed driver, meeting the standards of this subsection. Such prior driving experience shall be verified by an affidavit signed by a reputable person and submitted with the license application.

(hg) Have a demonstrated knowledge of the geography and street system of the City of Minneapolis and surrounding areas, as well as the location of major attractions within those areas.

(ih) Have a demonstrated knowledge of the provisions of the taxicab ordinance relating to the conduct of taxicab drivers and the operation of a taxicab.

(ji) Shall not have a physical or mental disability that would prevent the taxicab driver from safely operating a taxicab and performing the normal duties of a taxicab driver.

(kj) For any driver seeking original licensure, and any driver whose taxicab driver's license has lapsed for more than one year, shall have successfully completed the taxicab driver training course established in section 341.380.

Section 16: That Section 341.370 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.370. Test required.** The licensing official shall test each applicant for a taxicab driver's license to determine that the applicant has a satisfactory knowledge of the provisions of this chapter, the traffic regulations, and the geography and street system of the City of Minneapolis, and a satisfactory ability to read, write, and speak the English language.~~

Section 17: That Section 341.380 of the above-entitled Ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.380. Taxicab driver training course. (a) The licensing official shall establish a taxicab driver training course pursuant to the terms of this section. The course shall be designed to enhance the proficiency of drivers in all aspects of taxicab driving, and will include topics such as geography of the metropolitan area, traffic laws, vehicle safety, taxicab licensing laws and driver code of conduct, radio communications, cab stand and call procedures, taxicab fares, vehicle cleanliness and maintenance, customer relations, courtesy, and the accommodation of patrons with disabilities.

(b) The course may consist of components taught by city employees, taxicab service company representatives or components taught by an educational institution under contract with the city, or by a combination of such components.

(c) Successful completion of the taxicab driver training course shall be a prerequisite for obtaining a license for all taxicab drivers not licensed on the effective date of this chapter, all taxicab drivers whose licenses have lapsed for more than one (1) year, and may be imposed as a requirement in any disciplinary action against a licensed driver, as a condition for renewal of a taxicab driver's license in the event of customer complaints, violations of taxicab regulations, or moving violations, and as a condition for reinstatement of any revoked or suspended taxicab driver's license.

~~(d) Each taxicab driver attending the course shall pay thirty-five dollars (\$35.00) towards the course tuition. The driver's service company shall pay fifteen dollars (\$15.00) toward the course tuition for each attending driver. Payment by each driver and service company shall be made to the licensing official prior to admittance to the course. No driver shall be admitted to the course without presenting a paid voucher bearing the stamp of the licensing official showing full payment by the driver and the service company.~~

~~(e) The city will match the total service company tuition payments, on an annual basis, in contributions to tuition costs or additional expenditures on curriculum development and instructional materials to improve the taxicab driver training course. In lieu of a matching contribution, the city in its discretion may reduce the service company tuition contribution for the next year by the amount not matched.~~

~~(f) The licensing official shall not enroll a driver in the course unless the driver has filed a complete taxicab driver license application and paid the fee as required in section 341.410.~~

~~(g) Upon successful completion of the course, the driver shall be issued a certificate of completion that shall make the driver eligible for a taxicab driver's license, upon payment of any remaining license fee and satisfaction of any remaining prerequisites.~~

Section 18: That Section 341.410 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.410. License fee. (a) Each applicant for a taxi driver's license shall, at the time of filing his or her application, pay a nonrefundable license fee as specified in Appendix J, License Fee Schedule.

~~(b) For applicants who must complete the taxicab driver training course as a prerequisite to obtaining a license, the license fee and the course tuition fee may be combined and paid in two (2) installments, payable as specified in Appendix J, License Fee Schedule.~~

Section 19: That Section 341.415 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.415. Advance of taxicab driver license and training fees.** A taxicab service company may advance to a prospective taxicab driver the cost of the taxicab driver license fee and the taxicab driver training course tuition. Failure of a driver to repay such an advance may be grounds for suspension of the taxicab driver's license.~~

Section 20: That Section 341.420 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.420. Issuance of license. Each driver's license shall have upon it a number by which the license shall be designated and such other information as the licensing official may require. Each license shall indicate the name of the primary service company for which the driver works. No taxicab driver shall drive for a different service company without first notifying the licensing official and obtaining a new driver's license indicating the new primary service company. Any licensee who defaces, removes or obliterates any official entry made upon his or her license shall, in addition to any other punishment, have the license revoked.

Section 21: That Section 341.425 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.425. License to be coterminous with Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license. A taxicab driver's license issued under this chapter shall be coterminous with the licensee's Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license. Any time that a licensee's Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license is suspended, revoked, or cancelled, his or her taxicab driver's license shall likewise be immediately suspended, revoked, or cancelled. The licensee shall immediately surrender his or her taxicab driver's license to the licensing official. The taxicab driver's license shall be returned to the licensee upon reinstatement of the Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license or issuance of a limited license authorizing operation of a taxicab. No person shall operate a taxicab without a valid Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license.

Section 22: That Section 341.430 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.430. When license expires and fees. All Drivers' licenses issued under this article shall expire on ~~July first~~ June 30th at 11:59 p.m. of each year. The license fee shall be as established in Appendix J, License Fee Schedule.

Section 23: That Section 341.460 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.460. Revocation, suspension and cancellation of Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license; limited licenses; alcohol-related driving convictions. (a) Any person holding a taxicab driver's license, whose Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license is revoked, suspended or cancelled for any reason, shall immediately surrender his or her taxicab driver's license to the licensing official. The taxicab driver's license shall be returned to the licensee upon reinstatement of the Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license or issuance of a limited license authorizing operation of a taxicab.

(b) Any licensed taxicab driver whose Minnesota or Wisconsin driver's license has been revoked, suspended or cancelled and who has been issued a limited license authorizing the operation of a taxicab shall immediately notify the licensing official of the same. The licensee shall furnish a copy of the limited license to the licensing official. The licensee shall also furnish a written statement containing a schedule of the days and hours of each day during which he or she will be driving a taxicab during the term of the limited license. No deviation from the schedule shall be permitted. The licensee shall personally furnish to the licensing official copies of all trip sheets for all shifts worked during the term of the limited license.

(c) Any person holding a taxicab driver's license shall notify the licensing official immediately whenever he or she is convicted of an alcohol-related driving offense, whether or not it involves the operation of a taxicab. Alcohol-related driving offenses shall include driving under the influence, driving with a blood alcohol concentration of .08 or greater, any lesser moving violation in which a blood alcohol concentration test was given and recorded .08 or greater, aggravated driving violations, and open bottle.

(d) Failure to comply with the provisions of this section shall be grounds for revocation of a taxicab driver's license.

Section 24: That Section 341.550 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.550. License suspension or revocation for lack of insurance. (a) Any license issued under this article shall be immediately suspended by the licensing official whenever during the term of said license the owner, lessee, licensee or operator of said taxicab shall fail to

keep in full force and effect such insurance in the full amount required. If the insurance is allowed to lapse, is canceled, or is otherwise not in effect for a continuous period of sixty (60) days or more, the taxicab vehicle license shall be revoked.

(b) Because the city is concerned for the welfare of its citizens, and because the city desires to encourage its licensees to maintain adequate insurance coverage at all times, if the licensing official receives a ~~cancellation notice prior to the annual~~ of expiration of any insurance policy for purposes other than a person to person transfer, a car to car transfer, or a company to company transfer, or written notice that the vehicle is out of service prior to receiving an updated certificate of insurance information, the license holder ~~shall pay a~~ may be assessed a fine processing fee of ~~ten~~ fifty dollars (~~\$450.00~~) per vehicle affected. Insurance policies that are allowed to lapse ~~less than sixty (60) days~~ will result in a ~~two hundred dollar (\$200.00) fine for~~ the issuance of a citation to the license holder. ~~All such fines shall be paid within fifteen (15) days of notification by the department. Failure to pay fines due may result in affected vehicles being ordered off the street.~~

Section 25: That Section 341.580 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.580. Requirements for license. Each applicant for a taxicab license must comply with the following to the satisfaction of the licensing official:

- (a) Be a citizen of the State of Minnesota or Wisconsin.
- (b) Be of the age of eighteen (18) years or over in the case of an individual person or copartners or, in the case of a corporation, must be authorized to operate taxicabs and carry on business in accordance with the laws of the State of Minnesota.
- (c) Must be a United States citizen, or an alien admitted for permanent residence, or who has otherwise obtained work authorization from the United States Immigration and Naturalization Service.
- (d) Must fill out upon a blank form to be provided by the licensing official giving such information as required by the licensing official regarding the applicant and the vehicle to verify that the terms and conditions of this chapter have been met.
- (e) Said application shall also include an accurate and detailed description of the color scheme of the taxicabs, including inscriptions or monograms thereon, proposed to be operated by the applicant, which shall be distinctly different from that of the taxicabs of any other licensed taxicab owner or operator, and from that of the taxicabs of the same owner or operator licensed in another jurisdiction, so that the ownership and identity may be readily ascertained by the police department and patrons of any taxicab, except that one (1) or more of the applicants who are members of the same taxicab organization or who subscribe for services to the same service company and who are authorized to use the color scheme of taxicabs, including the inscription or monograms thereon, of such organization or service company, may be licensed to do so when proper evidence of their right from such organization or service company to use such color scheme and inscriptions or monograms shall be filed with their application. The owner of any color right shall appoint the service company to be responsible for compliance and administration of the chapter with respect to licensees using the color scheme and shall notify the licensing official of that appointment. No owner of any taxicab or the operator or driver thereof, licensed under the terms of this article, shall make any change whatever in the color scheme of the taxicabs or the inscriptions or monograms thereon without first obtaining the approval of the licensing official.
- (f) The applicant applying for a taxicab license shall, before being issued a license, pay into the city treasury an annual license fee as specified in Appendix J, License Fee Schedule,

for each and every vehicle to be licensed; except that when application shall be made after the commencement of any license year, licenses shall be issued for the period from the day of application thereof to the beginning of the next license year, upon payment by the applicant of a proportionate amount of the annual license fee.

(g) The applicant(s) shall be the true beneficial owner(s) of the taxicab business to be licensed. The full legal names and addresses of all persons holding a beneficial interest in the business shall be provided on the application.

(h) The applicant shall hold legal title to the vehicle. In the case of a partnership, the title shall be in the name of the partnership or one (1) of the partners. In the case of a corporation, the title shall be in the name of the corporation. Exceptions to this provision may be granted for a vehicle held under a long-term lease from a reputable dealership or leasing company, in which case the applicant shall appear in the Minnesota or Wisconsin vehicle registration as lessee. Exceptions may also be granted for vehicles in which title is held for financing purposes by a financial institution.

(i) The applicant(s) shall have no felony convictions in the last five (5) years, nor any nontraffic gross misdemeanor or misdemeanor convictions in the last three (3) years involving the use of force, possession or sale of a controlled substance, prostitution, or indecent conduct. The licensing official may grant an exception to this provision upon evidence that the offense is not related to the taxicab business.

(j) [Reserved.]

Section 26: That Section 341.590 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.590. Condition of vehicle. No taxicab shall be licensed, nor shall any person licensed under Article III of this chapter operate such vehicle, until it has been thoroughly and carefully examined and found to comply with the following:

(a) Every taxicab shall be in thoroughly safe condition for the transportation of passengers. Every taxicab shall be in full compliance with all state and federal regulations relating to vehicle equipment, maintenance and safety.

(b) To be well painted, and no taxicab shall be operated under its license until it has been painted in accordance with its authorized color scheme.

(c) Every taxicab shall have doors that can be easily opened from both the inside and outside, and the licensing official shall make or have made by competent inspectors such examination or inspection before a license is issued. No license shall be granted to any vehicle found to be unfit or unsuited for public patronage.

(d) Every taxicab shall be equipped with a taximeter in good working order, equipped with a light so placed as to enable the passenger at all times to see the fare registered when operating on the meter basis.

(e) All windows and windshields in each taxicab, whether in doors or side or rear windows, shall be of shatterproof or nonshatterable glass. Each taxicab shall be equipped with (4) wheel brakes.

~~(f) Every taxicab shall be equipped at all times the taxi is in operation with a drop safe or deposit safe in good working order for the purpose of securing fares collected by the taxicab driver. Such safe shall be accessible from the driver's seat.~~

(gf) The taxicab shall have windows in the rear and side of the taxicab sufficient in number and of such size, dimensions and clarity that passengers may be readily seen and identified through the windows.

(hg) Every taxicab shall be equipped with at least three (3) doors in addition to the driver's door which open into the passenger compartment.

(ih) Every taxicab shall be maintained in a clean condition both inside and outside at all times. Each vehicle exterior and interior shall be thoroughly cleaned at least once every seven (7) days. The licensing official may order a taxicab out of service at any time until such time as the vehicle has been cleaned.

(ji) All hood and trunk latches shall be in proper working order.

(kj) Each taxicab shall be substantially free from damage. The vehicle shall have no loose hanging metal, body molding or chrome stripping. The complete exhaust system shall be intact and in good working order. The taxicab shall not operate with large dents or major body damage, nor shall the taxicab operate with large areas of unpainted or rusted metal. Taxicabs shall have all required fenders, bumpers, doors, door handles and lights, all of which shall be in good working order. No taxicab shall operate with tires considered unsafe according to the standard set forth in Minnesota Statute 169.723. Failure to meet all ~~above-listed~~ of the requirements of this chapter shall cause the taxicab to be found unfit or unsuited for public use, and such vehicle may be ordered off the streets of the City of Minneapolis.

(lk) All licensed taxicabs shall be equipped with seat belts openly displayed, readily available, and installed for use in the left front, right front, left rear, and right rear seats.

(ml) Every taxicab shall have a speedometer, odometer, gas gauge, oil pressure indicator, and gearshift indicator in good working order.

(nm) All mechanical systems and components, including the exhaust system, shall be intact, functional, and in good working condition.

~~(o) — Every taxicab shall be equipped with three (3) D.O.T. approved emergency triangles and a fully charged fire extinguisher with a minimum size of 5BC.~~

(pn) Each taxicab shall be equipped with a top light on the roof of the cab that shall be lighted when the cab is in service and available to receive passengers. Such light shall be visible from all directions.

(qq) Every taxicab licensee shall permanently affix to either the back of the front seat passenger side headrest, or the back of the front seat passenger side, beginning no lower than three (3) inches from the top of the front seat of the taxicab, an information card made of a laminated material at least three (3) inches by five (5) inches in size in Braille. This information card will contain the name of the taxicab company, the cab number and the telephone number of the licensing official or other city telephone number as directed by the licensing official. ~~Also affixed to the back of either the front driver or front passenger seat headrest, or other location easily accessible to passengers, shall be a pamphlet holder suitable to store and display informational materials, passenger survey cards, or other materials as designated by the licensing official. Such pamphlet holder shall be designed to hold pamphlets or cards with a maximum width of four (4) inches. Taxicab licensees must maintain a supply of customer information and comment cards for immediate passenger use at all times.~~

~~(r) — Every taxicab shall be equipped with the approved safety equipment in section 341.597 for its particular service company.~~

Section 27: That Section 341.595 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.595. Age of vehicle. On and after June 1, 1988, no vehicle shall be licensed or operated as a taxicab unless the vehicle has a model year of ~~five (5)~~ ten (10) years or less, or ~~eight (8)~~ twelve (12) years or less for wheelchair accessible and fuel-efficient vehicles; ~~provided, however, that any vehicle which was licensed as a taxicab on the effective date of this section may continue to be licensed and operated until June 1, 1990 or has an actual odometer reading or less than 150,000 miles.~~

Waivers may be allowed to taxicabs over ~~five (5)~~ ten (10) years old, or ~~eight (8)~~ twelve (12) years or less for wheelchair accessible and fuel-efficient vehicles, if the taxicab meets city yearly inspection and maintenance standards and subject to approval by the licensing official.

Section 28: That Section 341.597 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.597. Mandatory safety equipment. (a) All licensed taxicabs shall be equipped with at least one (1) of the following safety products, chosen by the service company, in accordance with the submission and requirements of their particular service company in section 341.960(ml):

- (1) Digital camera security system.
 - (2) Security shield.
 - (3) Global positioning system (GPS).
- (b) The licensing official shall publish, maintain, and make available to the public a document that will outline the minimum standards and specifications required for each of these safety products and the taxicab licensees. This document shall be titled the taxicab safety book of standards. The city council shall approve the initial taxicab safety book of standards to be effective May 1, 2005 and all amendments thereto.
- (c) Failure to comply with the terms of the taxicab safety book of standards may subject a taxicab licensee to revocation, suspension, or nonrenewal of their license.
- (d) No taxicab licensee shall tamper, disable, or otherwise modify an approved digital camera security system, ~~security shield, or global positioning system after installation.~~
- (e) An inoperable or defective digital camera security system, ~~security shield, or global positioning system~~ shall cause the taxicab to be found unfit or unsuited for public use, and such vehicle may be ordered off the streets of the City of Minneapolis until repaired.
- (f) No person shall disseminate, sell, or otherwise profit from any image recorded by a digital camera security system.
- (g) In the event a taxicab is sold or otherwise transferred from one (1) service company or one (1) driver-owner to another, the approved safety equipment in section 341.597 ~~for the current service company~~ must be properly installed before the vehicle will be inspected and approved.

Section 29: That Section 341.600 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.600. Issuance and form of license. When an application for a taxicab license has been approved, the licensing official, upon satisfactory fulfillment of the foregoing requirements, shall issue a taxicab license which shall be in such form as to contain:

- (a) Class and ~~passenger-carrying capacity~~ of license of the taxicab licensed.
- (b) The make and model of the car, ~~and, if available, the engine number and/or serial~~ VIN number, and the state license plate number.
- (c) Each successful applicant shall be issued a decal that shall be permanently attached to the rear of the taxicab vehicle. The placement of such decal shall be ~~to~~ in the immediate right or lower left corner of the rear license number required by section 341.640 of this article window. The cost for replacement of a lost, damaged or destroyed decal shall be ~~thirty-five dollars (\$35.00)~~ the fee listed in the license fee schedule.

Section 30: That Section 341.605 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.605. Taxicab stand permits.** (a) No taxicab vehicle shall wait at any taxicab stand in the central business district without having first obtained a permit therefor. At the time a permit is issued, the applicant shall be furnished with a decal. The applicant shall attach such decal on the lower right side of the rear windshield of the taxicab.~~

~~(b) Licensees not displaying a taxicab stand decal, may discharge passengers at taxicab stands, but may not collect passengers within one hundred (100) feet of the same unless:~~

~~(1) The licensee is operating under a contract or charge account previously signed and on file at the company; or~~

~~(2) The licensee is responding to a special call for service when such call has been documented by telephone records and such other evidence as the licensing official deems necessary.~~

~~(c) No licensee or service company may apply for taxicab stand permits in excess of fifty (50) percent of that licensee's or service company's total Minneapolis licensed fleet.~~

~~(d) The downtown taxicab stand permit requirement shall not apply when the licensing official deems that special circumstances, including but not limited to special events, warrant the waiver thereof.~~

~~(e) Notwithstanding the other provisions of this section, an individual or company holding a taxicab vehicle license or having applied for transfer of a taxicab vehicle license on or before January 21, 1985, which was not a member of a company, cooperative, or association of at least fifteen (15) taxicabs or which was not equipped with two-way radio dispatch equipment may apply for taxi stand permits for all licensed taxicabs operating under their color scheme.~~

~~(f) The fee for the downtown taxicab stand permit shall be two hundred dollars (\$200.00) per year and due with the regular license fee each year.~~

Section 31: That Section 341.620 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.620. Inspections. (a) The licensing official shall maintain a constant vigilance over all taxicabs to see that they are kept in a condition of fitness for public use, and to this end shall inspect, or cause to be inspected, all taxicabs from time to time, or on the complaint of any citizen as often as may be necessary. Reports in writing of all inspections shall be promptly made to the division.

(b) Prior to using any taxicab vehicle, and annually thereafter, a licensee shall have the vehicle inspected at a facility approved by the licensing official, and maintain complete documentation of such inspections at all times, and a written copy of such documentation shall be provided to the licensing official upon request. To pass such inspection, a taxicab vehicle shall, at a minimum, be rust-free and damage free, and shall pass an inspection of vehicle components outlined by the licensing official and identified on the official taxicab vehicle inspection sheet. The cost of the vehicle inspection, if such inspection is conducted by a government operated facility, will be those fees listed in the license fee schedule.

(bc) The licensing official may adopt a taxicab inspection form to be used in the inspection of taxicabs, and may designate a category of equipment and body defects as "out of service" defects. Taxicabs with "out of service" defects shall be ordered out of service, and shall remain out of service until the next regularly scheduled inspection or until a special inspection arranged under section 341.625.

Section 32: That Section 341.625 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.625. Special inspection fee. A taxi vehicle licensee may arrange for a special inspection of his or her vehicle outside the regularly scheduled inspection days and times upon application and payment of a fee as specified in ~~Appendix J, the~~ License Fee Schedule, for each vehicle to be inspected. Special inspections shall be scheduled during the normal working hours of the licensing official and all requests for special inspections must be filed by 9:00 a.m. on the day the inspection is to be conducted.

Section 33: That Section 341.660 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.660. Unauthorized acts. (a) No taxicab license shall be sold or transferred except as provided for in subsection 341.655(a).

(b) No taxicab licensed under this chapter shall be operated by any person other than a taxicab driver licensed under this chapter.

(c) No person shall change the color scheme, inscription or monogram of any licensed taxicab without approval of the licensing official.

~~(d) No licensed taxicab shall be used as a private vehicle at any time.~~

(ed) No person or company or agent of a company shall make directly or indirectly any false claim stating or implying that any taxicab is licensed to operate in the City of Minneapolis when in fact such taxicab is not licensed in the City of Minneapolis.

(fe) No taxicab vehicle shall be equipped with a citizen's band radio transmitter or receiver or any device capable of intercepting police, emergency or other taxicab companies' transmissions.

(gf) No taxicab vehicle licensee shall lease its taxicab vehicle license to another, nor lease, contract out, assign, or delegate the responsibilities and beneficial interest of its taxicab business to another.

(hg) No taxicab vehicle licensee shall lease or contract out the use of any taxicab except to the limited degree permitted by section 341.695.

(ih) No taxicab vehicle licensee shall operate or allow operation of a vehicle after it has been ordered out of service.

(ji) No taxicab vehicle licensee shall allow a taxicab to be parked in a residential area in violation of section 478.240.

~~(k) No wheelchair accessible taxicab vehicle licensee shall wait at any taxicab stand in the central business district until after 8:00 p.m. Used metro mobility vehicles providing wheelchair accessible service are not permitted to use taxicab stands, except those taxicab stands which allow access to medical service centers.~~

Section 34: That Section 341.695 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.695. Contracts with taxicab drivers. A taxicab vehicle licensee may enter into an agreement with a licensed taxicab driver to drive a licensed taxicab, and the agreement may provide for a per shift payment by the driver. Provided, however:

(1) No agreement may provide for services in excess of the shift limitations in subsection 341.250(23).

(2) No agreement shall exceed one (1) week in duration, nor require a driver to post any deposit or advance in an amount greater than one (1) week's shift payment.

(3) No agreement shall require a driver to pay any vehicle operating costs except for gas.

(4) No taxicab vehicle licensee shall enter an agreement allowing the use of his or her taxicab except directly with a driver who actually operates the vehicle; nor shall any licensee enter an agreement delegating to another the right to manage the vehicle and employ drivers.

(5) An owner or service company who leases a taxicab must make shift rates available to all qualified drivers without regard to race, creed, sex, age, sexual orientation, or religion. Owners who offer different lease rates during different times of the day must make those rates available to all drivers qualified by this chapter.

~~(6) An owner or service company shall not charge any driver more than eighty-five dollars (\$85.00) per twelve-hour shift for use of a vehicle.~~

Section 35: That Section 341.730 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.730. Group loading.** In each load of five (5) passengers or less, a separate fare may be charged for each of such passengers, providing that such group does not have a common destination and provided further that no other cab is available at the point of loading and no delay is caused to any waiting passenger. Any waiting passenger may command the cab's immediate departure, and no such passenger shall be required to pay for any more circuitous route than the shortest distance between the point of loading and such passenger's destination. The rate of fare shall be eighty (80) per cent of the base legal rate, said discount to be in addition to any other discount authorized by this Code and offered by the carrier. A concise but legible notice of the provisions of sections 341.720 and 341.730 shall be clearly displayed in the cab so it may be easily read by any passenger.~~

Section 36: That Section 341.735 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.735. Charges beyond certain distances.** Charges for a passenger trip which originates within the City of Minneapolis shall be made in accordance with the taximeter only, except in cases where the trip extends beyond the boundaries of Eighty-fifth Avenue North and Northeast on the north, County Road 42 on the south, State Highway 101 on the west and McKnight Road on the east. Charges for trips which extend beyond the abovementioned~~

boundaries may be made on a flat rate basis for that portion of the trip which extends beyond the boundaries.

Section 37: That Section 341.740 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.740. Airport Main Terminal departure area a common destination.** For purposes of the provisions of this chapter relating to fares and charges, the Minneapolis-St. Paul International Airport Main Terminal departure unloading area shall be considered a common destination. Separate fares shall not be charged to passengers dropped off at different locations within the departure unloading area. However, the fare may be computed based on the last drop off in the departure area.~~

Section 38: That Section 341.745 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.745. Special discount rates.** The licensing official may authorize special rates lower than otherwise required in this chapter, upon written request from any licensed service company. Such special rates shall apply to all taxicabs of that particular color scheme. Special rates may include, but shall not be limited to:~~

~~(a) — A discount applicable to all metered fares on all rides originating in the City of Minneapolis;~~

~~(b) — Special flat rates from point to point;~~

~~(c) — Special flat rates, or a discount from the metered fare, from any point within the City of Minneapolis to a particular destination.~~

~~(d) — Special event rates. At all times when special event rates are in effect a sign which reads "Special Event Rate" and indicating the rate to be charged, in letters no smaller than two (2) inches in height and not less than one-fourth inch stroke, shall be prominently displayed in every taxicab. Discontinuance of any discount shall require a seven-day written notice to the licensing official.~~

Section 39: That Section 341.760 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.760. Computation of charges.** When the charge is to be paid for on the meter basis, the charge shall begin at the place where the passenger is received and shall continue until the taxicab arrives at the passenger's destination. When the charge is to be paid for on the hour basis, the time shall begin when the automobile is ready at the time and place requested by the passenger and shall continue until the taxicab has been released by the passenger; provided, that when any person shall engage or hire a taxicab equipped with a taximeter, unless otherwise agreed at the time of hiring, the fare for such taxicab shall be determined and fixed by the taximeter according to rates provided for in this article; and provided, further, that no driver of any taxicab shall charge more for the use of the taxicab than is shown to be due by the taximeter.~~

Section 40: That Section 341.770 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.770. Agreed rates authorized.** Nothing herein contained shall prevent any person from making an agreement with the operator of a taxicab to furnish transportation at a rate to be agreed upon by them for an hour, day, week, month or longer period, but the person with whom the operator of a taxicab makes such agreement shall not be permitted to hire out the vehicle to any other person. Each licensee operating a taxicab under this section shall file with the licensing official a schedule of rates by time to be charged under such agreement. Such schedule of rates except as herein otherwise provided may be changed by filing an~~

amended schedule. No licensee, driver or employee shall charge any other rate than that set forth in such schedule, and any deviation therefrom shall constitute a violation hereof.

Section 41: That Section 341.771 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.771. Senior citizen discount authorized.** The rate of fare for any person who has attained the age of sixty-five (65) years, upon presentation of proof of age to the operator of a licensed taxicab, may be the applicable legal rate reduced by ten (10) per cent. This discount rate shall not be in effect between the hours of 2:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Such discount shall be posted upon the exterior and interior of the taxicab. Any company, association or individuals operating under a common color scheme and monogram choosing to offer said discount must offer it uniformly by all taxicabs they operate, and said discount may be in addition to any other discount authorized by this Code and offered by the carrier.~~

Section 42: That Section 341.772 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.772. Meter-based discounts authorized.** Any taxicab company or association of taxicab owners or individual duly licensed under this Code may provide percentage discounts from the meter rate. Such discounts shall be prominently posted upon the exterior and interior of each taxicab operated. Any company, association or individuals operating under a common color scheme and monogram choosing to offer said discount must offer it uniformly by all taxicabs they operate and said discount shall be in addition to any other discount authorized by this Code and offered by the carrier. Such discount rates may be initiated, changed or eliminated upon five (5) days' written notification to the taxicab license inspector.~~

Section 43: That Section 341.773 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.773. Reduced-fare share-ride program authorized.** Any taxicab company or association of taxicab owners or individual duly licensed under this Code may provide a reduced fare share-ride program. Such a program shall provide for the following:~~

~~(a) — Persons wishing to use such a program shall telephone the participating company, association or individual taxicab operator prior to 12:00 midnight preceding the day on which the person wishes to use the program to arrange for pickup.~~

~~(b) — The initial charge upon entering the taxicab shall be set by city council resolution, on a per-person basis.~~

~~(c) — The charge for each zone crossed shall be set by city council resolution per person or associated group. A map delineating said zones, to be enacted by city council resolution, is to be posted in the interior of the taxicab.~~

~~(d) — Zones shall be adopted by the Minneapolis City Council through resolution.~~

~~(e) — The calculation of the charge shall be made on a straight line from point of pickup to point of destination for each person or associated group. The charge for an associated group shall be one charge as calculated in (c) above.~~

~~(f) — The taxicab driver shall not be required to wait longer than five (5) minutes for each fare from the scheduled time of pickup.~~

~~(g) — The city council may designate downtown group loading zones for this program at its discretion.~~

Section 44: That Section 341.774 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.774. Contract rates.** Nothing contained herein shall prevent an operator of a taxicab licensed in Minneapolis from making a contractual agreement with a company, agency, or organization to furnish transportation for employees, associates, clients, customers, or members at a rate that is based on mileage, number of passengers, number of service hours, number of trips, number of passenger hours, weekly or monthly fees, or any other reasonable and calculable basis, irrespective of the mileage charges, minimum charges, and waiting charges contained in this article or the taxicab operator's filed rates for ordinary radio-dispatch, hail, and taxicab stand pick-up service. Such a contractual agreement that provides for rates that differ from the rates ordinarily charged by the taxicab operator must be a document that is legally executed by all parties and kept on file at the taxicab service company office subject to inspection at any reasonable time by the licensing official or his designees.~~

Section 45: That Section 341.775 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

~~**341.775. Review of fares.** (a) Taxicab fare rates shall be reviewed by the licensing official annually. The maximum meter fare amounts for mileage charges herein established shall be subject to an automatic twelve-month adjustment effective each October first thereafter in a percentage equal to twelve-month changes in the Minneapolis Taxicab Cost Index, rounded to the nearest hundredth of one percent. The Minneapolis Taxicab Cost Index shall consist of a weighted combination of five (5) selected consumer price indexes as published by the United States Department of Labor, a total taxicab fleet size factor, and a license and inspection fee factor as calculated for the preceding twelve-month period ending on June thirtieth of that year. The composition of the Minneapolis Taxicab Cost Index shall be as specified in subsection (c) and the resulting calculation of any change to the maximum rate charge for each one-fifth (1/5) mile increment shall be rounded up to the next whole cent. Notification of the annual adjustment to the taxicab meter rate shall be made to all taxicab service companies at least thirty (30) days prior to taking effect.~~

~~(b) — The initial maximum meter fare rates shall be equal to the rates that were in effect on February 28, 2009. The first automatic twelve-month adjustment to these rates as provided for pursuant to this section shall take effect October 1, 2010. The maximum percentage increase to the Minneapolis Taxicab Cost Index shall be capped at ten (10) percent for each twelve-month period unless the city council adopts a greater rate of increase by resolution. The maximum percentage decrease to the Minneapolis Taxicab Cost Index shall be capped at five (5) percent for each twelve-month period unless the city council adopts a greater rate of decrease by resolution.~~

~~(c) — The Minneapolis Taxicab Cost Index shall be comprised of the following indexes and factors, which shall be weighted as indicated:~~

CPI and factors	Weighting
Midwest Region CPI-U (Consumer Price Index-Urban) Transportation Expenditure Category; (Series ID CUURO200SAT)	30%
National CPI-U Motor Vehicle Maintenance and Repair (Series ID GUUROOOOSETD)	10%
National CPI-U Motor Vehicle Parts and Equipment (Series ID GUUROOOOSETG)	10%

National CPI-U Motor Vehicle Insurance (Series ID CUUROOOOSETTE)	10%
Midwest Region CPI-U All Consumers, all Items (Series ID CUUS0000SA0)	30%
Minneapolis taxicab fleet size, percentage change to total licensed fleet	8%
Minneapolis taxicab license and inspection fees, average of percentage changes to each	2%

Section 46: That Section 341.780 of the above-entitled Ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.780. Inspection of meters. ~~The licensing official shall examine at least two (2) times each calendar year all taximeters used on taxicabs in the city and, if approved, shall have placed thereon or attached thereto a device or seal indicating that such inspection and approval has been made.~~ The licensing official may stop at all reasonable times any taxicab operating on the meter basis and require the person in charge thereof to go to some convenient place for the purpose of making the examination herein required.

Section 47: That Section 341.790 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.790. Defective or unsealed meters. No person shall drive or permit to be driven a taxicab equipped with a taximeter that does not bear the seal placed thereon by the licensing official, ~~or one (1) that does not register or that registers inaccurately, or one (1) on which the reading can be changed, altered or manipulated, except to clear the meter.~~ No taxicab hired upon a meter basis shall be operated when a taximeter is broken, and out of order, ~~or the seal has been broken or tampered with, defaced or otherwise mutilated,~~ or for any reason does not currently register the fee charged.

Section 48: That Section 341.800 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.800. Complaints about meters. When complaint is made to the licensing official that any taximeter registers improperly or incorrectly, the licensing official shall immediately examine and inspect such taximeter and every wheel, tire, gear shaft and other part of the mechanism which may affect the operation or control of such taximeter. The licensing official shall seal all taximeters, when permitted, and date of examination and inspection thereof. In the event any taximeter becomes broken or has to be repaired or does not register correctly or the seal has been broken or tampered with, defaced or otherwise mutilated, the same shall be again inspected by the licensing official and again sealed, when permitted, and a new record made of the subsequent inspection and sealing. A tolerance of two (2) percent shall be allowed in tests of such meters. When it is necessary to recheck a sealed taximeter, the checker shall not be charged a fare for any such trip of inspection.

Section 49: That Section 341.810 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.810. Financial reports.** Upon request by the council any licensee, service corporation or owners' association shall furnish to the council the following information concerning the operation of said taxicab business:~~

~~(a) An operating statement showing the income and expenses with respect to the taxicab business of such applicant.~~

~~(b) — A balance sheet showing the assets, reserves, if any, and liabilities applicable to the taxicab business of the applicant.~~

~~Such information shall cover the period of time requested and shall be furnished within not less than forty five (45) days after requested. Any such licensee who shall fail to furnish such information within the time herein stated shall have his licenses suspended for a period of not to exceed thirty (30) days after a hearing before said committee, upon five (5) days' written notice of such hearing.~~

Section 50: That Section 341.900 of the above-entitled Ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.900. License required. No service company, as defined in this chapter, shall provide radio-dispatching, color rights, advertising, record keeping, and other common services, to a group of taxicab owners or drivers licensed by the City of Minneapolis, without a service company license as required herein.

Section 51: That Section 341.960 of the above-entitled Ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.960. Conditions. Every licensed service company shall:

(a) Take affirmative measures to insure that all of its taxicab owners and drivers comply with the terms of this chapter;

(b) Be responsible for the operation of an unlicensed taxicab and the operation of a taxicab by an unlicensed driver;

~~(c) — Insure that all trip sheets are filed and maintained in accordance with section 341.240;~~

~~(d)~~ Insure that no taxicab vehicle is operated in unsafe mechanical condition, or with major body damage, or in any event after being ordered out of service by a license inspector; insure that all taxicabs are washed at least once a week pursuant to section 341.150;

~~(e)~~ Be responsible to provide overall taxicab service to the public as required by section 341.290. Each service company shall keep accurate records indicating which of its licensed taxicabs and drivers are operating on each day, portion of a day, or shift. These records shall be filed and maintained for a minimum of one (1) year and shall be available for inspection in the same manner as trip sheets;

~~(f)~~ Institute policies and procedures requiring all drivers to respond to radio dispatch calls;

~~(g)~~ If a request for service has not been answered within fifteen (15) minutes, the service company dispatcher shall order a taxicab to respond to the request immediately;

~~(h)~~ Promptly respond to all complaints by passengers, and other members of the public. Also, every service company shall refer all significant complaints against individual taxicab owners and drivers to the licensing official;

~~(i)~~ Promptly respond to all requests for information from the licensing official;

~~(j)~~ Train and test all taxicab drivers regarding the traffic laws, ability to read and write the English language, the geography and street system of the areas serviced by its taxicabs, and the rules of conduct for taxicab drivers in this chapter;

(kj) In addition to the above conditions, every licensed wheelchair accessible taxicab service company shall maintain a computerized dispatch system to adequately respond to and maintain records of both on-demand and scheduled requests for service;

(lk) A licensee licensed to transport passengers in wheelchairs must provide training to each of its operators on the special needs of persons with disabilities. The operator shall also receive training on operating and maintaining vehicle accessible features. The training program is subject to approval by the city council. Every licensed service company shall provide drivers trained to transport handicapped individuals and to ensure that the licensee is providing the service required under this chapter;

(ml) Every licensed service company shall provide the licensing official with written documentation detailing the specific safety equipment in section 341.597 that is required on all taxicabs in its fleet by December 1, 2004. This documentation shall include sufficient information on the specifications, type, and brand of safety equipment chosen to insure compliance with the taxicab safety book of standards.

Section 52: That Section 341.970 of the above-entitled ordinance be and is hereby repealed.

~~**341.970. Annual performance review.** The licensing official shall annually review the overall performance of each licensed service company, including but not limited to, a review of the level of compliance with the conditions prescribed in section 341.960. The annual review shall be conducted at least thirty (30) days prior to the license renewal date. The annual review may include a meeting between the licensing official and the representatives of a licensed service company to discuss complaints and inspect records. The licensing official shall report the results of each review to the committee, which shall consider such reports in determining whether to renew each service company license.~~

Section 53: That Section 341.975 of the above-entitled ordinance be amended to read as follows:

341.975. Service company reporting. (a) Each licensed service company shall, ~~on a monthly basis~~ as requested by the licensing official, submit to the licensing official a daily service report for each day of the preceding month that shall contain the following data:

- (1) Number of taxicabs in service in each twelve-hour shift.
- (2) The number of radio or telephone dispatched calls each taxicab took per shift.
- (3) Number of total fares in each shift for each taxicab in service.
- (4) The number of lost calls each day by time breakdown.
- ~~(5) The total response time for each trip. This shall include and show a separate breakdown for the time the caller was on hold, the time between the call for service, and the time the order was bid on or assigned to a taxicab, the time between the dispatch of the call and the time of arrival of the taxicab, and the amount of the fare as well as the location of the service request call.~~

~~(6)~~ The average time each day by time period breakdown between the calls for service and the times of arrival of the taxicab by geographic areas to be determined by the licensing official ~~in consultation with the taxicab committee.~~

~~(7)~~ In addition to the above information, taxicab service companies providing wheelchair accessible service shall provide data on the number of scheduled and unscheduled rides provided by each licensed vehicle, the start and end city locations of each trip, and the response to each request for wheelchair accessible service.

(b) The form of the daily service records shall be in such format as is agreed upon by the licensing official ~~and the taxicab committee~~. Within one (1) year, each taxicab service company shall provide the taxicab committee with a business plan that would detail the cost and time necessary to provide the data above in a computerized format. Daily service reports for each month shall be submitted by each service company to the licensing official ~~no later than the fifteenth (15th) day of the subsequent month~~ when requested. Any licensed service company that fails to furnish such a daily service report in a timely fashion shall have its license suspended for a period not to exceed thirty (30) days after a hearing before the committee responsible for dealing with licensing issues.

(c) Taxicab service companies operating with less than fifteen (15) taxicabs shall supply the same information, but may do so in a non-computerized format.

~~(d) Beginning February 1, 2001, each taxicab service company shall report to the appropriate city council committee on an annual basis the progress it has made toward putting handicapped accessible vehicles into service as taxicabs in the city. Such report shall specify the steps taken to properly review this option, when such vehicles will be part of the fleet, and what the anticipated costs of such operation will be.~~