

AGENDA



Thursday, April 5, 2007

**Public Works
RECOMMENDATION FOR COUNCIL ACTION****Item No. 13**

Subject: Approve an ordinance amending Sections 13-2-302, 13-2-303(A), 13-2-304(A), 13-2-308(B) and 13-2-324(A) of the City Code relating to the maximum number of taxicab franchise permits that a franchisee is eligible to receive.

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Boards and Commission Action: Recommended by the Urban Transportation Commission.

During the discussion regarding the proposed transfer of the Roy's Taxi franchise to Yellow Cab, City Council directed staff to prepare revisions to the City Code limiting a taxicab franchise from acquiring more than 60% of the taxicab franchise permits that the City of Austin may distribute.

The materials accompanying this item for the proposed transfer include the proposed revisions to the City Code that would prevent the transfer of permits from one franchise to another franchise that holds 60% or more of the City of Austin taxicab permits.

In addition, a taxicab franchise with 60% or more of City of Austin taxicab permits will not be eligible to receive any additional permits that become available due to an increase in the factors that determine the number of taxicab permits. However, a franchise with 60% or more of the permits may obtain additional permits only if other existing franchises are either not eligible for or do not request available additional permits, and no one applies for a new franchise.

The Urban Transportation Commission considered the proposed ordinance on January 9, 2007 and recommended, on a vote of 6 – 0 with two members absent, to accept the Code amendments strongly urging consideration being given to lowering the proposed franchise permit limitation from 60% to not more than 50%.