

**RESOLUTION NO. 20111215-065**

**WHEREAS**, after three months of surveys, interviews and data analysis, a final report of Austin's ground transportation system was submitted by the Tennessee Transportation and Logistics Foundation to the City of Austin in September 2011; and

**WHEREAS**, the study recommended issuing 100 peak demand permits to address peak demand service in the evening hours and during special events; and

**WHEREAS**, during special events periods, it was estimated that there is a 180% increase in demand for service, a 143% increase in dispatched trips and a 232% increase in flagged trips; and

**WHEREAS**, the report noted feedback from one operator that estimated a need for additional peak demand permits roughly for more than 37 out of 52 weeks of the year; and

**WHEREAS**, establishing a peak demand system only would challenge the minimal staffing levels currently devoted to the City of Austin's administration of ground transportation; and

**WHEREAS**, issuing an additional 75 permits would help address the peak demand; and

**WHEREAS**, an alternate model -- known as "legacy permits" -- distributes portable taxicab permits directly to drivers; and

**WHEREAS**, the City's Transportation Code contemplates that a franchise holder will hold no more than 60 percent of the total taxicab permits; and

**WHEREAS**, permit ownership levels now stand as follows:

Yellow Cab: 455 permits (67.4%)

Austin Cab Company: 162 permits (24.0%)

Lone Star Cab Company: 58 permits (8.6 %)

**TOTAL PERMITS:** 675

**WHEREAS**, the City Council determines that Ordinance No. 20070517-064 establishes unequal criteria for one taxi franchise and amendments are necessary to bring all franchise holders under the same set of regulations; **NOW, THEREFORE**,

**BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF AUSTIN:**

In order to bring Austin's taxi system more in line with its established goals, the City Manager is directed to prepare an ordinance for Council consideration encompassing the necessary code changes and waivers that would allow for the issuance of an additional 75 permits in two phases:

- On February 9, 2012, return to Council for action allocating 30 permits to Lone Star Cab Company and 15 permits to Austin Cab Company; and
- On June 7, 2012, return to Council for action allocating 20 permits to Lone Star Cab Company and 10 permits to Austin Cab Company.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That during the second phase, the City Manager is directed to work with stakeholders and issue a response to the "Mundy Report" for presentation to Council and the Urban Transportation Commission ("UTC") with the UTC making recommendations to Council by June 7, 2012.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

On February 9, 2012 when additional permits are brought to Council for approval and on June 7, 2012 when additional permits are brought to Council for approval, the City Manager is directed to also bring to Council an estimate of the likely effect of the additional permits on customer service, franchise holder revenues and driver earnings.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Manager is directed to prepare applicable amendments to Ordinance No. 20070517-064 that would align all three franchises with the same ownership requirements by February 9, 2012.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Manager is directed to work with stakeholders and the Urban Transportation Commission to develop options for implementing legacy permits and incentivize sustainable fleets to be presented to City Council on February 9, 2012.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

In preparation for franchise agreement renewal, the City Manager is further directed to provide City Council with a report about elements such as

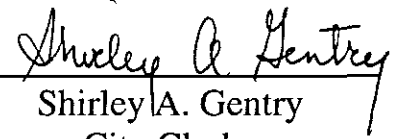
insurance and rental fees that are or could be included in taxicab franchise agreements by May 24, 2012.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

The City Manager is directed to evaluate options for taxi stands in the downtown area.

**ADOPTED:** December 15, 2011

**ATTEST:**

  
Shirley A. Gentry  
City Clerk