# AUSTIN MOBILITY

#### Electric Low Speed Vehicles Pilot Program

Austin Transportation Department Tuesday, September 11, 2012 CREATED FOR THE URBAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

Austin Mobility

Radisson

Making mobility better, together.



#### Ordinance #20111020-053

On October 20, 2011, the Austin City Council adopted an ordinance enacting a pilot program for the operation of Electric Low Speed Vehicles (ELSV's) as vehicles-for-hire.





Two applications were received for ELSV Operating Authorities. One provider was authorized.

### PROGRAM PARAMETERS & POINTS OF EMPHASIS

Prior to adopting the enabling ordinance, several issues were determined to be of significance:

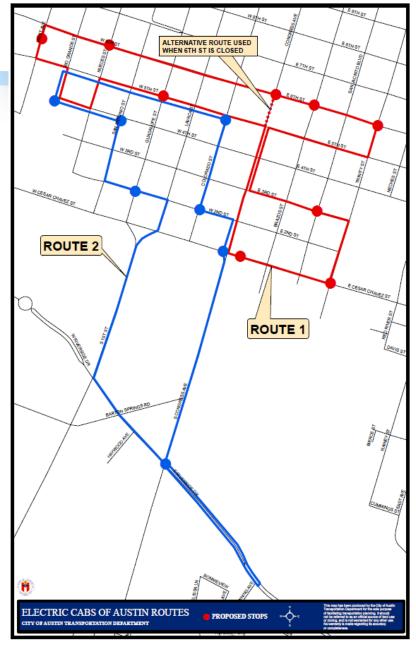
- September 30, 2012 sunset
- 3 available Operating Authorities for the Pilot Program
- Route-based operation only
- Fixed-fare payment structure
- Flexibility to amend Operating Authority and routes
- Data Collection:
  - Ridership per route
  - Frequency of operation
  - Safety record
  - o Compliance





#### **Approved Routes**

- Data provided estimates circuit completion times for 3 routes of 10 to 20 minutes
- ATD has approved a requested modification of "Route 1"



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9.11.2012 PRESENTED TO THE URBAN TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION





Data submitted to ATD by Electric Cab of Austin

- April '12: Avg. daily passengers per vehicle 15
- May '12: Avg. daily passengers per vehicle:
  - Vehicles #1 & #2 21
  - Vehicles #3 & #4 27
- June '12: Avg. daily passengers per vehicle 27
- July '12: Avg. daily passengers per vehicle 19
- August '12: Avg. daily passengers per vehicle 18
- \*Requested ridership per route data was not provided

Electric Cab of Austin added Vehicles #3 and #4 on May 29th. The average for those vehicles was derived from 3 days in service.





# ROUTE FREQUENCY/CIRCUIT TIMES

Prior to approving requested routes, ATD evaluated the frequency and circuit times of both requested routes

- Both routes averaged circuit completion times near 17 minutes, with an 8 ½ minute frequency (2 vehicles per route)
- Data provided by the current operator indicates circuit times of:
  - Route #1 10 to 20 minutes
  - Route #2 10 to 20 minutes
  - Route #3 10 to 20 minutes





# SAFETY & COMPLIANCE

The operator has not reported any accidents during the course of the pilot program.

- Ground Transportation Enforcement Observations:
  - Not on approved route
  - Operating w/o seatbelts
  - Unpermitted drivers
  - Required decals/rate cards





# **RECOMMENDED CHANGES**

13-2-287(D)(2)

- Delete "State Inspection"
- Add "City Inspection"
- 13-2-287(E)(4)
  - Delete 4 passenger limit
  - Add a passenger limit equivalent to the number of approved seatbelts, excluding driver (Max 6)
- 13-2-288(D)
  - Delete 4 passenger limit
  - Add a passenger limit equivalent to the number of approved seatbelts, excluding driver (Max 6)
- 13-2-288(G)(14)(c)

•Delete requirement of 2 side turn signals





## **RECOMMENDED CHANGES**

- 13-2-289(B)(2) "The department may cancel the operating authority of an electric low-speed vehicle service if, at any time before September 30, 2012, the use of electric low-speed vehicles for hire is deemed to be unsafe or unworkable.
  - Strike "before September 30, 2012"
- Part 3 "This ordinance expires on September 30, 2012, unless it is extended by action of the City Council
  - Delete Part 3





## MOVING FORWARD

- Staff seeks support of the Urban Transportation Commission of these six amendments, as discussed
- Recommendations will be presented to Mayor and Council on the September 27<sup>th</sup> council agenda for consideration



