

A G E N D A



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council		Item ID	37255	Agenda Number	54.
Meeting Date:	11/6/2014			Department:	Transportation
Subject					
Approve an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 13-2 (Ground Transportation Passenger Services) to revise and add definitions, and amend the regulations related to the operation of charter services.					
Amount and Source of Funding					
Fiscal Note					
A fiscal note is not required.					
Purchasing Language:					
Prior Council Action:	Ordinance No. 20130620-051. Ordinance No. 20130822-081.				
For More Information:	Robert Spillar 512-974-2488, Gordon Derr 512-974-7228, Carlton Thomas 512-974-7020, Gilda Powers 512-974-7092.				
Boards and Commission Action:	October 14, 2014, recommended by the Urban Transportation Commission on a 4/0/0/3 vote with Commissioners Highsmith, Lanier, and Truxillo absent.				
MBE / WBE:					
Related Items:					

Additional Backup Information

Pursuant to the ruling on the preliminary injunction from United States District Judge Sam Sparks in the case of *United Motor Coach Association Inc. v. City of Austin*, the below amendments are being recommended.

Recommendations include:

- A) Removing 30-minute prearrangement requirement for vehicles with a capacity of 16 or more passengers.
- B) Amend charter service regulations to distinguish regulations for charter buses versus charter vans.
- C) Revise definitions to add charter bus service, charter bus service permit, charter bus service provider, charter van services and permittee. The definition of prearranged service is revised to exclude charter bus service.
- D) Various amendments to consolidate regulations in one subpart specific to charter buses; and
- E) Clean up language to include revisions to requirements related to required map in the vehicle, driver's license, abandoned property, supplemental vehicles, and special events.

Staff makes the recommendations to change the regulations applicable to charter bus service in the proposed ordinance in order to comply with the federal court's order, and for the following reasons:

- Austin is home to several major events throughout the year and it is in the City's best interest to protect its citizens and visitors from unscrupulous businesses that may not provide safe vehicles or drivers to those seeking charter transportation;
- Ensure Charter Buses and Vans are mechanically safe when transporting masses of people;
- Address pedestrian and vehicular traffic safety;
- Address mobility and congestion concerns;
- Ensure reliable vehicles are on City roadways;
- Identify operator and driver fitness to provide transportation services to the general public; and
- Make owners and operators accountable for vehicle and public safety

