

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

AUSTIN CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting: June 28, 2018

Item Number: 054

Transportation

Approve an ordinance amending City Code Chapter 13-2 (Ground Transportation Passenger Services) related to regulation of taxicabs and limousines, and repealing certain requirements.

Lead Department	Austin Transportation
Fiscal Note	There is no financial impact for this item.
Prior Council Action	Ordinance No. 20171214-095 - Amendment to City Code Chapter 13-2 concerning Chauffeur permits, Limousine service, Transportation Network Company service, and Charter services - Approved on an 11-0 vote. Ordinance No. 20171005-027 - Amendment to City Code Chapter 13 relating to chauffeurs permit and creating Conditional Chauffeur Permit. Approved on an 11-0 vote. Ordinance No. 20161215-067 - Amendment to City Code Chapter 13-2 relating to ground transportation driver disqualification - Approved on a 10-0 vote with Council Member Gallo off the dais.
For More Information	Robert Spillar, 512-974-2488; Jason JonMichael, 512-974-7028; Jacob Culberson, 512-974-1489; Gilda Powers, 512-974-7092
Council Committee, Boards and Commission Action	May 8, 2018 - Reviewed by the Urban Transportation Commission, no action taken. April 13, 2018 - Reviewed by the Urban Transportation Commission. No vote took place. February 14, 2017 - Reviewed by the Urban Transportation

	Commission.
--	-------------

Additional Backup Information:

City Code Chapter 13-2 governs the oversight and regulation of ground transportation passenger services, including those by charter bus, charter van, limousine, pedicab, electric low speed vehicle, horse drawn carriage, and taxicab.

The Austin Transportation Department (ATD) requests Council approve the proposed ordinance to amend certain sections of City Code Chapter 13-2 pertaining to the City's taxicab regulations. These amendments are intended to modernize the current Austin taxicab model and to allow companies to operate on a level playing field with other ground transportation passenger services not regulated by the City of Austin, such as Transportation Network Companies (TNCs).

The proposed ordinance will allow taxicab companies to operate more competitively by allowing for flexible fares and flat rates, flexible taxicab fleet numbers, virtual meters, the removal of third-party inspection requirements, and certain cost-prohibitive trade dress requirements, while enhancing incentives for electric and ADA compliant taxicab vehicles. ATD led extensive stakeholder outreach related to the regulatory reform and broad consensus was reached.

This recommendation for Council action is part of an effort to modernize/reform much of City Code 13-2 related to ground transportation services. The Austin City Council previously approved Ordinance No. 20171214-095, reforming regulations applicable to limousine and charter passenger services.