

## **KING COUNTY**

1200 King County Courthouse 516 Third Avenue Seattle, WA 98104

## **Signature Report**

## **September 16, 2008**

## Ordinance 16234

**Proposed No.** 2008-0463.2 **Sponsors** Gossett and Ferguson 1 AN ORDINANCE relating to taxicab and for-hire vehicle 2 rates; and amending Ordinance 10498, Section 95, as 3 amended, and K.C.C. 6.64.760. 4 5 BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF KING COUNTY: 6 SECTION 1. Ordinance 10498, Section 95, as amended, and K.C.C. 6.64.760 are 7 each hereby amended to read as follows: 8 A. The rates for taxicabs licensed to operate in King County shall be established 9 by the King County council. 10 B. In reviewing rates, the council may take into account, among other things, and 11 with the objective of prescribing a just and reasonable rate, the following factors: 12 1. The recommendations of the director pursuant to K.C.C. 6.68,740, if any: 13 2. The public need for adequate taxi service at the lowest level of charges 14 consistent with the provision, maintenance and continuation of such service; 15 3. The rates of other licensees operating in similar areas; 16 4. The effect of such rates upon transportation of passengers by other modes of 17 transportation;

18	5. The licensee's need for revenue of a level which under honest, efficient and
19	economical management is sufficient to cover the cost, including all operating expenses,
20	depreciation accruals, rents, license fees and taxes of every kind, of providing adequate
21	taxi service, plus an amount equal to a percentage of the cost that is reasonably necessary
22	for the replacement of deteriorated taxicabs and a reasonable profit to the licensee; and
23	6. Consistency of rates with those prescribed by the city of Seattle.
24	C. No taxicab shall have more than one rate on its meter.
25	D. Except for special or contract rates as provided for in this chapter or any per
26	trip fee established by the Port of Seattle and set forth in any operating agreement or
27	tariff, it shall be unlawful for anyone operating a taxicab licensed by King County to
28	charge, demand or receive any greater or lesser rate than the following:
29	Meter rate
30	1. Drop charge: For passengers for first 1/10 mile \$2.50
31	2. Per mile: For each 1/10 mile or fraction thereof after
32	the first $1/10$ mile $$((0.20)) 0.25$
33	3. For every one minute of waiting time: Waiting time rates are
34	charged when taxicab speed is less than ((fifteen)) twelve
35	miles per hour or when customer asks for taxicab to wait \$0.50 (charged at
36	<u>\$0.25 per</u>
37	30 seconds)
38	4. Extra charge for passengers over two persons, excluding
39	children under ((12)) twelve years of age \$0.50
40	E. Special rates and contract rates.

41	1. Special rates as defined in this chapter shall be calculated as a percentage of
42	the meter rate.
43	2. All special rates must be filed with the director on forms furnished by the
44	director.
45	3. All special rates or contract rates shall be filed once a year at the time of
46	application by the affiliated representative of a service company or by the vehicle
47	licensee in the case of an independent owner.
48	4. Licensees may change any special rate filed no more than once a year.
49	5. Rates for new contracts acquired or changed during the license year shall be
50	filed within two weeks of filing the contract and prior to implementing the contracted
51	rate.
52	F. Every for-hire vehicle licensee shall, before commencing operating, file all
53	rates and charges with the director. All rates and charges shall be conspicuously
54	displayed inside the for-hire vehicle so as to be readily viewed by the passenger. The
55	manner of posting will be prescribed by the director.
56	G. The rates specified in this section shall not apply to transportation of persons
57	provided pursuant to a written contract that establishes a fare at a different rate for
58	specified transportation and that has been previously filed with the director. No contract
59	may include any provision that directly or indirectly requires exclusive use of the
60	transportation services of the contracting taxicab vehicle.
61	H. It is unlawful to make any discriminatory charges to any person, or to make
62	any rebate or in any manner reduce the charge to any person, unless the charge conforms
63	to the discounts or surcharges contained in the filed rates.

Attachments None

Ron Sims, County Executive