

04-0-2023

AN ORDINANCE



BY COUNCILMEMBER CEASAR C. MITCHELL

AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, CHAPTER 162, ENTITLED “VEHICLES FOR HIRE”, BY CREATING A NEW SECTION 162-120 TO BE ENTITLED “THE PARATRANSIT TAXI PROGRAM” [OR “THE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE TAXICAB PILOT PROGRAM”]; TO ESTABLISH THE RULES, REGULATIONS, REQUIREMENTS AND VEHICLE SPECIFICATIONS RELATED TO SAID PROGRAM; TO REPEAL CONFLICTING ORDINANCES; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.

Whereas, the Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990 (ADA) was enacted to address the problem of discrimination against individuals with disabilities in such critical areas as employment, public accommodation, public transportation and access to public services; and

Whereas, there are approximately 54 million Americans with disabilities of which approximately twenty percent use wheelchairs; and

Whereas, most taxi service is operated in automobiles, which are exempt from ADA accessibility guidelines and are not equipped with lifts or ramps which would allow the passenger to be transported while remaining in his/her wheelchair; and

Whereas, studies show that there is a sizable population of mobility-challenged people who need curb-to-curb taxi service; and

Whereas, vehicles are currently on the market which are equipped with special-use capabilities and can be used as vehicles for hire in the transportation of passengers with special needs; and

Whereas, the cities of Chicago, San Francisco, San Diego, Boston, Los Angeles, Fort Lauderdale and Las Vegas require the inclusion of accessible taxicabs among their fleets of vehicles for hire; and

Whereas, the City of Atlanta has no such requirement; and

Whereas, the addition of such a requirement would allow the City’s taxicab industry to better serve the City’s mobility-challenged population who need and desire curb-to-curb taxi service.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ATLANTA, GEORGIA, as follows:

Section 1: Chapter 162 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Atlanta, Georgia, entitled "Vehicles for Hire", is hereby amended by creating a new section 162-120, to be entitled "The Paratransit Taxi Program"[or, see above] which shall provide as follows:

"Sec. 162-120. The Paratransit Taxi Program.

(a) Purpose: The purpose of the Paratransit Taxi Program is to provide incentives, rules and regulations in order to be able to allow increased opportunity of accessibility to taxicab service to persons with disabilities on the same basis and at the same rates as those applicable to other taxicab customers.

(b) Definition: For purposes of this section, the term "wheelchair accessible taxicab" shall mean a vehicle which is either ADA compliant (Americans With Disabilities Act) or a vehicle which is equipped by the manufacturer with an integrated fold-down wheelchair ramp which provides access to mobility devices, wheelchairs and scooters normally used by mobility-challenged persons. Such vehicles shall be wheelchair accessible either by a rear door entry system or by a side door entry system with a ninety degree door opening capability and shall contain a universally compatible securing system that ensures safe and sound transportation of passengers while they are seated in their wheelchairs.

(c) Service; rates: All wheelchair accessible taxicabs shall provide a level of service, including but not limited to, response time, which is comparable to the level of service provided to persons without disabilities and at rates which are no higher than those charged to persons without disabilities

- (1) A wheelchair accessible taxicab shall provide a minimum number of _____ rides per day [or week] to disabled persons needing such transportation.
- (2) Wheelchair accessible taxicabs shall grant priority to requests for service from wheelchair users. In the absence of such requests for service, wheelchair accessible taxicabs may transport any person in accordance with the provisions of this chapter governing vehicles for hire.
- (3) Each driver of a wheelchair accessible taxicab shall maintain verifiable trip sheets documenting the response to each request for wheelchair assisted taxicab transportation and shall maintain said trip sheets in accordance with section 162-78(a)(1) of this chapter.

(d) CPNC: The requirements for CPNC's issued pursuant to the Paratransit Taxi Program shall be as follows:

- (1) Not more than 25 temporary CPNC's shall be issued by the bureau pursuant to this program. Said class of CPNC's shall only grant the holder thereof, a

RCS# 6391
1/03/05
3:54 PM

Atlanta City Council

Regular Session

MULTIPLE

0502 0503 0504 0931 1270
1271 1628-SUB 1806 1923 1924 2023
FILE

YEAS: 11
NAYS: 0
ABSTENTIONS: 0
NOT VOTING: 5
EXCUSED: 0
ABSENT 0

Y Smith	Y Archibong	Y Moore	Y Mitchell
Y Starnes	Y Fauver	NV Martin	Y Norwood
NV Young	Y Shook	NV Maddox	Y Willis
Y Winslow	Y Muller	NV Sheperd	NV Borders

MULTIPLE

#1
 (Do Not Write Above This Line) **04 2023**

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FILED BY
 CITY COUNCIL JAN 03 2005

- CONSENT REFER
- REGULAR REPORT REFER
- ADVERTISE & REFER
- 1st ADOPT 2nd READ & REFER
- PERSONAL PAPER REFER

Date Referred Nov 1, 2004
 Referred To: Public Safety & Legal Affairs
 Date Referred Adm.
 Referred To:
 Date Referred
 Referred To:

Committee _____
 Date _____
 Chair _____
 Referred To _____

PSLA Committee
 Date 11/9/04
 Chair _____

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)
 Other _____

Members _____

Refer To _____

ADA Committee
 Date 12/14/04
 Chair _____

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)
 Other _____

Members _____

Refer To _____

Committee _____

Date _____

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)
 Other _____

Members _____

Refer To _____

Committee _____

Date _____

Fav, Adv, Hold (see rev. side)
 Other _____

Members _____

Refer To _____

FINAL COUNCIL ACTION
 2nd 1st & 2nd 3rd
 Consent V Vote RC Vote

CERTIFIED

CERTIFIED
 JAN 03 2005

CERTIFIED
 JAN 03 2005

MUNICIPAL CLERK

MAYOR'S ACTION