

NO: R019

COUNCIL DATE: February 11, 2019

REGULAR COUNCIL

TO: **Mayor & Council**

DATE: **February 7, 2019**

FROM: **General Manager, Corporate Services**

FILE: **4320-60**

XC: **3900-20-13610**

SUBJECT: **Increase of Taxicab Licenses**

RECOMMENDATION

The Corporate Services Department recommends that Council:

1. Receive this report for information;
2. Approve an amendment to the *City of Surrey Vehicle for Hire By-law, 1999, No. 13610*, to authorize the one time increase of 47 taxicab licenses from 426 to 473, as documented in Appendix "I" of this report; and
3. Authorize the City Clerk to bring forward the related Bylaw amendment as described in this report for the required readings and adoption.

INTENT

The intent of this report is to request that Council approve the addition of 47 taxicab licenses to the City of Surrey Vehicle for Hire Bylaw.

BACKGROUND

In 1999, the *Vehicle for Hire Bylaw, 1999, No. 13610* (the "Bylaw") was approved by Council. Surrey's population has substantially increased since then, creating a steady demand over time for increased taxicab service in the City. In response to this demand, a review process was developed by the City through consultation with the taxicab industry. Under the current Bylaw, the number of vehicles which may be licensed in the City of Surrey for use as a Class "A" Taxicab may only be increased by an application to Council from the taxi industry, which would also need to be within the guidelines of the Passenger Transportation Board ("PTB").

The applicant (Taxi Company) is required to first submit their request to the PTB and, if approved, the request would then be presented to Council.

Presently, a total of 426 taxicab licenses are authorized in the City under the current Bylaw.

DISCUSSION

In September 2018, the PTB approved a motion to allow taxi companies to expand their fleets by 15% to provide better service to the public. The following companies applied for and have been approved by the PTB for additional licenses:

Name of Taxi Company	Number of Cabs Approved	Decision Date from PTB	Total Cabs
White Rock/South Surrey Taxi	11 additional vehicles, 1 of which must be wheelchair accessible	2018-11-21	11
Kuber Taxi	3 additional conventional vehicles	2018-11-21	3
Surdell Kennedy	12 additional vehicles, 2 of which must be wheelchair accessible	2018-11-30	12
Guildford Cabs	8 additional vehicles, 1 of which must be wheelchair accessible	2018-11-30	8
Newton Whalley	13 additional vehicles, 1 of which must be wheelchair accessible	2018-12-07	13
			47

Staff recommend that Council approve the 47 additional licenses as reflected in the table above. This would increase the total number of Class "A" taxicab licenses in the City of Surrey from 426 to 473.

SUSTAINABILITY CONSIDERATIONS

The addition of 47 taxicab licenses in the City of Surrey supports the objectives of the City's Sustainability Charter 2.0. In particular, the recommendations support the Sustainability Charter 2.0 theme of Public Safety. Specifically, the recommendations support the following Strategic Directions ("SD") and Desired Outcomes ("DO")

- Transportation Safety Dog: The transportation network supports and provides safe mobility for all ages and abilities.

CONCLUSION

Based on the above discussion, the Corporate Services Department recommends that Council:

- Approve an amendment to the City of Surrey *Vehicle for Hire By-law, 1999, No. 13610*, to authorize the one time increase of 47 taxicab licenses from 426 to 473, as documented in Appendix "I" of this report; and
- Authorize the City Clerk to bring forward the related Bylaw amendment as described in this report for the required readings and adoption.

Rob Costanzo
General Manager, Corporate Services

Appendix "I": Proposed Amendment to the City of Surrey *Vehicle for Hire By-law, 1999, No. 13610*

CITY OF SURREY

BYLAW NO. 19779

A bylaw to amend the provisions of "City of Surrey
Vehicle for Hire By-law, 1999, No. 13610" as amended
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The Council of the City of Surrey, enacts as follows:

1. "City of Surrey Vehicle for Hire By-law, 1999, No. 13610", as amended, is hereby further amended as follows:
 - a) Part 2 - Licensing is amended in Section 6 "Number of Licenses" by deleting the number "426" and replacing it with the number "473".
2. This Bylaw shall be cited for all purposes as the "City of Surrey Vehicle for Hire Bylaw, 1999, No. 13610, Amendment Bylaw, 2019, No. 19779".

PASSED FIRST READING on the day of , 2019.

PASSED SECOND READING on the day of , 2019.

PASSED THIRD READING on the day of , 2019.

RECONSIDERED AND FINALLY ADOPTED, signed by the Mayor and Clerk, and sealed with the Corporate Seal on the day of , 2019.

_____ MAYOR

_____ CLERK