

Licensing and Standards Committee

Meeting No.	10	Contact	Dela Ting, Acting Administrator
Meeting Date	Friday, January 11, 2008	Phone	416-397-7769
Start Time	9:30 AM	E-mail	lsc@toronto.ca
Location	Committee Room 1, City Hall		

The Decision Document is for preliminary reference purposes only. Please refer to the Committee's Report to City Council or to the Minutes for the official record.

How to Read the Decision Document:

- *Recommendations of the Committee to City Council appear after the item heading*
- *Any amendments by Committee to recommendations appearing in a staff report are italicized.*
- *Other action taken by the Committee on its own authority, which does not require Council's approval, is listed in the decision document under the heading "Decision Advice and Other Information".*
- *Declarations of Interest, if any, appear at the end of an item.*

Minutes Confirmed - November 30, 2007

LS10.1	ACTION	Amended		Wards: All
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Using Camera Phones to Report Graffiti, Litter and Maintenance Issues

(November 23, 2007) Member Motion from Councillor Palacio

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Licensing and Standards Committee:

1. Requested the City Manager to report back to the Licensing and Standards Committee on the feasibility of:
 - a. promoting the use of camera phones by the public to report litter, graffiti and maintenance issues, as outlined in motion (M164) by Councillor Cesar Palacio;
 - b. how this concept can be seamlessly integrated into the 3-1-1 System;

- c. "google mapping" citizens' pictures, similar to how the City of London, England (Borough of Lewisham) has done at virtually no cost;
- d. utilizing City bus shelter advertising as one method of promoting this initiative, if approved by City Council; and
- e. building the proposal into the graffiti pilot project approved by City Council.

Summary

City Council on November 19 and 29, 2007, referred the following Motion (M164) to the Licensing and Standards Committee for consideration:

"That the City Manager report to an upcoming meeting of the Licensing and Standards Committee on the feasibility of promoting the use of camera phones by the public to report litter, graffiti and maintenance issues as described in the motion moved by Councillor Palacio."

Background Information

M164 Motion to the Licensing and Standards Committee
<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-9705.pdf>

Communications

(January 8, 2008) e-mail from Devin Glowinski, Operations Coordinator, Downtown Yonge Business Improvement Area (LS.New.LS10.1.1)

LS10.2	ACTION	Referred		Wards: All
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Regulation of Queuing on the Public Sidewalk

(Public Notice given)

(December 18, 2007) Report from Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Licensing and Standards Committee:

1. referred the report (December 18, 2007) from the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, to the Working Group on the Entertainment District, for consideration; and
2. requested that they report back to the Licensing and Standards Committee with any licensing reforms, including any sidewalk queuing provisions, for consideration by the Committee.

Financial Impact

The recommendations will have no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in the current year's budget.

Summary

Consultations were undertaken with City Divisions, the Toronto Police Service (Divisions 52 and 14), the Alcohol and Gaming Commission (AGCO), the King-Spadina Residents Association (KSRA), the Toronto Entertainment District Association, as well as representatives of the club owners. Input was sought from the Toronto Pedestrian Committee.

The Toronto Pedestrian Charter reflects the principle that a city's walkability is one of the most important measures of the quality of its public realm, and of its health and vitality. The purpose of regulating queuing on the sidewalk would be to support the principles set out in Toronto Pedestrian Charter, and in particular: Accessibility; Personal and Community Safety; and, Community Cohesion and Vitality.

The City of Toronto Accessibility Design Guidelines and Vibrant Streets - Toronto's Coordinated Street Furniture Program both address the use of City sidewalks and recommend that in no case should clearways for pedestrians be less than 1525 mm wide.

Three possible options for the implementation of the regulations have been considered: a permitting scheme similar to that used with cafes and marketing; amending the crowd control plan requirements currently contained in Chapter 545, Licensing relating to Entertainment Establishments and Nightclubs; or seeking to apply conditions to the liquor licence through the licensing process of the AGCO.

Staff recommend that the Toronto Municipal Code Chapter 545, Licensing, ARTICLE XLI Entertainment Establishment/Nightclub § 545-497, Noise control and crowd control plan, of Chapter 545, Licensing be amended to include the regulations to be followed in the development of the required crowd control plan.

Background Information

Regulation of Queuing on the Public Sidewalk

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-9706.pdf>)

LS10.3	ACTION	Adopted		Wards: All
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Taxicab Fare Calculation and Impact of 2008 Goods and Services Tax Reduction on Taxicab Fares

(January 7, 2008) Report from Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards

Committee Recommendations

The Licensing and Standards Committee recommends to City Council that:

1. Taximeters in Toronto licensed taxicabs be recalibrated to reflect the Federal Government's reduction of the Goods and Services Tax (G.S.T.) on January 1, 2008, from 6% to 5%; and
2. The resulting increase in taxicab fares be absorbed by the taxicab industry as an increase of approximately 1% in taxicab fares for 2008.

Financial Impact

This report will have no financial impact beyond what has already been approved in Municipal Licensing and Standard's current year's budget.

Summary

The purpose of this report is to advise the City of Toronto regarding an annual review of taxicab fares utilizing the most recent Statistics Canada Consumer Price Index for the Province of Ontario, with special attention being paid to the current cost of fuel; and, to report on the impact on taxicab fares of the Federal government's reduction of 1% in the Goods and Services Tax (G.S.T.) on January 1, 2008.

The cost of operating a taxicab in the City of Toronto has increased by 0.66% from November 2005 to date based on the current taxicab fare determination formula. Utilizing the current taxicab fare determination formulas of Toronto, Mississauga and Ottawa, as shown in Appendix "A" to this report, the Toronto formula indicates a fare increase of 0.66%, an increase of 0.45% utilizing the Mississauga formula and an increase of 1.62% according to the Ottawa formula. Based on the three formulas, the average taxicab fare increase for Toronto licensed taxicabs is 0.91% based on current Statistics Canada data.

Given that the G.S.T. was reduced by 1% on January 1, 2008 and that the current fare calculation indicates that taxicab fares should, as an average, be increased by 0.91% for City of Toronto licensed taxicabs, it is recommended that taxicab fares in the City of Toronto be increased by allowing the taxicab industry to absorb the 1% G.S.T. reduction in lieu of a fare increase.

Background Information

Taxicab Fare Calculation and Impact of 2008 Goods and Services Tax Reduction on Taxicab Fares

(<http://www.toronto.ca/legdocs/mmis/2008/ls/bgrd/backgroundfile-9793.pdf>)

LS10.4	ACTION	Referred		Ward: 39
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Livery Service at Residential Location

Decision Advice and Other Information

The Licensing and Standards Committee requested the Executive Director, Municipal Licensing and Standards, to report to the next meeting of the Licensing and Standards Committee on February 15, 2008, on livery service issues at a residential location in Ward 39, Scarborough-Agincourt, raised by Councillor Mike Del Grande.

Summary

Request from Councillor Mike Del Grande with respect to livery service issues at residential location in Ward 39, Scarborough-Agincourt.

Meeting Sessions

Session Date	Session Type	Start Time	End Time	Public or Closed Session
2008-01-11	Morning	9:35 AM	10:00 AM	Public