

## STATUS UPDATE ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF PLATE REDISTRIBUTION POLICY

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### SUMMARY

At present, 9.3 per cent of Calgary's taxi fleet is wheelchair accessible.

The current target is for 11 per cent of Calgary's taxi fleet to be wheelchair accessible. This target is currently not being met for two reasons:

1. City Council adopted the recommendation of Administration and LTAC in November 2016 to release 222 TPLs, holding off on the release of additional ATPLs until the completion of the Accessible Taxi Review, and
2. Livery Transport Services (LTS) is currently in possession of 15 ATPLs resulting from permanent surrender or revocation as compared with 3 TPLs.

The Accessible Taxi Review is due to Council no later than 2018 Q1. Following this, no later than Q2 2018, Administration will report back to LTAC on the development of a redistribution policy for surrendered and revoked plates (both TPL and ATLP).

### BACKGROUND INFORMATION

On 2017 April 26 through LTAC2017-24, LTAC carried the following motion:

*That LTAC refer to Administration for a report back to LTAC on the possibility of ATPLs not reaching mandatory levels (11%) and the development of a policy on the redistribution of surrendered TPLs and surrendered ATPLs no later than the July 2017 regular meeting of LTAC.*

On 2017 March 20 through C2017-0250, Council adopted the following recommendation:

*Direct Administration to report to Council no later than 2018 Q1 with an options analysis and assessment that will seek to conclude the Calgary Transit Access (CTA) and LTS scoping review which will provide recommendations for collaboration on service delivery and accountability with the accessible taxi industry.*

On 2017 February 22 through LTAC2017-09, LTAC carried the following motion:

*Refer the matter back to Administration for further engagement with the Advisory Committee on Accessibility (ACA) and affected stakeholders with a report to come back to LTAC no later than Q3 2017 containing an initial proposal for the integration of CTA services and/or resources and accessible on-demand taxi service in Calgary meeting the various Council policy objectives pertaining to the provision of wheelchair accessible transportation.*

At its 2016 November 18 regular meeting through LTAC2016-42, LTAC carried the following motion:

*And further, that LTAC endorse the following recommendations, as amended, for Administration to present to Council on 2016 November 28:*

3. *That LTAC recommend the immediate release of 222 class 2 TPLs to eligible drivers.*

On 2012 May 7 through TT2012-13, Council approved the following recommendation:

*That Calgary target achieving 11% of the taxi fleet as wheelchair accessible. Until this target is achieved, all newly issued licences should be for accessible taxis only. After the target is achieved, 11% of new licences should be for accessible taxis. Maintaining an 11% share should be sufficient for Calgary to offer service to wheelchair users that is reasonably comparable to the service offered other customers.*

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### **INVESTIGATION**

The Livery Transport Bylaw 6M2007 authorizes The City to issue a maximum of 210 ATPLs and 1,699 TPLs.

Of the 189 ATPLs that have been released to date, LTS is currently in possession of 15 ATPLs resulting from permanent surrender or revocation, leaving 174. (Another 21 ATPLs are being held for future release upon Council's approval.)

Of the 1,692 TPLs that have been released to date (or are in the process of being released), LTS is currently in possession of 3 TPLs resulting from permanent surrender or revocation, leaving 1,689. (Another 7 TPLs are being held for future release, one (1) of which may be released to complete the 2017 taxi plate selection process in accordance with City Council's direction on 2017 June 12).

The total number of taxi licences currently issued or in the process of being issued in Calgary is 1,863 (174 ATPLs and 1689 TPLs). At present, 9.3 per cent of Calgary's taxi fleet is wheelchair accessible (174 of 1,863).

Administration understands that the current target of 11 per cent of the taxi fleet being wheelchair accessible is not being met. Given that the Accessible Taxi Review is ongoing, it is Administration's view that redistributing the surrendered/revoked ATPLs would be premature at this time. Upon completion of the Accessible Taxi Review, Administration will revisit the development of a plate redistribution policy that would include both TPLs and ATPLs.

An additional consideration for waiting until the completion of the Accessible Taxi Review is the recent launch of two new services – one taxi brokerage and one TNC – that cater to customers requiring wheelchair accessible service. Administration is encouraged by these developments and will be closely monitoring the service provided. Although it is too early to determine the impact, the introduction of these services is expected to improve overall accessible service delivery.

### **STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT OR RESEARCH CONDUCTED**

Administration has researched the plate distribution policies of peer Canadian regulators in Vancouver, Edmonton, Toronto, Winnipeg, Ottawa and Montreal (VETWOM).

Among VETWOM, plates are distributed by lottery (Edmonton), wait list (Toronto, Ottawa) and by application decided via public hearing (Vancouver, Winnipeg, Quebec). Administration has not identified any policies among VETWOM which specifically address the redistribution of surrendered or revoked plates.

### **CURRENT AND FUTURE FINANCIAL IMPACTS**

None.

<b>RECOMMENDATIONS FOR LTAC TO CONSIDER</b>
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To receive this report for information.
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