



# Amending Chapter 33 (Vehicles for Hire) - single taxicab owner/operator permits

Item #17

Presented by Erik Walsh, Deputy City Manager

May 31, 2018 – City Council A Session



**SAN ANTONIO**  
**POLICE**

PROTECTING THE ALAMO CITY

# Background

- 200 independent taxicab drivers submitted a petition requesting creation of an owner/operator permit category for drivers
- Transportation Committee suggested a neutral party to mediate between taxi companies, taxi co-ops, and taxi drivers.
- Mediation occurred on February 23, 2018
- 8 Participants from taxi companies, co-ops, and independent drivers

# Background



- Mediator presented her conclusions to the Transportation Council Committee on March 27, 2018.
- Mediator & staff also presented to the Transportation Advisory Board (TAB) on April 23, 2018.
- After a lengthy discussion, the TAB approved a recommendation to create independent operator permits

# Chapter 33 – Vehicles for Hire

## Chapter 33

Permit  
Cap  
Formula:  
1 permit/  
1,700  
pop.

No  
Owner/  
Operator  
permits

### Current # of Permits

- 848 Authorized Permits
- 720 Permits in Use
- 128 Permits Unassigned
- 114 WAV Permits
- 37 WAV Permits in Use
- 77 WAV Permits Unassigned

### Qualifications:

- Background Check & Fingerprints
- Sole Ownership
- Commercial Insurance
- Valid Tex. DL
- Citizenship/Legal Residency
- Management Plan
- Bond Requirement

## Mediation

Keep  
Existing  
Cap

Create  
Owner/  
Operator  
Permits

No consensus on # of  
Permits

### Qualifications:

- Staff to Determine Yrs. of Experience
- Background Checks & fingerprints
- Sole Owner
- Commercial Insurance

No  
change  
to Ch.  
33 for  
5 yrs.

Airport  
Issues

## TAB

Keep  
Existing  
Cap

Create  
Owner/  
Operator  
emits

Release 75 permits over time  
(based on driver demand)

- 32 – Yr 1
- 25 – Yr 2
- 18 – Yr 3

### Qualifications:

- 1 Year of Experience
- Background Checks & fingerprints
- Sole Owner
- Commercial Insurance

# Recommendation



- Create independent operator taxi permits
- Issue 75 permits to new single taxicab companies in 3 different distributions.
  - Redirect 32 existing permits to be released by October 1, 2018
    - 25 from Yellow Cab
    - 7 from population formula
  - 25 New Permits shall be released on October 1, 2019
  - 18 New permits shall be released on October 1, 2020.
- The Chief of Police has the authority to release permits ahead of schedule if demand requires after October 1, 2019.