
TO: CITY MANAGER **DATE:** 2006 November 22

FROM: DIRECTOR FINANCE

SUBJECT: TAXI SERVICE

PURPOSE: To provide information to Council.

RECOMMENDATION:

1. **THAT** a copy of this report be sent to:

Sabatino & Company
Suite 902 – 1788 W. Broadway
Vancouver, B.C. V6J 1Y1

REPORT

On 2006 November 02, Council received correspondence from Sabatino & Company, the solicitors for Bonny's Taxi Ltd., advising that Bonny's intends to apply to the Passenger Transportation Board (P.T.B.) for eighteen (18) additional taxi licences. Of these eighteen (18) additional vehicles, Bonny's will be requesting that twelve (12) be sedan type vehicles and six (6) be wheelchair accessible vehicles. Bonny's seeks City support for their application, which has yet to be submitted to the P.T.B.

Established under the Passenger Transportation Act in 2004 June, the Passenger Transportation Board is the provincial tribunal which has the statutory mandate to regulate and licence all motor carriers such as taxis, limousines and buses that transport passengers for compensation. This mandate includes determining the number of taxis permitted to operate in a particular region. When reviewing applications for taxi service, the P.T.B. is required to consider whether:

- there is a public need for the services for which the applicant has applied,
- the applicant is a fit and proper person to provide the service and is capable of providing the service, and
- approving the application would promote sound economic conditions in the passenger transportation industry in B.C.

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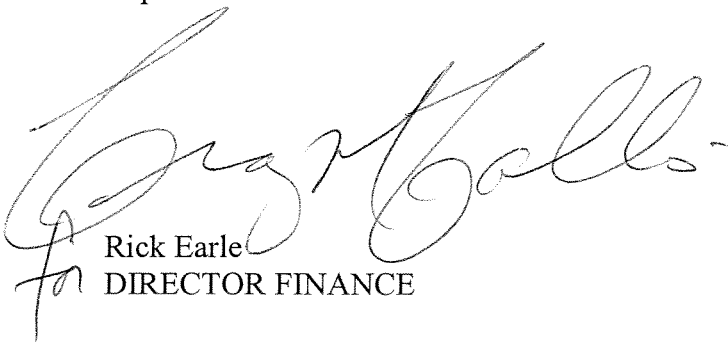
Authority for cities to set limits on the number of taxi licences in their jurisdictions is held in the Local Government Act and the Vancouver Charter. In situations where a city and the P.T.B. differ in their number of taxi licences, the P.T.B. authority will ultimately determine the number of taxis permitted to operate in a particular area. When applications for taxi service are being considered by the P.T.B., stakeholders, including cities, may make submissions for consideration. The City has been involved in this process in the past and will continue this practice when necessary.

There are currently one hundred seven (107) Burnaby based taxis approved by the P.T.B. for service in Burnaby. Of these, eleven (11) are designated as wheelchair accessible. The last change in taxi service in the City was in 2002 when the Motor Carrier Commission (predecessor to the P.T.B.) approved the addition of five (5) wheelchair accessible taxis to Bonny's as a result of their application. The breakdown of licences by Burnaby company is:

Bonny's Taxi Ltd	93 sedans	10 accessible
Burnaby Select Taxi Ltd	3 sedans	1 accessible

The Burnaby Cab and Commercial Vehicle Bylaw provides for city licensing and regulation of taxis in Burnaby and includes a specified number of 107 taxi licences for the city. The bylaw is amended as necessary, to include the same number of taxi licences as approved by the P.T.B.

A review of complaints regarding taxi service to the City over the past three years shows reports of delays in accessible service on three occasions. These reports of service delays relating to accessible service only suggest a potential shortfall in supply of accessible taxis. As such, an application for additional taxi service is supportable where the application includes improvements in accessible taxi service.



for Rick Earle
DIRECTOR FINANCE

CMC:sk

Copied to: Director Planning & Building