



Seattle
Finance &
Administrative Services

Applicant: City of Seattle Department of Finance and Administrative Services	Page: 1 of 4	Revises: version effective 4/4/2016
	Publication: 7/31/2018	Effective: 8/___/2018
Director's Rule: CPU-11-2016 Wheelchair Accessible Services Surcharge	Code and Section Reference: SMC 6.310.175	
	Type of Rule: Code Interpretation	
	Ordinance Authority: SMC 3.02.060	
Approved: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div>_____</div><div>_____</div></div> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between;"><div>Fred Podesta, Director</div><div>Date</div></div>		

City of Seattle Taxicab, Transportation Network Company Vehicle and For-Hire Vehicle Rules

Repeal of Prior Administrative Rule(s)

This rule revises CPU-11-2016 Wheelchair Accessible Services Collection

Rule CPU-11-2016

Wheelchair Accessible Services Surcharge Collection.

Wheelchair Accessible Services Fund. All Wheelchair Accessible Services (WAS) surcharges will be deposited into the Wheelchair Accessible Services Fund. This fund is a self-supporting fund that shall be used to offset the higher operational costs of wheelchair accessible taxi (WAT) services.

Responsibility of Medallion Owners and Transportation Network Companies.

Medallion owners and Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) must collect WAS surcharges from all affiliated vehicles, file the authorized forms and complete trip records with the City of Seattle, and remit the surcharges to the City of Seattle. Inability to collect the surcharge does not release the owner or company's obligation to pay the WAS surcharge.

Amount of WAS Surcharge. SMC 6.310.175 requires a surcharge of \$0.10/trip to be paid. Alternatively, medallion owners may pay the estimated WAS surcharge.

Estimated WAS Surcharge. If complete trip records are not available or a medallion owner so chooses, an invoice for the estimated surcharge will be presented to the medallion owner during the medallion renewal process or during the medallion transfer process. The estimated surcharge will be based on historical and current industry data obtained by the Regulatory Compliance and Consumer Protection Division of the City of Seattle's Department of Finance and Administrative Services. Estimates will be reviewed every two years and if changes to estimated surcharges need to be made, a revised Director's rule shall be issued.

Beginning July 1, 2018 all estimated annual WAS surcharge fees due will be computed based on the table below. The amounts in the table reflect the average number of trips per taxi (2,800) as found in the 2017 Seattle Taxicab Industry Revenue and Operating Statistics.

		Estimated WAS Surcharge
Taxicab Medallion	City only	\$280 per year
	County only	\$188 per year
	Dual – City & County	\$280 per year
For-Hire Medallion	County only	\$188 per year
	Dual – City & County	\$188 per year

All outstanding WAS surcharge fees pre-dating April 1, 2017, will be computed based on the average number of trips per taxi as found in the 2015 Seattle Taxicab Industry Revenue and Operating Statistics.

		Estimated WAS Surcharge
Taxicab Medallion	City only	\$440 per year
	County only	\$288 per year
	Dual – City & County	\$440 per year
For-Hire Medallion	County only	\$288 per year
	Dual – City & County	\$288 per year

Authorized Forms. Complete trip records shall be made upon forms authorized by the Director or his/her designee. Forms provided by the Director will be available to all medallion owners, licensed taxicab associations, for-hire vehicle companies and TNCs prior to the due date of the fee. The Director may reject a report made on a form not authorized by the Director.

Proration. When a medallion is transferred, the WAS surcharge shall be prorated.

Trip. A trip is defined as transporting a passenger from one place to another for compensation.

Trip Reporting Method. The Medallion Owner or TNC will collect and report revenue trip documentation for all affiliated vehicles and remit \$0.10 per trip surcharge to the Regulatory Compliance and Consumer Protection Division.

Reporting Frequency. The fee imposed by SMC Chapter 6.310.175 shall be reported and paid in quarterly installments by TNCs and at medallion transfer or renewal for medallion owners, unless, at the Director's discretion, companies or owners are assigned to a monthly or annual reporting period.

Due dates.

1. If on a quarterly schedule: WAS surcharge trip reports and payments are due on the last day of the next month after the period covered by the form. For example, trip reports covering the first quarter of the year are due on April 30.
2. If on medallion renewal: WAS surcharge complete trip records and payments are due on the day of renewal of the medallion.
3. If on medallion transfer: WAS surcharge complete trip records and payments are due on the day of transfer of the medallion.
4. If the due date for filing a trip report and payment falls upon a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the filing is timely if the report is either (i) received by the City (in the City's possession), or (ii) postmarked by the United States Postal Service, on the next business day.

Payment with Trip Record Required. The Director may refuse to accept any trip record which is not accompanied by a remittance of the WAS surcharge payment shown to be due thereon, or any payment which is not accompanied by a trip report form, and if not accepted, the company shall be deemed to have failed to file a report and shall be subject to penalties.

Completing the Trip Record. All trip records shall be signed by a responsible officer or agent of the TNC or the medallion owner unless the TNC or medallion owner has opted to file electronically. The individual signing the form will certify or declare, under penalty of perjury under the laws of the State of Washington, that the information contained in the trip report is true and correct.

Nonpayment of WAS Surcharge. If payment and trip record is not received by the due date, an invoice for an estimated surcharge shall be sent.

Audits and Penalties. If any medallion owner or TNC fails to timely submit payment, the City of Seattle will assess the WAS surcharge based on the estimated surcharge and may issue a license or medallion suspension notice.

The City of Seattle may periodically audit trip records, dispatch records, application records, or other records as required of medallion owners or TNCs to ensure accurate and complete reporting of revenue trips.

Appeals. A medallion holder or TNC may request a hearing before the FAS Hearing Officer to appeal any license or medallion suspension within ten days of the license suspension.