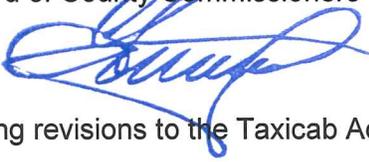


Memorandum



Date: February 15, 2013

To: Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor 

Subject: Information regarding revisions to the Taxicab Advisory Group (TAG)

The following information is provided to inform the Board of recent changes to the Taxicab Advisory Group rules and member affiliation.

Section 31-84 of the Code of Miami-Dade County enabled the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER), which encompasses the department formerly known as Consumer Services, to establish a Taxicab Advisory Group (TAG) comprised of representatives from consumers, the industry, transportation related interests, municipalities and public interest organizations. TAG's main function, from their 2003 inception, has been to enhance communication between the diverse elements of the taxicab industry and provide a forum for the open interchange of ideas in an advisory capacity to the department.

At the July 9, 2012 Regional Transportation Committee meeting, several taxicab drivers voiced concern regarding TAG's taxicab driver representation and stated that number was insufficient. In response to those discussions, RER amended their TAG rules to include the addition of one (1) full time taxi driver who has no interest in a taxi medallion and one (1) full time taxicab chauffeur owner driver. As a result of these additions, TAG membership increased to thirteen (13), doubling driver representation as follows:

- Two (2) members are consumers
- Two (2) members are taxicab passenger service company principals
- One (1) member is a for hire taxi medallion holder who is not an owner-driver chauffeur
- Two (2) members are full time taxicab chauffeurs who have no interest in a taxi medallion
- Two (2) members are full time taxicab chauffeur owner drivers
- One (1) member shall be a representative of PortMiami as designated by that agency
- One (1) member shall be a representative of Miami International Airport as designated by that agency
- One (1) member shall be a representative of the Miami-Dade Office of Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) Coordination as designated by that agency
- One (1) member shall represent the visitor industry

Please feel free to contact RER's Assistant Director, Mario Goderich, at (305) 375-5952 if you have further concerns regarding the above matter.

c: Jack Osterholt, Deputy Mayor/Director, RER
Mario E. Goderich, Assistant Director, Business Affairs, RER
Joe Mora, For-Hire Transportation Director, RER

Attachment



Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources

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**Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources
For-Hire Taxicab Advisory Group**

Section 31-84 of the Code of Miami-Dade County enables the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER), formerly known as CSD, to establish a Taxicab Advisory Group (TAG) to the Department comprised of representatives from: consumers, the industry, transportation related interests, municipalities and public interest organizations.

1. Functions. The functions of the TAG are to:

- Enhance communications between the diverse elements of the taxicab industry and provide a forum for the interchange of ideas.
- Work with RER to develop, implement and evaluate new innovative taxicab services, service expansion and improvements.
- Review changes, amendments or modifications to administrative orders establishing fees.
- Review the standardized reporting technique for operators.
- Perform the duties of the Taxicab Driver Incentive Program Committee.

2. Membership. There shall be a total of thirteen (13) members as follows:

- 1) Two (2) members shall be consumers;
- 2) Two (2) members shall be taxicab passenger service company principals;
- 3) One (1) member shall be a for-hire taxicab medallion holder who is not an owner-driver chauffeur;
- 4) Two (2) members shall be full time taxicab chauffeurs who have no interest in a taxicab medallion;
- 5) Two (2) members shall be full time taxicab chauffeur owner-drivers;
- 6) One (1) member shall be a representative of the Port of Miami, as designated by that agency;
- 7) One (1) member shall be a representative of Miami International Airport, as designated by that agency;
- 8) One (1) member shall be a representative of the Office of ADA Coordination, as designated by that agency; and
- 9) One (1) member shall represent the visitor industry.

With the exception of the representatives of the taxicab industry, members shall not have a financial, beneficial or equitable interest in the private passenger transportation industry and any such interest shall be grounds for automatic removal from the TAG.

- 3. Term.** Members of the TAG shall serve staggered terms of three (3) years each. Except for those members representing specified agencies, members shall not serve more than two consecutive terms; provided, however, nothing shall prohibit any individual from being reappointed after a hiatus of one year. Appointments to fill any vacancy shall be for the

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For-Hire Taxicab Advisory Group**

remainder of an unexpired term. Each member may serve until his/her successor is appointed.

4. Automatic Removal. Members who fail to attend two consecutive meetings shall be removed from the TAG. If a member is absent for 50% of a meeting, it shall be considered to be an absence. If a member cannot attend a meeting, a written statement shall be submitted in advance to the Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER). The RER Director or Director's designee may remove a member for cause.

5. Quorum. A quorum shall be constituted when six (6) members are in attendance. The time period for reaching the quorum shall be 30 minutes from the announced commencement time for the meeting, unless waived by the Chairperson.

6. Frequency of Meetings. The TAG shall meet on a quarterly basis for regularly scheduled meetings in January, April, July and October. The TAG may meet for special meetings in response to a request of the Chairperson and the RER Director or Director's designee.

7. Filling Vacancies. The TAG shall have the responsibility of filling vacancies on the TAG following initial establishment of the TAG by the RER; provided, however, that the composition of the TAG shall mirror the community as to gender and ethnicity. There shall be a Membership Selection Committee composed of the following three members of the TAG: the Chairperson, an organization appointee and a taxicab industry member. The RER Director or Director's designee shall provide information to the Committee as to the overall diversity of the TAG.

8. Officers. The TAG shall select a Chairperson and a Vice Chairperson. The Chairperson of the TAG shall be selected from the non-industry members of the TAG. The term of the Chairperson shall be for the duration of his/her TAG term. The Chairperson shall preside over each meeting of the TAG and coordinate with the RER Director or Director's designee in the establishment of the agenda for each TAG meeting. The Vice Chairperson shall serve in the absence of the Chairperson.

9. Committees. The RER Director or Director's designee or the Chairperson, after consultation with, and the concurrence of, the RER Director or Director's designee, may, when appropriate, appoint Committees to address issues identified by the TAG as part of its functions. In the performance of its responsibilities to serve as the Taxicab Driver Incentive Program Committee, the Chairperson of the TAG may create a Committee of members of the TAG. No greater than one Committee shall be constituted at any time; provided, however, that a Committee constituted as the Taxicab Driver Incentive Program Committee shall not be counted for purposes of this requirement. All Committee meetings are subject to the Sunshine Law.

10. General Provisions:

- All motions made by the TAG shall be considered as recommendations to the Department.
- All recommendations by the TAG shall be by majority vote.
- All meetings are subject to the Sunshine Law and are open to the public.
- Requests for information shall only be made through the Chairperson. The RER Director or Director's designee will advise the Chairperson if the request may be accommodated.

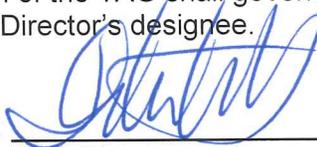
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- The Department shall keep minutes of the meetings, publish the meeting schedule on the County Calendar and maintain a current listing of all members and contact information.
- Meetings shall be conducted according to Robert's Rules of Order.

The TAG will function solely in an advisory capacity to the Department. Neither the TAG, nor individual members of the TAG, may direct the activities of the Department, including the Passenger Transportation Regulatory Division.

These guidelines for the operation of the TAG shall govern at all times unless otherwise amended by the RER Director or Director's designee.

TAG Guidelines Promulgation by:



RER Director or Director's designee

Date Promulgated: June 5, 2003
Revised: February 6, 2007
Revised: October 4, 2007
Revised: July 13, 2009
Revised: February 5, 2013