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## City of San Antonio Transportation Advisory Board (TAB)

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### Transportation Advisory Board Minutes Wednesday, October 25, 2023

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#### **Board Members Present:**

George Mery  
George Garcia  
Robert Gonzales  
Eddie Rodriguez  
Ty Edwards  
Javier Tristan

#### **Board Members Absent:**

Nick Roberson  
David Strainge  
Erica LaHood

#### **Others Present**

Janette Torres-Gloria, Administrative Services Officer SAPD  
Gary Gilbert, Administrative Service Manager SAPD  
James Kopp, Assistant City Attorney  
Joe Herrera, Ground Transportation Unit Supervisor SAPD

#### **Guests**

None

#### **Roll Call & Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Mr. Mery at 5:06 pm. A Roll Call followed, at least six (6) voting board members were present, and a quorum was established.

#### **1. Approval of Minutes:**

Approval of Minutes for September 20, 2023, TAB meeting

T. Edwards moved for approval; R. Gonzales seconded the motion.

**For:** All    **Against:** None    **Abstentions:** None    **Minutes Approved**

#### **2. Public Comments:**

None

## **Briefing and Possible Action on the following Items:**

### **3. Moratorium on the Issuance of New Taxicab Permits:**

Mr. Gonzales briefed the TAB on the request by members of the Taxicab industry to not issue any new taxicab permits.

Mr. Gilbert briefed that there were currently 309 company taxicab permits and 70 owner-operator permits issued. The maximum number of company taxicab permits that could be issued is 835, and the maximum number of owner-operator permits is 75.

Mr. Herrera stated that of the 309 company taxicab permits, only 269 were working as taxicabs.

Mr. Mery suggested that this item be placed on hold until the TAB could figure out what can be done to assist the taxicab industry.

No action was taken for Item 3.

### **4. How Can the TAB Assist the Taxicab Industry:**

Mr. Mery suggested that information should be gathered on the taxicab industry on loss of market share.

Mr. Gilbert offered to host a TAB sub-committee to work with the taxicab industry on developing ways to assist them during this difficult time.

Mr. Gonzales made a motion to put a moratorium on issuing out new taxicab and that Staff should review the “needs and necessity statement in Chapter 33.

Mr. Kopp informed the TAB that Staff could not prevent taxicab permits from being issued, even if the motion passed, and that only City Council can change the City Code.

Mr. Garcia seconded the motion made by Mr. Gonzales.

**For:** All    **Against:** None    **Abstentions:** J. Tristan    **Motion:** Approved

### **5. Horse Carriage Industry request for Ordinance and Rules Changes:**

Mr. Gilbert briefed the TAB on the Council Consideration Request (CCR), which 5 City Council members made on abolishing the horse-drawn carriages in San Antonio. He stated that until the City Council reviewed the CCR, Staff would not take any recommended changes to the City Council concerning the Horse carriage industry.

## **6. Status of the Electric Vehicle-for-Hire Industry:**

Mr. Gilbert briefed the TAB that ten permits were initially issued. Staff has been working with each permit holder on bringing on vehicles for the permits by allowing them to either bring a vehicle into service or provide Staff with proof of purchase of the vehicles. Mr. Gilbert stated that he had to revoke five of those permits due to no vehicle or proof of purchase.

Mr. Tristan stated that business is doing good and well received in San Antonio and that his other vehicles that he has purchased are in transit.

## **7. Items for the Next TAB Agenda:**

- How can the TAB assist the Taxicab Industry
- Limousine/Charter City Permitting Issues

## **7. Announcements:**

None

## **8. Adjournment:**

Motion made by Mr. Gonzales and seconded by Mr. Edwards

**For:** All                      **Against:** None

Meeting adjourned at 6:25 pm

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George Mery  
TAB Vice-Chairperson

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Gary J. Gilbert  
Administrative Services Manager  
Recorder/Transcriber of Minutes