



AUSTIN MOBILITY

Charter Vehicle Code Amendments

5.14.13

Urban Transportation Commission



Austin Transportation Department



WHAT'S HAPPENING

Lack of Clarification Leads To Some Charters:

- Displaying taxicab features
- Competing for on-demand fares
- Acting as shuttle vehicles, picking up from multiple locations and delivering to multiple locations
- Going completely unregulated in cases of vehicles with a capacity of 16 or more
- Lacking documentation regarding trip service



RECOMMENDED CHANGES

Previous recommendations:

- Prohibited from representing a taxi service
- Trip tickets required
- Unique fleet markings

Exclusions

- Owned, Contracted, Sub-contracted by government
- Operated by an Independent or Consolidated School District
- Providing interstate ground transportation services
- Providing intrastate ground transportation services

RECOMMENDED CHANGES

Charter Service Defined:

Charter service shall consist of prearranged service on irregular routes and schedules with a rate of fare based either on a flat rate for each passenger or on an hourly rate, that uses vans, minibuses, buses or motor coaches to transport persons belonging to a specified group and that is:

- Offered only upon a prearranged basis, the prearrangement being made at least thirty minutes in advance of the time the transportation is to begin and on a pre-sold basis to a group representative;
- Operated from locations within the city to locations inside the city (point-to-point and continuous trips);
- Used to transport a specified group or person from a same point of origin or from various points of origin to a same point of destination.



RECOMMENDED CHANGES

Inspection Requirements

- All Charter vehicles with a passenger capacity of 16 or greater must secure an annual successful inspection from DOT
- Waive ATD annual inspection requirement for all vehicles required to register with DOT

Recommended Reduction of Permit Fees

- Charter Vehicles >15 but <34 passengers (including driver)
 - Currently \$400 per vehicle, per year
 - Recommended \$350 per vehicle, per year
- Charter Vehicles >33 passengers (including driver)
 - Currently \$450 per vehicle, per year
 - Recommended \$400 per vehicle, per year



ON-DEMAND vs. PREARRANGED

Prearranged/Prearrangement Defined

- Initial Recommendation:

Prearranged service means ground transportation service that is scheduled **one hour** in advance of the trip.

- Modified Recommendation:

Prearranged service means ground transportation service that is scheduled **thirty minutes** in advance of the trip.



FINAL STEPS

Staff will make a recommendation to the Austin City Council for approval of these recommended code amendments on the May 23rd Council agenda and requests a recommendation from the Urban Transportation Commission.

