



# AUSTIN MOBILITY

## Ground Transportation Code Amendments - Rideshare

5.14.13

Urban Transportation Commission



Austin Transportation Department



# Council Resolution #20130307-067

## Direction to the City Manager

- Explore ridesharing regulations in other cities.
- Make recommendations on the parameters within which ridesharing should be allowed in the City of Austin.
- Issue and enforce cease and desist orders against firms that engage in ridesharing for compensation.
- Use whatever legal and effective means available to discourage use of ridesharing for compensation until the public safety and other regulatory concerns have been addressed.
- Bring recommendations and proposed ordinance to Council by June 1, 2013.



# Recommended Code Amendments and Additions

- **13-2-1 Definitions**

- (1) CHAUFFEUR means a person who operates a ground transportation service vehicle dispatched either by hail, telephonic, radio, or any electronic communication, including an E-Hail indicating the location of a passenger for immediate or prearranged transportation service.
- (4) COMPENSATION means any money, thing of value, payment, consideration, reward, tip, donation, gratuity, or profit paid to, accepted, or received by the driver or owner of any vehicle providing transportation for a person, or persons; whether paid upon solicitation, demand or contract, or voluntarily, or intended as a gratuity or donation. Reimbursement for the following is not compensation: (1) tolls; and (2) vehicle operating costs in an amount that is equal to or less than the most current privately-owned vehicle mileage reimbursement rates established by the U.S. General Services Administration.
- (9) E-HAIL is the use of any electronic device in any manner, including email, text message, push notification or application for the booking of, or request, for, immediate or prearranged transportation services.  
Charter service consists 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.
- (13) GROUND TRANSPORTATION SERVICE means the service of providing chauffeured vehicles for compensation for the transportation of passengers within the city. Rideshares are not ground transportation services.

# Recommended Code Amendments and Additions

- **13-2-1 Definitions (cont.)**

- (19) PASSENGER means an individual being transported for compensation [a-fee] in a ground transportation service vehicle.
- (25) RIDESHARE is the travelling of two or more persons by any mode of private passenger vehicle, including, but not limited to, carpooling, vanpooling, buspooling, to any location incidental to another purpose of the driver, for which compensation is neither accepted, collected, encouraged, promoted, or requested.

- **13-2-301 Taxi Service Described**

Taxicab service consists of service that operates on irregular routes and schedules on a call-and-demand basis, for compensation [a-fee-for] that is usually determined by a taximeter..

- **13-2-3 Operating Authority or Taxicab Franchise Required**

- (7) a vehicle owned or operated by a person providing transportation incidental to household caregiving services;
- (8) rideshare.



# MOVING FORWARD

Responsive to Resolution #20130307-067, staff will present recommendations to the Austin City Council for approval on the May 23<sup>rd</sup> Council agenda. Staff will continue to work with regulators across the country to compile a comprehensive report prior to June 1<sup>st</sup>.