

The following is a list of recommendations from the Transportation Network Companies Meetings. These were presented to the Urban Transportation Commission on July 8, 2014. The Commissioners recommended the following recommendations be considered in the TNC Working Group.

Insurance and Vehicle Requirements –

The insurance requirement for TNC's would have the same limits as Taxi Cab Franchise's and assure that there is no gap in coverage. The vehicle requirements for TNC's would require vehicles to mirror the same requirements as taxi cab with regards to mileage and age of the vehicle. TNC driver would be required to provide fire extinguisher, spare tire, and a jack.

Accountability -

The TNC driver is required to obtain a chauffeur license and a sponsor. If the TNC driver were to become un-sponsored, then the reasons for that un-sponsorship will be relayed back to Ground Transportation. The TNC driver is required to display information cards that include complaint and comment numbers. The TNC will arrange for a physical location to collect lost and found property.

Background Quality -

The TNC driver will undergo the same driving history and background check of the taxi drivers.

Define TNC –

The TNC definition would mirror the California PUC definition.

Expand Approved Vehicle Type –

Recommend TNC, Taxi Cab and Limos include a new vehicle type--2 door and pick-up trucks and require that they include appropriate physical barriers to secure cargo.

Dispatch and Pricing Reform –

Recommend The Taxi Task Force look into peak period demand by allowing marked taxi's from other jurisdictions or permitting City of Austin permitted operators.

Recommend The TNC Task Force consider a weights and measurements certification requirement for TNC's.

Recommend TNC drivers are not allowed to drive away from a customer with the same five exemptions as Taxi Drivers

TNC Fleet Size -

Because we are concerned that the lack of limits would result in flooding the market, we recommend testing possible limits for TNC's.

Cost of Vehicles Permits -

Recommend that there is a policy that the cost of TNC permits should be sufficient to cover the cost of administration and enforcement.

Antidiscrimination Policy and Compliance Accessibility and Sustainability -

Recommend the TNC Company submit plans for accessibility compliance with City of Austin, State and Federal Governments.

In order to address antidiscrimination and accessibility we recommend that A. requiring a specific number of vehicles must be accessible or B. alternatively allowing TNC's to submit plans for accessibility compliance with City of Austin, State and Federal guidelines.

While we recognize that the rating systems are useful to consumers and businesses alike we are concerned about the unintended discriminatory practices in the use of rating systems. We recommend that this be further explored with the TNC Working Group.

FTC Comment –

In observance of the FTC staff's opinion in the Chicago case and others we are concerned with over dash regulating the TNC's and inadvertently squashing the benefits from the innovation and disruption.