

RESOLUTION APPROVING THE REVISED ORANGE COUNTY TAXI ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM (OCTAP) REGULATIONS (F: 105.2)

Staff report dated January 26, 2010, was introduced.

RESOLUTION NO. 8939-10

It was moved by Council Member Broadwater, seconded by Council Member Do, and carried by unanimous vote that full reading of Resolution No. 8939-10 be waived, and said Resolution entitled A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF GARDEN GROVE, CALIFORNIA, ADOPTING THE REVISED ORANGE COUNTY TAXI ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM REGULATIONS, be and hereby is adopted.

City of Garden Grove

INTER-DEPARTMENT MEMORANDUM

To: Matthew J. Fertal
Dept: City Manager
Subject: REVISED OCTAP REGULATIONS THAT REQUIRE ADOPTION BY RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL

From: Kingsley Okereke
Dept: Finance
Date: January 26, 2010

OBJECTIVE:

To request that City Council adopt a resolution approving the revised Orange County Taxi Administration Program (OCTAP) Regulations (Attachments 1-3).

BACKGROUND

With the passage of Resolution 8036-97 (Attachment 4), the City of Garden Grove joined with 34 other Orange County cities to form a voluntary association, Orange County Taxi Administration Program (OCTAP), to coordinate taxicab service permitting and other administrative functions with the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA). This program increases public safety, reduces administrative costs for the public and private sector, and expands provisions of private transportation service in Orange County.

In addition, OCTAP establishes uniform regulations applicable to taxicab companies and taxi drivers, adopts minimum standards for insurance, equipment, mechanical conditions, taxicab fares and other aspects of taxicab operations.

DISCUSSION

On October 1, 2009, OCTAP Steering Committee reviewed and approved a revised set of regulations, which is being presented to member agencies including Garden Grove for ratification. The revisions are largely administrative in nature. However, there are several substantive amendments in this revision. OCTAP regulation requires that all substantive changes to the regulation must be approved by each member agency and shall be effective only in the area of jurisdiction of each member agency that has approved such amendments. Some of the substantive amendments are highlighted below.

- Establishes two classifications of taxicabs that have been determined through inspection to require repair. Repair of minor items will no longer place the taxicab into an "Out of Service" status if repaired within 10 days.
- Taxicab companies will now be able to have only one color scheme.
- Sets forth minimum service standards required for taxicab company permits. Companies must maintain 24 hour year-around human response dispatched phone

service, standardized dispatch records shall be maintained for 90 days, a lost and found policy must be established and all complaints must be responded to in an expedient and professional manner.

- Applications for taxicab companies will no longer be accepted if all documentation does not accompany the application.
- Improves and strengthens the insurance requirements for company permits. Applicants will now have to submit endorsements executed by the agent or broker of record. If a permittee allows their insurance to lapse, the company permit will immediately be suspended and all taxicab permits for that company will be revoked.
- Establishes a longer taxicab driver application process period to accommodate OCTAP using the Department of Justice to run background checks on applicants. The previous system, California Law Enforcement Telecommunication System, is no longer available. However, once the Department of Justice clears the applicant the permits must be issued in five days.

These changes and other revisions to the OCTAP regulations were designed to increase the protection of health, safety, and welfare of persons utilizing taxicab services within the areas covered by OCTAP. Staff has reviewed and concurs with the revisions, and recommends that City Council ratifies the revision and adopt the attached Resolution.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

There will be no financial impact to the City.

RECOMMENDATION:

Staff recommends that the City Council approve the revisions and adopt the new regulations by adoption of the attached resolution as requested by OCTAP.


KINGSLEY OKEREKE
Finance Director

By: 
Pam Gillis
Business Tax Supervisor

Recommended for Approval


Matthew Fertal
City Manager

for

- Attachments
1. Resolution
 2. Revised OCTAP Regulations (Red-lined)
 3. Detail of OCTAP regulation revisions
 4. Resolution 8036-97