

**BOARD OF TAXICAB
COMMISSIONERS**

VACANT
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ERIC SPIEGELMAN
VICE PRESIDENT

ANDREA D. MARTINEZ
ANDRE COLAIACE

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ACTING COMMISSION EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

CITY OF LOS ANGELES
CALIFORNIA



KAREN BASS
MAYOR

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

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LOS ANGELES, CA 90012

Laura Rubio-Cornejo
GENERAL MANAGER

ITEM #3

**BOARD OF TAXICAB COMMISSIONERS
BOARD MEETING
MINUTES
Thursday, October 19, 2023
10:00 AM**

CONVENED

The Board of Taxicab Commissioners convened a regular meeting on Thursday, October 19, 2023 at 10:06 AM in Los Angeles, CA.

ADMINISTRATIVE ITEMS

Item No. 1 – Welcome

Vice President Spiegelman called the meeting to order and welcomed all those present noting that those wishing to testify before the Board must fill out a speaker's form and give it to the Commission Executive Assistant. He informed the audience that if anyone is a registered lobbyist, City ordinance requires that it should be indicated on the speaker's form. He also reminded everyone that this session is being broadcast on Council Phone, to speak into the microphone and to silence cell phones.

Item No. 2 – Roll Call

Present: Commissioners Andrea Martinez, Andre Colaiace, and Eric Spiegelman; Jarvis Murray (Taxicab Administrator); and Michael Nagle, Deputy City Attorney (DCA)

Absent: Tomas Carranza, Assistant General Manager

Item No. 3 – Minutes

Commissioner Andre Colaiace moved, seconded by Commissioner Andrea Martinez to approve the Minutes of July 20, 2023. Unanimously APPROVED.

Item No. 4 – Communications

No communications reported.

Item No. 5 – Commission Business

No commission business reported.

NEIGHBORHOOD COUNCIL COMMENT

No comments provided.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Comments were taken.

INFORMATIONAL ITEM**Item No. 6 – Presentation on Taxicab Penalties**

Jarvis Murray, Taxicab Administrator, presented the report.

Questions and answers were provided.

- Vice President Spiegelman asked Mr. Murray for clarification if the new taxi penalties will be applied in the same format of minor, moderate, and major categories like the previous rules.
- Mr. Murray informed Vice President Spiegelman that the new penalty fees have been calculated as closely as possible applying the same math used in the old taxicab rulebook.
- Vice President Spiegelman asked if Mr. Murray has received feedback from the taxicab community regarding the new Taxicab Penalties.
- Mr. Murray informed Vice President Spiegelman that he expects the taxicab community will be able to review the new taxicab penalties after today's meeting and can discuss further at the next board meeting.
- Vice President Spiegelman asked Mr. Murray what he expects to see happen in the next few months and what he expects the Commission to do.
- Mr. Murray informed Vice President Spiegelman that he hope the taxicab community will provide input and we can come back with new taxicab penalties ready for approval by next month or worst case scenario, December.
- Commissioner Colaiace asked Mr. Murray if staff could develop a matrix that shows a monetary amount of the old penalties compared to the new penalties. Commissioner Colaiace talked about his goal and asked if Mr. Murray knows there are any penalties for Uber or Lyft under the PUC.
- Mr. Murray stated that he is not aware of any.
- Commissioner Colaice asked if he has new ascribed penalties for taxicab apps, and if LADOT approves the functionality of taxicab apps before they use it.
- Mr. Murray informed Commissioner Colaiace that LADOT approves taxicab apps if it's from a third party. Most taxicab companies are using apps for dispatch that have been created by their own dispatch. For example, we have three taxicab companies that use the CURB app on the backend for their dispatch needs. Another entity called Fly Wheel that is not affiliated with any Los Angeles based taxicab company would like to come. We would have them present to the board of Taxicab Commissioners first, and then take it from there.
- Commissioner Colaiace informed Mr. Murray that ascribing penalties to a taxicab apps's functionality is over complex since the app needs approval first from the Department. He asked Mr. Murray if it was true that the nature of the taxicab business has changed in relation to taxicab companies and individual drivers, and if taxicab companies are being penalized for things they no longer have any authority over, under the new state laws.
- Mr. Murray replied that the taxicab companies do hold some responsibility for their drivers as the drivers are still representing their company.
- DCA Nagle informed Commissioner Colaiace that the taxicab companies can choose to not lease a taxicab driver. Commissioner Martinez asked Mr. Murray if staff could

highlight common violations for drivers and companies, determine which companies are repeat offenders, and what violations occur most often.

- Mr. Murray informed Commissioner Martinez that the Enforcement staff will work on determining the top three violations.

Public comments were taken.

- Vice President Spiegelman suggested Mr. Murray review Bell Cab, Daniel Klein's specifics. He said that there should not be an action item next month and to target December if we can. He informed Mr. Murray to encourage dialogue between LADOT and taxicab companies to refine the taxicab penalties.
- Commissioner Colaiace asked if the appellate process for penalties was the same, how many inspectors does LADOT have, and how many vehicles they are responsible for.
- Chief Investigator Julio Zacharias informed Commissioner Colaiace that there are 10 investigators assigned to the For Hire Unit.
- Commissioner Colaiace asked Mr. Zacharias for an estimate of how many vehicles the 10 inspectors are responsible for.
- Mr. Zacharias informed Commissioner Colaiace that there are approximately 2500 vehicles and 20,000 dockless scooters, bikes, etc. the investigators are responsible for.
- Commissioner Colaiace asked Mr. Zacharias if there is a process of what vehicle the investigator will inspect each day.
- Mr. Zacharias said that there is no specific formula.
- Commissioner Colaiace asked Mr. Zacharias if his staff has increased since taking on dockless.
- Mr. Zacharias informed Commissioner Colaiace that staff has increased by two.

ADJOURNMENT – PURSUANT TO GOVERNMENT CODE SECTION 54956.7

With no further business before the Board of Taxicab Commissioners, Vice President Spiegelman moved, seconded by Commissioner Colaiace to adjourn the meeting. Unanimously APPROVED.

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 AM

Approved 11/16/2023
Board of Taxicab Commissioners

Ailana Aguirre
Commission Executive Assistant