



1.3

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES  
DEPARTMENT  
CA

**CITY OF SACRAMENTO  
CALIFORNIA**

915 I STREET, #105  
SACRAMENTO,

95814-2696

REVENUE DIVISION

(916) 264-5724  
FAX 264-8303

November 6, 2001

RA010100:MLF:ljc

Law and Legislation Committee  
Sacramento, California

Honorable Members in Session:

**SUBJECT: Review of Sacramento City Code Related to Taxicab Permits -  
Drivers and Vehicles**

**LOCATION AND COUNCIL DISTRICT:** Citywide

**RECOMMENDATION:** Staff recommends that the Law and Legislation Committee direct City Revenue Division staff to conduct a review of current City Code related to Taxicab Permits and to bring back to the Committee any identified improvements or changes to City Code that will result in improving the City permit process for the public and the local taxi industry.

**CONTACT PERSON:** Margaret L Freeman, Revenue Manager 264-5724  
Brad Wasson, Principal Accountant 264-5844  
Bill Spencer, Enforcement and Collections Supervisor, 264-5527

**FOR COMMITTEE MEETING OF:** December 18, 2001

**SUMMARY:**

Given the current comments, concerns and complaints received by the Revenue Division, it is apparent that various taxicab permit and operating issues need to be addressed. The review of current City Code would include identifying and gathering input from all stakeholders in the community who are directly impacted by the taxi industry. City ordinances and processes utilized by other California municipalities would be researched and examined in order to identify improvements to the Sacramento City Code.

## **BACKGROUND:**

Over the last year, the Revenue Division has received inquiries, complaints and comments from various persons concerning the operation of taxicabs within the City of Sacramento. Specific concerns reported include the operation of non licensed taxicab vehicles, taxicab drivers that are not licensed by the City, impact of taxicab operations on local businesses (on street parking) and business practices by various taxicab operators that negatively impact other taxicab businesses. There are currently more than 300 taxicabs with City vehicle permits and over 350 taxicab drivers with City permits. The need to provide enforcement and compliance of taxicab City Code has become more evident.

The Revenue Division proposes to solicit input from various taxicab industry stakeholders in order to address the issues and concerns of all parties. The identified stakeholders include the following:

1. Taxicab industry: taxi companies and permitted taxi vehicle owners and permitted drivers
2. Business community: downtown business owners and all hotels in the city
3. Convention and Visitors Bureau
4. Disabled community
5. Senior Citizens
6. Other City departments: On-street Parking, Police Department, Convention, Cultural and Leisure Department and Economic Development Department

Staff would research other cities' taxicab legislation and operations and with the input gathered, identify options available to the City for improvements to the taxicab permit and compliance process. Staff would recommend one best option to the Law and Legislation Committee after receiving feedback from all stakeholders on the recommended option. The review process would begin in January 2002 with meetings with the stakeholders. It is currently planned that staff would bring back to the Law and Legislation Committee a recommendation no later than May 2002.

## **FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

A review of the current Sacramento City Code would not require any additional funding or have any fiscal impact to the current General Fund budget.

**ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS:**

The proposed recommendation does not involve an activity which would be covered by the California environment Quality Act (CEQA).

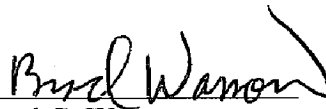
**ESBD CONSIDERATIONS:**

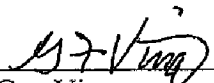
There are no ESBD considerations as no goods or services are being purchased at this time.

**POLICY CONSIDERATIONS:**

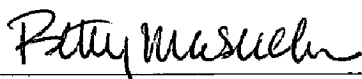
Taxicabs that operate within the City are utilized by tourists and visitors to Sacramento, by the citizens of Sacramento and the businesses community. The level of quality and safety of taxicab operations in the City, impacts a visitors first impression of Sacramento and impacts the quality of life in Sacramento. Establishing City Code, that includes reasonable regulations and requirements for operation of taxicabs, would contribute to making Sacramento the choice to live, work and play.

Respectfully submitted:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Brad C. Wasson  
Principal Accountant

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Gus Vina  
Director of Finance

RECOMMENDATION APPROVED:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Betty Masuoka  
Assistant City Manager