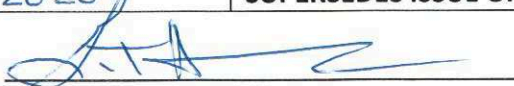




WINNIPEG PARKING AUTHORITY
 Vehicle for Hire Division
VEHICLE FOR HIRE REGULATIONS

SUBJECT:	TAXI FARE PRE-PAYMENT	VFH-19-011
CATEGORY:	Taxi	REVISION DATE: May 1, 2020
PURPOSE: To provide the terms of the taxi fare pre-payments and approve the time periods during which prepayment is required.		
REFERENCE:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vehicle for Hire By-law 129/2017, section 57(3) • Vehicle for Hire By-law 129/2017, section 59(1) 		
General		
<p>This Regulation is revoked effective May 1, 2020 and is no longer applicable until such time as it is replaced.</p> <p>The taxi industry has continuously indicated that fare disputes are a major concern that raises significant conflict between drivers and passengers. Mandatory pre-payment of fares during designated periods has helped to reduce these conflicts in other jurisdictions. In order to study the effectiveness of this potential solution in the Winnipeg market, the WPA will undertake a pilot project related to fare pre-payment.</p> <p>The Vehicle for Hire By-law allows for pre-payment periods to be implemented upon approval by the designated employee. A public engagement survey and industry consultation occurred to obtain feedback regarding sentiment towards this pilot project and considered the feedback provided by respondents in developing the pilot project terms.</p> <p>Penalty notices (fines) will be issued for non-compliance with this regulation during the pre-payment pilot project period.</p> <p>In accordance with Section 57(3) of the By-law, at all times during the trip, the fare meter must be turned on and running. A fine of up to \$1000 may apply per occurrence should the meter not be turned on. Taxi drivers may negotiate and accept a fare less than the meter rate, as allowed under the By-law.</p> <p>The deposit (pre-payment) amount is deducted from the total fare at the end of the trip. If the total trip is more than the deposit, the balance owing is payable to the driver. If the total fare is less than the deposit paid, the driver is required to refund the difference to the passenger immediately. A fine of up to \$1000 may be issued to any drivers who fail to refund the difference between the fare shown on the meter and the pre-payment, if the pre-payment amount, or negotiated fare is more than that meter fare.</p> <p>Dispatch companies should actively promote the requirement for pre-payment during these hours and inform their customers when people call to request taxi service. As well, drivers should clearly communicate the need for the deposit to customers, in accordance with the By-law and this Regulation.</p>		
DATE OF ISSUE:	MAY 4, 2020	SUPERSEDES ISSUE OF: Sept. 30, 2019
APPROVED:		
 Grant Heather Manager, Vehicles for Hire Winnipeg Parking Authority		

Schedule A:

Pilot Project terms

- Fixed deposit amount - \$10 (regardless of estimated distance).
- Applicable time for mandatory deposit – 8:00 pm-6:00 am (20:00 hrs to 06:00 hrs)
- All methods of payment are accepted for the deposit.
 - o Credit card
 - o Cash
 - o Debit card

- All taxi drivers must request the pre-payment deposit from each fare during the hours, except for exclusions as noted below.
- Drivers should decline to transport passengers if the pre-payment deposit is not made. There may be serious situations that require the pre-payment to be waived. A driver should apply reasonable common sense, and consider the overall safety of citizens when making this decision. The ability to decline passengers on the basis of pre-payment only applies during the hours of the mandatory deposit (as determined by this Regulation), except in the instances defined in the By-law.
- Drivers must report any declined trips to their dispatcher.

- Exclusions from the pre-payment pilot project:
 - o Passengers beginning their trip at the James A. Richardson International Airport
 - o Taxi passengers who present a valid taxi voucher to have their fare covered by another entity
 - o Taxi passengers who maintain an account with the taxi dispatcher whose vehicle is providing the service

Schedule B:

All taxis must display the following decal in their vehicle, indicating the taxi pre-payment times and amount that are approved in accordance with this Regulation and the Vehicle for Hire By-law 129/2017. This requirement is in addition to those already indicated under Regulation VFH-18-002.

