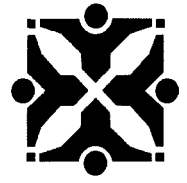


# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



**Agenda Item Number:** B 39-15

**Department Source:** City Manager

**To:** City Council

**From:** City Manager & Staff

**Council Meeting Date:** 2/2/2015

**Re:** Amending Chapter 28 and Chapter 14 as it relates to requirements for taxicab businesses and taxi stand hours.

## Documents Included With This Agenda Item

Council memo, Resolution/Ordinance

**Supporting documentation includes:** Taxi Company Survey

## Executive Summary

In light of proposed changes to Chapter 28 which would establish new requirements for Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) like Uber, Sidecar and Lyft who operate in the same business arena as traditional taxicabs, and with the intent to keep both traditional taxicabs and TNCs on a competitive, level playing field, staff conducted a survey of taxicab companies to help determine any needed changes to the existing taxicab regulations. A copy of the survey is included.

## Discussion

The proposed ordinance changes reflect a consensus of the responses to the survey which are summarized briefly below:

- An office would only be required for taxicab or limousine companies operating more than one vehicle.
- Remove requirement for a landline phone.
- Added an option for a phone in the taxicab in lieu of radio for communications between dispatcher and the driver.
- Taxi stand hours to be changed from "9:00 p.m. - 2:30 a.m." to "11:00 p.m. to 2:00 a.m.".

## Fiscal Impact

Short-Term Impact: None

Long-Term Impact: None

## Vision, Strategic & Comprehensive Plan Impact

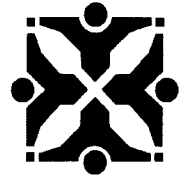
Vision Impact: Transportation

Strategic Plan Impact: Not Applicable

Comprehensive Plan Impact: Not Applicable

# City of Columbia

701 East Broadway, Columbia, Missouri 65201



## Suggested Council Action

Approval of the ordinance changes as proposed.

## Legislative History

With the exception for small fee increases and minor administrative changes, there have been few changes to Chapter 28. The requirement for taxicab stands as they currently exist in the downtown area was added in February, 2012 (Ordinance No. 21231, Council Bill B25-12A).

Department Approved

City Manager Approved

Introduced by \_\_\_\_\_

First Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Second Reading \_\_\_\_\_

Ordinance No. \_\_\_\_\_

Council Bill No. B 39-15

### AN ORDINANCE

amending Chapter 14 and Chapter 28 of the City Code as it relates to taxicab businesses and taxi stand hours; and fixing the time when this ordinance shall become effective.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBIA, MISSOURI, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Chapter 14 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, Missouri, is hereby amended as follows:

Material to be deleted in ~~strikeout~~; material to be added underlined.

Sec. 14-295. Taxi stands designated.

When signs are placed, erected or installed giving notice thereof, the following zones shall be designated as stands for designated vehicles only and no person shall park a vehicle other than a taxi, limousine, bus or STRIPES vehicle between 9:00-11:00 p.m. and ~~2:30-2:00~~ a.m.:

...

Sec. 14-296. Duties of bus and taxicab operators.

(a) The operator of a bus shall not stand or park such vehicle upon any street at any place other than a bus stand so designated as provided herein.

...

(e) A transportation network operator shall not stand or park such vehicle in a designated taxicab stand at any time.

SECTION 2. Chapter 28 of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Columbia, Missouri, is hereby amended as follows:

Material to be deleted in ~~strikeout~~; material to be added underlined.

Sec. 28-86. Responsibility of permit holder.

(a) Each permit holder operating a taxicab business with more than one (1) taxicab owned or operated by permit holder or limousine service with more than one (1) limousine owned or operated by permit holder is required to maintain an office within the City of Columbia with regular business hours. A responsible representative of the permit holder shall be available during regular business hours to receive reports of lost articles, complaints, injuries and related matters. Each permit holder shall maintain a listing in all business directories commonly available to the public listing scheduled business hours. Each permit holder shall maintain a ~~publicly listed business~~ telephone number.

...

Sec. 28-96. Service.

(a) Holders of taxicab business, limousine service or other permits under this article shall offer city-wide services. Taxicab business services shall include the transportation of passengers, messages and packages.

...

(c) All holders of taxicab business permits shall provide telephone answering and radio dispatching capabilities during scheduled business hours and all taxicabs shall be equipped with radios or phones for two-way communications between driver and dispatcher.

SECTION 3. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage.

PASSED this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2015.

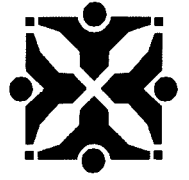
ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk

\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor and Presiding Officer

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Counselor



## SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS INCLUDED WITH THIS AGENDA ITEM ARE AS FOLLOWS:

Taxi Company Survey

# 9 responses

[View all responses](#)[Publish analytics](#)

## Summary

### 1. Do you feel the current taxi stands in Columbia are a positive feature for taxi companies and drivers?



#### 1.a. If your answer is "yes", please explain.

Yes, It gives a common place for people to go and hail a cab. Someplace they can rely on to be able to find a cab.

because the taxi stands make it easy for people to catch a cab and it keeps cab from stopping haphazardly all over the place

Yes it's a positive future. However, there should be more stands and passengers should have an option to catch a taxi without being at a stand. There should also be a taxi stand at the Broadway Hotel, Tiger Hotel, Bengal's and Human Resource office at 600 East Broadway.

#### 1.b. If your answer is "no", please explain.

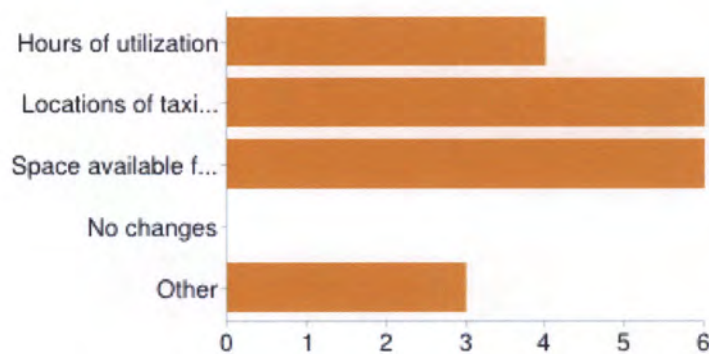
it make intoxicated people to gather at the same location and cause fights over cabs. it makes intoxicated people walk around aimlessly because the taxi stands are not clearly marked.

They limit where taxis can pick up, and may cause passengers to take their own vehicle home rather than walk to a taxi stand

They limit where we can pick up, and may cause passengers to just take their own cars home instead of walking to the taxi stand.

here are my comments why I don't like them.

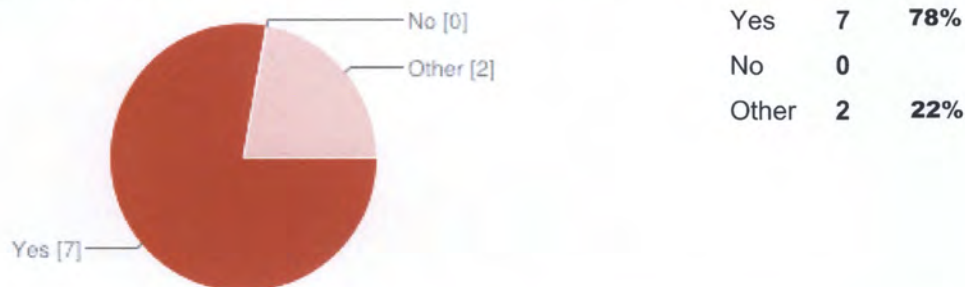
2. What change would you most like to see to the current taxi stand provisions, if any?



Hours of utilization	4
Locations of taxi stands	6
Space available for taxis at the taxi stands	6
No changes	0
Other	3

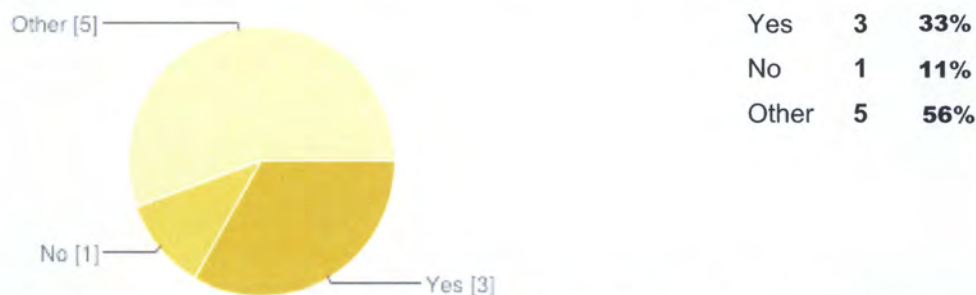
**Comments: Make signs bigger**

3. Do you think each taxi company's vehicles should have a distinctive and uniform color scheme?



**Comments: Color No, lettering scheme Yes. yes, with reversible colors for same company.**

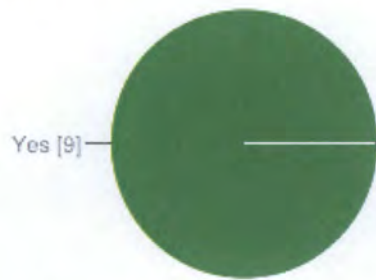
4. Do you agree that every taxi business should maintain an office within the City in an appropriately zoned location with regular business hours and a land line phone?



**Comments: Maybe after a business has 3 vehicles they should have an office for parking purposes. No land line, we are 100% mobile business. Business locations should be mandatory. Regular business should not be mandatory. Landline phones should not be mandatory. No office until maybe 2 or 3 cars.**



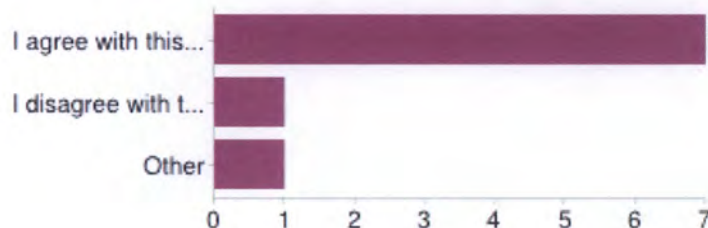
5. Currently, all taxi vehicles must have taxi meters installed and inspected by the MO Div. of Weights and Measures. Do you think taxi meters should be required if operating as a taxi?



Yes	9	100%
No	0	
Other	0	

Comments: None

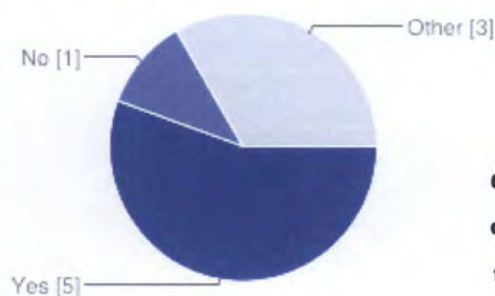
6. All taxi drivers are required to wear a shirt, jacket, hat or other clothing article of uniform color and style with the taxi company's name or logo printed on it.



I agree with this policy	7
I disagree with this policy	1
Other	1

Comments: None

7. Current ordinance provisions prohibit drivers from sleeping in their vehicles or playing loud music while awaiting passengers. Do you agree with this policy?



Yes	5	56%
No	1	11%
Other	3	33%

Comments: Sleeping in taxi should be permitted (some drivers have another job and they might fall asleep waiting for passenger.) Loud music should not be acceptable. Asleep in the taxi while waiting should not be acceptable.

8. If you could change one requirement that is currently in the taxi ordinance (Sections 28-77 through 28-121), what would you change?

I believe that the license sticker should be placed inside the taxi on the back driver side



rear window. I know some taxi's windows are tinted, but design the license sticker so that this can be seen from the outside and the license sticker should reflect, so that it can be seen better at night.

I wish there was more rules for taxi companies that try to intimidate other taxi companies  
Taxi Stands: consistency throughout the guidelines and governing of companies. What applies to one should apply to all.

office and land line requirement Also, random drug testing of drivers should be added to the ordinance

Location of Locust and 10th stand. Move it to the north side of street. 10th and Broadway make the whole street between Locust and Broadway spaces for Taxi's Move cab stand hours to 6pm. This will cut down on people parking before the 9pm deadline and not coming out to move these vehicles. Allow Taxi Companies the ability to have the cars towed after a ticket has been issued for parking in a Taxi stand. Too many times the cops come and ticket and the cars remain, allow the tow companies the ability to take any ticketed vehicles without being called by the police. Cab Stand signage needs to be more visible, placed at eye level.

office/landline phone requirement

I believe that the license sticker should be placed inside the taxi on the back driver side rear window. I know some taxi's windows are tinted, but design the license sticker so that this can be seen from the outside and the license sticker should be made with reflectable material, so that it can be seen better at night.