




COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	September 4, 2025
SUBJECT:	Revised Timeline for Review of Schedule 25 (Taxi) of the Licensing By-law 07-170 (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Dan Smith Acting Director, Licensing and Bylaw Services Planning and Economic Development Department
SIGNATURE:	

The purpose of this Communication Update is to provide the Mayor and Members of Council with information regarding the revised timeline for review of Schedule 25 (Taxi) of the Licensing By-law 07-170, in order to pursue a unified vehicle-for-hire by-law approach which will require additional review of Schedules 24 (Personal Transportation Providers) and 8 (Limousines).

In December 2023, Council directed staff in Licensing and By-law Services to review Schedule 25 of the Licensing By-law 07-170 and report back to Planning Committee in Q3, 2025. Staff have undertaken a comprehensive review of the Schedule, including; history and evolution of taxicab regulation in Hamilton, a jurisdictional scan of municipal taxi regulation in Ontario, operational evaluation of the administration and enforcement of taxicab licensing and a comprehensive engagement initiative with industry stakeholders called “Let’s Talk Taxicabs”, among other actions.

In response to stakeholder feedback, in an effort to ensure a fair and level playing field between transportation providers and consistent with many regulations in other municipalities across Canada, staff believe it is prudent to pursue a unified vehicle-for-hire approach which will regulate the licensing and operation of vehicles used for transportation services, including taxis, limousines, and personal transportation providers (E.g. Uber, Lyft, etc.) within a single by-law. Consolidated review of all three operations will allow for the harmonization and modernization of the City of Hamilton’s

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licensing regulations and is supported by both taxicab brokerages (Blueline Transportation & Hamilton Cab).

In support of a vehicle-for-hire approach, staff will review Schedules 24 and 8, facilitate any consultation that is necessary with industry stakeholders and report back to Planning Committee in Q2, 2026 with recommendations on amendments to the Licensing By-law 07-170.

As a result of the revised timeline, the temporary fee for inactive taxi plates and the Accessible Taxi Financial Incentive Pilot Program will be extended until the review has been completed.

If you have any questions respecting this communication, please contact Dan Smith, Acting Director, Licensing and By-law Services, by phone at (905) 546-2424 Ext. 6435 or by email at Daniel.Smith@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

Not applicable.