

**CITY OF EL PASO, TEXAS**  
**AGENDA ITEM DEPARTMENT HEAD'S SUMMARY FORM**

**DEPARTMENT:** POLICE

**AGENDA DATE:** July 11, 2006

**CONTACT PERSON/PHONE:** ASSISTANT CHIEF PAUL CROSS / 564-7310

**DISTRICT(S) AFFECTED:** 3 & 8

**SUBJECT:**

That Mayor and Council review and approve an ordinance amending Title 6 (Vehicles for Hire), Chapter 6.16 (Taxicabs) of the El Paso City Code to amend the provisions relating to permit fees; taxicab stands and city taxicab zones; the penalty being as provided in Section 1.08.010 to 1.08.030 of the El Paso City Code.

**BACKGROUND / DISCUSSION:**

The proposed amendment adds that the establishment of a City Taxicab Zone provides taxicab operators equitable opportunity for taxicab operators to service the needs of the citizens and visitors to the City of El Paso. It further provides for an increase in the annual permit necessary to recover the City's cost, and that an ordinance amendment is in the best interest of the City of El Paso and its citizens and is designed to promote the public safety and welfare of its citizens.

**PRIOR COUNCIL ACTION:**

N/A

**AMOUNT AND SOURCE OF FUNDING:**

N/A

**BOARD / COMMISSION ACTION:**

N/A

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\*\*\*\*\*REQUIRED AUTHORIZATION\*\*\*\*\*

**LEGAL:** (if required) \_\_\_\_\_ **FINANCE:** (if required) \_\_\_\_\_

**DEPARTMENT HEAD:** \_\_\_\_\_

(Example: if RCA is initiated by Purchasing, client department should sign also)  
*Information copy to appropriate Deputy City Manager*

**APPROVED FOR AGENDA:**

**CITY MANAGER:** \_\_\_\_\_

**DATE:** \_\_\_\_\_

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 6  
(VEHICLES FOR HIRE), CHAPTER 6.16 (TAXICABS) OF THE  
EL PASO CITY CODE TO AMEND THE PROVISIONS  
RELATING TO PERMIT FEES; TAXICAB STANDS AND CITY TAXICAB ZONES; THE  
PENALTY BEING AS PROVIDED IN SECTION 1.08.010 TO 1.08.030  
OF THE EL PASO CITY CODE

WHEREAS, El Paso City Council finds that the establishment of a City Taxicab Zone provides taxicab operators equitable opportunity for taxicab operators to service the needs of the citizens and visitors to the City of El Paso.

WHEREAS, El Paso City Council finds that the increase in the annual permit fee necessary to recover the City's cost.

WHEREAS, El Paso City Council further finds that an ordinance amendment is in the best interest of the City of El Paso and its citizens and is designed to promote the public safety and welfare of it's citizens.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF EL PASO:

Section 1. That Section 6.16.090 D. (Permit Fees-Granting of operating permit) be amended to read as follows:

Section 6.16.090 D. Any holder of an operating permit who desires to operate at the El Paso International Airport must apply for a special permit to do so, at an annual permit fee of two hundred fifty dollars per vehicle per year. Any holder of an operating permit who desires to operate at a City Taxicab Zone established pursuant to Section 12.88.160 must apply for a special permit to do so, at an annual permit fee of two hundred fifty dollars per vehicle per year. The special permit will not be transferable from the vehicle for which it was obtained to another vehicle without application to and approval of the chief of police. A fee for transferring the permit to another vehicle will not be charged; however, only one application for transfer will be permitted during any permit year, except where good cause is shown for more than one transfer. Good cause shall include, but not necessarily be limited to, substitution of vehicles as authorized by and in accordance with the provisions of Section 6.16.150 of this article. The decision as to whether good cause has been shown will be made with the sound discretion of the chief of police. Denial of a request for more than one transfer during a permit period may be appealed to the city council in accordance with the procedures set forth in Section 6.16.110(C) of this article. The chief of police will furnish each holder of a special permit a decal authorizing the vehicle for which the permit is issued to operate at the El Paso International Airport or a City Taxicab Zone. The decal shall be affixed to the lower right of the rear window. A decal may be displayed only on the vehicle for which it has been issued. Taxicabs which do not have a permit to operate at the El Paso International Airport may discharge

passengers at the airport but may not pick up passengers except during the hours of twelve midnight to six a.m. during which time passengers may be picked up. Only Taxicabs that have a permit to operate at a City Taxicab Zone or El Paso International Airport may pick up passengers at any designated City Taxicab Zone.

All taxicabs which have a permit to operate at the El Paso International Airport or City Taxicab Zone shall comply with all city and airport regulations and directives, not otherwise inconsistent with the provisions of this chapter, including, but not necessarily limited to, designation of standby or ready-line areas and conditions. While parked at the ready line at the airport or City Taxicab Zone, drivers will not leave the immediate vicinity of their vehicles nor will they solicit fares.

Section 2. That Section 6.16.480 D. (Taxicab stands-Regulations for use) be amended to read as follows:

Section 6.16.480 Taxicab stands and City Taxicab Zones—Regulations for use.

A. While using a taxicab stand or City Taxicab Zone, a driver shall not:

1. Leave the immediate vicinity of his taxicab except to assist a passenger as reasonably necessary after being engaged;
2. Interfere with the orderly progression of taxicabs from the rear to the front of the taxicab stand or City Taxicab Zone;
3. Perform or allow to be performed repairs or maintenance on a taxicab while parked on the taxicab stand or City Taxicab Zone;
4. Interfere with a taxicab entering a taxicab stand or City Taxicab Zone on which there is a vacant space.

B. A person shall not park a taxicab on a taxicab stand or City Taxicab Zone unless the taxicab is for hire.

Section 3. Except as herein amended, Chapter 6.16 (Taxicabs) of the El Paso City Code, shall remain in full force and effect.

PASSED AND APPROVED this 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2006.

THE CITY OF EL PASO

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John Cook  
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Richarda Duffy Momsen  
City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



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Ernesto Rodriguez  
Assistant City Attorney