

FILED  
FEB 22 2017  
PHILADELPHIA PARKING AUTHORITY  
P-17-02-01

**Before the Philadelphia Parking Authority**  
**Taxicab and Limousine Division**

Re: Petition for Change in Rates Pursuant To 53 Pa. C.S. § 5703	
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**PETITION FOR RATE CHANGE**

I Petitioner, Ronald Blount as a certified PPA-TLD taxicab driver and as president of the Taxi Workers Alliance of Pennsylvania, and under the authority granted in 52 Pa. Code § 1005.21, hereby request a Change in Rates pursuant to 53 Pa. C.S. § 5703 and avers as follows:

1. Petitioner is a certified PPA-TLD taxicab driver under license number H-102361
2. Petitioner request that the Authority re-establish the boundaries of all trips within the Airport flat-rate zone to: Columbus Boulevard on the East to 48<sup>th</sup> Street on the West and from Girard Avenue on the North to Tasker Street on the South.
3. Petitioner request that the minimum fare originating from the Airport be increased from \$11.00 to \$20.00 which includes the \$1.50 egress fee.
4. Petitioner request that a convenience fee of \$1.00 be added to all credit card transactions used by consumers in taxicabs to help subsidize the fee charged to process these transactions by the Credit Card Vendors.
  - a. In the alternative, Petitioner request that a 5% convenience fee be added to all credit card transactions in taxicabs.
5. Petitioner request that the mileage and waiting time increments be increased from \$0.23 to \$0.25.
6. Petitioner request that a \$0.50 per trip rush hour surcharge be added to all taxicab fares between the hours of: 6am to 9am and 4pm to 8pm.
7. Petitioner request that taxicab drivers have the option of charging a \$35.00 cleaning fee to

Consumers that vomit or intentionally incapacitate the inside of a taxicab from other riders.

8. Pursuant to 53 Pa. C.S. § 5703, Petitioner further request that the Authority implement interim emergency relief as Petitioner has outlined in the "Petition For Interim Emergency Relief" Form. (see attached)

a. On November 4, 2016, the Governor signed Act 164, since then, taxicab drivers have lost 40% of their income.

b. The Authority is aware of the declining number of taxicab medallions in voluntary suspension, Petitioner estimates that over 100 taxi medallions are incapacitated.

c. The number of active certified taxicab drivers have decreased from 5,000 in 2014 to about 3,700 today.

d. Over 10,000 TNC vehicles are now actively working in Philadelphia, grabbing the lion-share of revenues.


9. Petitioner request the proposed rate change go into effect immediately upon the approval of the present Petition and that it applies to all taxicabs pursuant to 53 Pa. C.S. § 5720(b).

10. Pursuant to 53 Pa. C.S. § 5703, this Petition will help taxicab drivers achieve a fair return for their labor and expenses, will be non-discriminatory to any person, just and reasonable, and conforms with the Authority's statutes and regulations.

11. Granting the present Petition will alleviate the harm incurred by taxi drivers by permitting them to recover some of the lost revenues.

Petitioner request that the Authority grant this Petition to help stabilize the declining income of taxicab drivers and to ensure that taxicab medallion owners can receive the leasing fees for their medallions. Petitioner states that the above request will not harm the public and will be able to prove if deem necessary.

Respectfully submitted;

  
Ronald Blount 02/20/17