

ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE: 2019 FOR-HIRE INDUSTRY RELIEF Series/Number: AI-2019-07

Modifies: AI-2018-07

Approved November 25, 2019 Effective November 25, 2019

I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

In 2018 the Department of For-Hire Vehicles ("Department") issued AI-2018-07 "2018 For-Hire Industry Relief" establishing four procedures to lessen burdens on the vehicle for-hire industry: (1) removing the requirement to submit a letter of reference in order to obtain a FACE ID, (2) eliminating the need for applicants to provide paper certificates to demonstrate compliance with the Clean Hands Act, (3) reducing dress code requirements for public for-hire vehicle operators, and (4) adopting a policy that taxicab companies would not be denied operating authority solely for lack of compliance with the 20% wheelchair-accessible vehicle ("WAV") requirement. While three of the procedures remain in effect until modified or revoked, the WAV policy was limited to calendar year 2019. After considering the current state of WAV service and availability, the Department has decided to extend the WAV policy for the 2020 calendar year.

The District continues to have a high level of accessible transportation options for residents. The Department's Transport DC and Union Station Fast Pass programs both incentivize the availability WAV service. Strict enforcement of the 20% WAV requirement at this time would impose an unsustainable burden for taxicab companies. For these and other lawful reasons, the Department extends its policy of not denying applicants in good standing who are seeking to renew their taxicab company authority for calendar year 2020 solely for lack of compliance with the 20% WAV requirement.

II. AUTHORITY

D.C. OFFICIAL CODE §§ 50-301.02(b)(2)(B), 50-301.07(c)(2), 50-301.25(c)(2), and 31 DCMR § 501.10.

III. PROCEDURE

An applicant in good standing with the Department that is seeking to renew its taxicab company authority for calendar year 2020 shall not have its application denied solely for lack of compliance with the 20% WAV requirement.

SO ORDERED:

DEPARTMENT OF FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

BY:

DAVID **D**O Director