

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TAXICAB COMMISSION

NOTICE OF EMERGENCY AND PROPOSED RULEMAKING

The District of Columbia Taxicab Commission ("Commission"), pursuant to the authority set forth under §8(b)(1)(A) of the District of Columbia Taxicab Commission Establishment Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-97; D.C. Official Code §50-307(b)(1)(A)), hereby gives notice of its emergency rulemaking action on Friday, September 9, 2005, at its Special meeting, to add a fuel surcharge to the current rates for taxicab service in the District of Columbia. Through its emergency rulemaking action, the Commission voted to amend Appendix 8-2 by adding a fuel surcharge of one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) per taxicab trip. The effective date of this emergency rule is 12:01 am Saturday, September 10, 2005 and the emergency rule will expire midnight Sunday, January 8, 2006, one hundred and twenty (120) days after its adoption or upon publication of a notice of final rulemaking in the D.C. Register, whichever occurs first, unless terminated by the Commission. The fuel surcharge will only effect current zone fares. It does not apply to interstate fares.

The emergency rulemaking action is an attempt by the Commission to offset rising fuel costs. Taxicab operators may not be able to continue to meet their public service obligations to provide vital transportation service to the public and preserve the status quo. The increased costs of fuel may cause many taxicab operators to leave the industry or discontinue taxicab service because they may not earn a fair return on their investment. Also, taxicab operators may not be able to meet basic health and welfare needs for themselves or their families. The potential termination of taxicab service may affect senior citizens and persons with disabilities who rely on taxicab service for medical care, extended health services, physical therapy, social, and other supportive services.

The emergency fuel surcharge in effect during this period adds one dollar and fifty cents (\$1.50) to the current zone rates listed below:

<u>Number of Zones</u>	<u>Current Fares</u>	<u>Fares Plus Surcharge</u>
1	\$5.50	\$7.00
2	\$7.60	\$9.10
3	\$9.50	\$11.00
4	\$11.40	\$12.90
5	\$12.80	\$14.30
6	\$14.10	\$15.60
7	\$16.20	\$17.70
8	\$17.20	\$18.70

All persons desiring to comment on the subject matter of this proposed rulemaking should file comments in writing not later than thirty (30) days from the date of publication of this notice in

the D.C. Register. Comments should be filed with Kimberly A. Lewis, Attorney Advisor, District of Columbia Taxicab Commission, 2041 Martin Luther King, Jr., Avenue, S.E., Suite 204, Washington, D.C. 20020. Copies of the proposed rulemaking may be obtained by writing to the above address.