

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TAXICAB COMMISSION

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

The District of Columbia Taxicab Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to the authority set forth in Sections 8 (c) (2), (3), and (19), and 14 of the District of Columbia Taxicab Commission Establishment Act of 1985 (“Establishment Act”), effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-97; D.C. Official Code §§ 50-307(c)(2), (3), and (19), and 50-313 (2012 Repl. & 2015 Supp.)), hereby gives notice of its intent to adopt amendments to Chapter 6 (Taxicab Parts and Equipment) and Chapter 99 (Definitions) of Title 31 (Taxicabs and Public Vehicles-for-Hire) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR).

The proposed rulemaking would simplify the taxicab vehicle retirement rules by establishing a single age limit and a single mileage limit for all vehicles operating as taxicabs. This proposed rulemaking would also add new definitions to Chapter 99.

The Commission also hereby gives notice of the intent to take final rulemaking action to adopt these proposed rules in not less than thirty (30) days after the publication of this notice of proposed rulemaking in the *D.C. Register*. Directions for submitting comments may be found at the end of this notice.

Chapter 6, TAXICAB PARTS AND EQUIPMENT, of Title 31, TAXICABS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES FOR HIRE, of the DCMR is amended as follows:

Section 609, TAXICAB VEHICLE RETIREMENT, is amended as follows:

Subsections 609.3 through 609.6 are amended to read as follows:

- 609.3 Maximum age: seven (7) model years.
- 609.4 Maximum mileage: three hundred fifteen thousand (315,000) miles.
- 609.5 Pursuant to §§ 609.3 and 609.4, a vehicle shall be retired not later than the earlier of the following:
- (a) December 31st of the calendar year in which the vehicle reaches its maximum age, as provided in § 609.3; or
 - (b) When it reaches its maximum mileage, as provided in § 609.4.
- 609.6 No vehicle shall be placed into service if:
- (a) It would have one (1) year or less prior to retirement under § 609.5;
 - (b) It has been driven more than one hundred thousand (100,000) miles, regardless of whether it has previously been used as a public vehicle-for-hire; or

- (c) It has been salvaged or rebuilt.

New subsections 609.10 through 609.11 are added to read as follows:

- 609.10 Notwithstanding the requirements of §§ 609.1-609.4, no vehicle that is licensed and in active service on the effective date of this rulemaking shall be required to be retired sooner than required by the prior vehicle retirement rules published in the *D.C. Register* on January 2, 2015 at 62 DCR 000119.

- 609.11 If the Office issues an administrative issuance requiring owners to provide the Office with periodic updates about the safety and mechanical condition of an extended vehicle, or its mileage, each owner of an extended vehicle shall comply with such administrative issuance. Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, failure to comply with such administrative issuance may result in the following enforcement actions:
 - (a) An immediate suspension of the vehicle extension;
 - (b) A proposed suspension of the vehicle extension;
 - (c) A civil fine of one hundred dollars (\$100);
 - (d) Any civil penalty provided by another provision of this title; or
 - (e) A combination of the penalties in subparagraphs (a)-(d).

Chapter 99, DEFINITIONS, of Title 31, TAXICABS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES FOR HIRE, of the DCMR is amended as follows:

Section 9901, DEFINITIONS, is amended as follows:

Subsections 9900.1 amended to add the following:

“Extended vehicle” – a vehicle which is the subject of an extension under § 609.7.

“New vehicle” – any vehicle owned by its manufacturer, or a dealer holding a valid franchise for the sale of such vehicle, or a bank or a finance company and which has never before been titled or registered in this or any other jurisdiction, except the kind of title issued only to dealers, provided however that (a) a vehicle may also be classified as a “new” vehicle when titled for the first time in the District by any person applying for a certificate of title who produces a manufacturer’s statement of origin or other evidence of ownership in the form required by the laws of the jurisdiction in which the vehicle was purchased, and which vehicle has never before been titled or registered in any jurisdiction, and (b) the model year of the vehicle cannot be more than one (1) year earlier than the current calendar year.

Copies of this proposed rulemaking can be obtained at www.dcregs.dc.gov or by contacting the Secretary to the Commission, District of Columbia Taxicab Commission, 2235 Shannon Place, S.E., Suite 3001, Washington, D.C. 20020. All persons desiring to file comments on the proposed rulemaking action should submit written comments via e-mail to dctc@dc.gov or by mail to the DC Taxicab Commission, 2235 Shannon Place, S.E., Suite 3001, Washington, DC 20020, Attn: Secretary to the Commission, no later than thirty (30) days after the publication of this notice in the *D.C. Register*.