Vehicle Requirements & Safety Considerations

The following is a summary of Administration's regulatory framework recommendations and rationale for vehicle and safety requirements.

Vehicle Age Limits and Inspection Frequencies

The City currently allows different vehicle age limits and inspection frequencies for different vehicle-for-hire sectors. In response to best practices and industry feedback, the recommended approach standardizes the age limits and inspection frequencies for all vehicles, resulting in streamlined and equitable regulatory requirements that reduce costs for drivers while keeping safety standards in line with best practices.

Vehicle Markings

The best practices report identified that there were opportunities to make vehicle markings for taxis less prescriptive or removable, providing vehicle owners with more flexibility and potentially reducing costs. Public engagement results indicated that customers would like TNCs to be more identifiable, particularly a visible company name or logo. This would also improve The City's ability to identify TNC vehicles and enforce the Bylaw, increasing safety. The associated recommended solution will allow more flexibility in removable markings for taxis while requiring company markings on TNC vehicles.

Vehicle Security Cameras

In-vehicle security cameras are required in all taxis, and are allowed, but not required, in limousines and TNC vehicles. Administration considered the option of requiring cameras in TNCs and limousines, however the initial safety rationale for requiring cameras in taxis remains: Taxis still have exclusive access to street hail and dispatched rides (where the driver and passenger are unknown to each other), as well as the ability to accept cash payments for those rides. No change in policy is recommended for cameras other than adding requirements for any livery vehicle with a camera to have visible notification to customers that camera footage is being recorded.

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