

INTERIM ADMINISTRATIVE RULE

16.40.520 Administrative Rule Authority and Process

J. "Notwithstanding Subsections 16.40.520 C. and D., the Director may adopt an interim rule without prior public notice or Board action upon a finding that a failure to act promptly will likely result in prejudice to the public interest or the interest of the affected parties. If the Director adopts a rule under this Subsection, the Director must state the specific reason for such prejudice. Any interim rule adopted pursuant to this Subsection is effective for a period of not longer than 120 days."

The available supply of taxicabs is not meeting demand. New tracking software has identified times during which there is a definitive lack of taxicab vehicles available to respond during periods of peak demand. While more data remains to be collected, initial reports indicate that during normal business hours, Monday through Friday, there is an approximate 90 percent availability of Broadway and Radio cabs requested through their contracted smartphone application, called *Curb*. On weekends, that percentage drops to 60 percent and lower. For instance, on Saturday, October 25, 2014 between 2:00 a.m. and 3:00 a.m., 206 requests for rides were made to Broadway Cab and Radio Cab through *Curb*, but only 50 of those requests were fulfilled.

Complaints regarding the availability and long wait times for taxis account for the majority of complaints received by the PFHT Division. At this time, the most current data on taxi availability and response times is only available through *Curb* on calls to service for Broadway and Radio cabs. However, this data is consistent with the availability of other taxi companies permitted by the City of Portland.

While further review of how best to serve increased calls for on-demand, private for hire transportation service in Portland is needed, there is an immediate need for more cabs as we enter the busy holiday season.

Under the authority of 16.40.520.J I am adopting Administrative Rule 16.40.330-1, Identification of Taxicab Vehicles, to allow:

"Any taxicab, or medical transportation (SAT) vehicle, whose company has a current taxicab, or SAT City of Portland company permit, may operate and pick up passengers on demand or by dispatch in Portland, for a fee of \$50.00 for the temporary permit, as long as the vehicle has been inspected by the City of Portland, the driver has a City of Portland driver's permit, and the vehicle has an operating taximeter. These vehicles may operate between the hours of 5:00 p.m. and 4:00 a.m., Friday night through Sunday morning, November 7, 2014 through January 2, 2015. This Administrative Rule is effective immediately."

Signed:


Leah Treat, Director, Portland Bureau of Transportation