

THIS PRINT COVERS CALENDAR ITEM NO. : 10.5

**SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY**

DIVISION: Taxis and Accessible Services

BRIEF DESCRIPTION:

Requesting that the Board of Directors amend Transportation Code Division II, Article 1100, Section 1113 to update taxi vehicle mileage requirements to increase the mileage limit of taxis to 425,000 miles.

SUMMARY:

- Taxi vehicle mileage requirements are being updated to allow more flexibility to add and continue operating vehicles, while maintaining a focus on clean air standards.

ENCLOSURES:

1. SFMTAB Resolution
2. Transportation Code Division II Amendments

APPROVALS:

DATE

DIRECTOR



2/12/2018

SECRETARY



2/12/2018

ASSIGNED SFMTAB CALENDAR DATE: February 20, 2018

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PURPOSE

Requesting that the Board of Directors amend Transportation Code Division II, Article 1100, Section 1113 to update taxi vehicle mileage requirements to increase the mileage limit of taxis to 425,000 miles.

STRATEGIC PLAN GOALS AND TRANSIT FIRST POLICY PRINCIPLES

This action will support the following goals and objectives in the SFMTA's Strategic Plan:

Goal 1: Create a safer transportation experience for everyone.

Goal 2: Make transit, walking, bicycling, taxi, ridesharing, and carsharing the preferred means of travel.

Objective 2.1: Improve customer service and communications.

Objective 2.3: Increase use of all non-private auto modes.

Goal 3: Improve the environment and quality of life in San Francisco.

Objective 3.2: Increase the transportation system's positive impact to the economy.

Objective 3.4: Deliver services efficiently.

This action will support the following Transit First Policy Principles:

1. To ensure quality of life and economic health in San Francisco, the primary objective of the transportation system must be the safe and efficient movement of people and goods.
2. Public transit, including taxis and vanpools, is an economically and environmentally sound alternative to transportation by individual automobiles. Within San Francisco, travel by public transit, by bicycle and on foot must be an attractive alternative to travel by private automobile.

DESCRIPTION

Requesting that the Board of Directors amend Transportation Code Division II, Article 1100, Section 1113 to update taxi vehicle mileage requirements to increase the mileage limit of taxis to 425,000 miles.

BACKGROUND

Currently, Article 1100, Section 1113 requires that a taxi vehicle have no more than 375,000 miles in order to be part of the taxi fleet. Over the past several years, the taxi industry has experienced a decline in the demand for taxi service which has extended the useful life of a taxi beyond what was contemplated when Section 1113 was originally drafted. In order to level the playing field with competitors in the motor vehicle for hire market, several changes to the Transportation Code have already been enacted. In October 2017, based upon industry input, vehicle age and introductory mileage requirements were abolished. To maintain safety, all vehicles nine model years or older and vehicles over 200,000 miles are inspected every six months.

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After additional industry input, staff recommends a revision of the mileage requirement from 375,000 to 425,000. The San Francisco taxi fleet is among the ‘greenest’ in the country, with approximately 96% of the fleet operating low emission vehicles. This status will not be impacted by the proposed change. The safety of the fleet will still be maintained with the requirement of semi-annual inspections of all vehicles with over 200,000 miles or nine model years along with the continued annual inspections required for all vehicles less than nine model years.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

The taxi vehicle age and mileage requirements were vetted with the Taxi industry at several Taxi Task Force meetings. Based upon this input, the initial changes removing vehicle age and introduction mileage requirements were made to the Transportation Code. After additional industry input, the suggestion to increase the maximum mileage was proposed. Industry members were generally supportive and requested that staff review the vehicle mileage requirements as well. After internal discussions, staff decided to propose amendments to the requirement regarding the maximum allowable mileage a vehicle can have in the taxi fleet.

ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

Alternative vehicle requirements were considered by staff and discussed with the Taxi Task Force. Staff considered additional amendments including no mileage limit. Industry input requested an increase of mileage, but not the total elimination of a mileage limit. Industry members voiced concerns that having no absolute limit on mileage could lead to vehicles being used as taxis well beyond their useful life, thus affecting the quality of the taxi fleet.

FUNDING IMPACT

There is no anticipated funding impact related to the proposed amendments.

ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

On January 26, 2018, the SFMTA, under authority delegated by the Planning Department, determined that the Transportation Code amendment is not defined as a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Sections 15060(c) and 15378(b).

A copy of the CEQA determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors and is incorporated herein by reference.

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OTHER APPROVALS RECEIVED OR STILL REQUIRED

The City Attorney has reviewed this calendar item.

RECOMMENDATION

Staff recommends that the SFMTA Board of Directors amend Transportation Code Division II, Article 1100, Section 1113 to update taxi vehicle mileage requirements to increase the mileage limit of taxis to 425,000 miles.

SAN FRANCISCO
MUNICIPAL TRANSPORTATION AGENCY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS

RESOLUTION No. _____

WHEREAS, Approximately 96% of the San Francisco Taxi fleet operates low emission vehicles; and,

WHEREAS, Taxi vehicle mileage requirements are being updated to allow more flexibility to continue operating vehicles, while maintaining a focus on clean air standards; and,

WHEREAS, Taxi vehicle safety will be maintained through increased frequency of inspections for vehicles over nine model years in age or over 200,000 miles; and,

WHEREAS, On January 26, 2018, the SFMTA, under authority delegated by the Planning Department, determined that the Transportation Code amendment is not defined as a “project” under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Title 14 of the California Code of Regulations Sections 15060(c) and 15378(b); and,

WHEREAS, A copy of the CEQA determination is on file with the Secretary to the SFMTA Board of Directors and is incorporated herein by reference; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, That the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors amend the Transportation Code, Division II, to extend the mileage limit of vehicles used as taxis from 375,000 miles to 425,000 miles.

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of February 20, 2018.

Secretary to the Board of Directors
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency

RESOLUTION NO.

[Transportation Code – Vehicle Mileage Requirements]

Resolution amending the Transportation Code to update taxi vehicle mileage requirements.

NOTE: Additions are single-underline Times New Roman;
deletions are ~~strike-through Times New Roman~~.

The Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors of the City and County of San Francisco enacts the following regulations:

Section 1. Article 1100 of Division II of the Transportation Code is hereby amended by revising Section 1113(q), to read as follows:

SEC. 1113. TAXI AND RAMP TAXI EQUIPMENT REQUIREMENTS.

* * * *

(q) **Vehicle Mileage.** No vehicle may be operated as a Taxi or Ramp Taxi after the vehicle has reached ~~375,000~~ 425,000 miles.

Section 2. Effective Date. This ordinance shall become effective 31 days after enactment. Enactment occurs when the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors approves this ordinance.

Section 3. Scope of Ordinance. In enacting this ordinance, the San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors intends to amend only those words, phrases, paragraphs, subsections, sections, articles, numbers, letters, punctuation marks, charts, diagrams, or any other constituent parts of the Transportation Code that are explicitly shown in this ordinance as additions or deletions in accordance with the "Note" that appears under the official title of the ordinance.

RESOLUTION NO.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:
DENNIS J. HERRERA, City Attorney

By: _____
STEPHANIE STUART
Deputy City Attorney

I certify that the foregoing resolution was adopted by the San Francisco
Municipal Transportation Agency Board of Directors at its meeting of February 20, 2018.

Secretary to the Board of Directors
San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency