

INTRODUCED: September 14, 2015

AN ORDINANCE No. 2015-198-205

As Amended

To amend City Code §§ 110-32, 110-33, 110-34, 110-37, 110-44, 110-45, 110-46, 110-51, 110-52, 110-57, 110-58, 110-62, and 110-66, concerning the regulation of taxicabs in the city, [~~and to repeal City Code § 110-56, which required holders of a certificate of public convenience and necessity to have a telephone listing,~~] for the purpose of partially implementing recommendations by the Capital Region Taxicab Advisory Board.

Patron – Ms. Trammell

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: SEPT 28 2015 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§ 1. That sections 110-32, 110-33, 110-34, 110-37, 110-44, 110-45, 110-46, 110-51, 110-52, 110-57, 110-58, 110-62, and 110-66 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2004) be and are hereby **amended** and reordained as follows:

Sec. 110-32. Certificate of public convenience and necessity.

(a) *Required.* It shall be unlawful to operate or cause to be operated within the city any taxicab unless a certificate of public convenience and necessity has been issued to the owner thereof by the chief of police covering the operation of such vehicle and unless the conditions,

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

ADOPTED: NOV 9 2015 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

regulations and restrictions set forth and prescribed in this article have been complied with by such owner. An owner shall operate under only one certificate, and the certificate shall provide for the operation of a specified number of taxicabs. It shall be unlawful to operate or cause to be operated more vehicles than the number provided in the certificate. Additional vehicles may be operated by a certificate holder only upon written application on a form provided by the chief of police, approval of such application, payment of fees provided under this article and compliance with all other sections of this article.

(b) *Expiration; application and renewal.* The certificate of public convenience and necessity shall remain in effect until January 31 following its issuance and may be renewed thereafter annually. The chief of police shall prescribe a form to be used in applying for the certificate and a form to be used in applying for a renewal.

(c) *Interruption of use; lapse.* A certificate of public convenience and necessity shall lapse with respect to an individual vehicle or any one of the specified number of vehicles for which the certificate has been issued when the particular vehicle has not been used to provide taxicab service for 60 or more consecutive days.

(d) *Transferability.* A certificate of public convenience and necessity shall not be transferable.

(e) *Fees.* In addition to any other fees prescribed elsewhere in this Code, each applicant for a certificate of public convenience and necessity shall pay an application fee as set forth in appendix A to this Code per vehicle listed in the certificate and upon each annual request for renewal of such certificate shall pay the same fee.

(f) *Limitation of number issued.* When it appears that it is in the public interest to limit the number of the owner's certificates issued by the chief of police, the council may, if it

finds after an advertised public hearing that it is in the public interest, prescribe the maximum number of vehicles for which such certificates are to be issued. Thereafter, no new certificates shall be issued until the total number of vehicles for which certificates are outstanding is less than the prescribed number, provided that renewal of an existing certificate shall not be regarded as a new certificate for purposes of this section.

(g) *Age and mileage limits of vehicles under certificate.* It shall be unlawful for a certificate holder to place into service a taxicab which ~~[either]~~ either is more than 12 model years old ~~[or which has more than 300,000 miles at the time it is placed into service. Effective January 1, 1995, it shall be unlawful to operate any taxicab which either is more than 12 model years old or which has more than 300,000 miles]~~ or which is more than eight model years old and has more than 300,000 miles at the time it is placed into service.

(h) *Minimum specifications for vehicles.* It shall be unlawful for a certificate holder to place into service a taxicab unless the vehicle is a ~~[four-door,]~~ hardtop vehicle~~[-, including station wagons, which meets or exceeds the following minimum specifications; provided, however, that any vehicle properly placed into service prior to October 1, 1994, which does not meet the curb weight requirement of subsection (h)(3) of this section, may continue to be used as a for hire vehicle by the same certificate holder if such vehicle otherwise meets all the requirements of this article and if the certificate under which it is operated does not lapse, is renewed annually and is not revoked:~~

~~(1) — Wheel size: 14 inches.~~

~~(2) — Wheelbase: 106 inches.~~

~~(3) — Curb weight: 2,900 pounds]~~ with a minimum of four doors and wheel size of at least 14 inches.

Sec. 110-33. Inspection of vehicles.

Every taxicab for which a certificate has been granted by the city shall be inspected by the chief of police or a designated member of the police department or such other reputable agency as the chief of police may prescribe at regular intervals of at least every 12 months and at such other times as the chief may prescribe. If such vehicle shall be found to be in [~~an unsafe, unfit or unclean condition or to have torn seats or upholstery~~] violation of the requirements of this article [~~or~~] to have inoperable air conditioning or heating equipment, or to be unsafe, the owner thereof shall be notified by the chief at once of such defect, and such vehicle shall not be operated thereafter until such defect has been remedied. If upon inspection it is found that the odometer of a vehicle has been unlawfully tampered with, the vehicle shall be permanently rejected for use as a taxicab.

Sec. 110-34. Lettering and decal on vehicle.

(a) There shall be displayed on every taxicab lettering clearly showing the name and number of the owner thereof and indicating that such vehicle is a taxicab. Taxicabs shall use only the word “taxi,” “cab” or “taxicab” to indicate that such vehicle is a taxicab. The color scheme and the size, content and character of such lettering and the position thereof on each such vehicle shall be assigned by the chief of police, and no vehicle shall be operated under this article unless and until such approval has been obtained. The failure of any owner to comply with such specifications also shall constitute a violation of this article.

(b) No vehicle shall be operated under this article unless the chief of police has first assigned to such vehicle a decal which shall be affixed to and visible from the left rear [~~bumper~~] of the vehicle and which shall contain a number registered with the chief of police. Such decal shall not be transferred to another vehicle, shall be displayed at all times and shall not be

removed except when such vehicle is no longer in service in the certificate holder's fleet or except upon direction of the chief of police.

(c) If a vehicle is for any reason taken out of service as a taxicab on a permanent basis, the owner of the vehicle shall within 72 hours remove the assigned decal along with all other indicia of the vehicle's use as a taxicab.

(d) It shall be unlawful to operate a vehicle which does not meet the requirements of this section.

Sec. 110-37. Rates enumerated; special discount for military, elderly or disabled passengers.

(a) The rates to be charged passengers by certificate holders or drivers of taxicabs shall be as follows, and it shall be unlawful for a certificate holder to permit or a driver to make any greater or lesser charge for the transportation of passengers and baggage:

(1) For the first one-fifth mile\$2.50

(2) For each succeeding one-fifth mile0.50

(3) For each eighty seconds of waiting time. Waiting time shall include the time consumed while the taxicab is stopped or moving at a speed less than 15 miles per hour, and time consumed waiting for a passenger beginning five minutes after the time of arrival at the place to which it has been called and the time consumed while it is standing at the direction of the passenger. Waiting time shall not include and no charge shall be made for the time lost on account of inefficiency of the taxicab or its operation or time consumed by premature response to a call. No charge shall be made for mileage while waiting time is being charged0.50

(4) For each additional passenger over one, provided that children six years of age or younger, when accompanying a fare-paying passenger, shall not be deemed additional passengers for the assessment of such additional charge1.00

(b) For a trip originating between the hours of 9:00 p.m. and 6:00 a.m. of the day following, in addition to the charges registered on the meter, a surcharge of \$1.00 per trip shall be added to compute the fare for such trip.

(c) The owner of any taxicab, upon receipt of satisfactory proof that a person is 65 years of age or older [ø], disabled, active duty military or a veteran, may offer a discount not to exceed 20 percent of the total charge for transportation and services. For purposes of eligibility under this subsection, disabled persons include individuals who are physically, hearing, mentally, or visually impaired. The following identification may serve as satisfactory proof of age or disability:

(1) A valid driver's license;

(2) A valid GRTC Senior Citizens ID or Medicare Card;

(3) A valid GRTC Handicapped or Disabled Identification Card; [ø]

(4) A valid identification card issued by a public transportation provider to meet the requirements of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act; or

(5) A valid military or veteran ID card.

(d) The owner of any taxicab may enter into written contracts with organizations and companies to provide taxicab services on a negotiated basis. The owner of any taxicab may enter into written contracts with individuals to provide, on a negotiated basis, regular service, as defined in section 110-1. All such contracts must be kept and preserved and shall be subject to inspection in the main offices of the taxicab company during the terms of the contract and for 12

months after termination of the contract. The rates to be charged for such services under written contract shall not be fixed, prescribed, or established by the council. As required in section 110-35, taximeters shall be in operation at all times during the transportation of passengers, however, the charge for such services shall be governed by the written contract, and not the taximeter.

(e) For a trip originating at Richmond International Airport, the rate shall be \$10.00 or the charge registered on the meter, whichever is greater, plus ~~[\$2.00]~~ the current airport taxicab access fee.

(f) When the most direct route to a passenger's destination requires payment of a toll, before proceeding drivers shall verify with the passenger that the route requires payment of a toll and that the passenger agrees to pay it.

Sec. 110-44. Transportation of passengers by most direct route; payment of toll charge.

Every driver of a taxicab shall transport each passenger from the place the passenger is received in such vehicle to the destination of the passenger by the most direct route, unless otherwise directed by the passenger. ~~[When such route requires the payment of a toll, the driver shall transport the passenger across the toll when the passenger agrees to pay the toll charge.]~~

Sec. 110-45. Nonpaying passengers.

No nonpaying passenger shall be transported with a paying passenger in any taxicab, except ~~[a]~~ drivers in training and police ~~[officer]~~ officers engaged in the performance of any duty and unable to obtain other adequate means of transportation.

Sec. 110-46. Refusal of drivers to make trips; preference in response to service requests.

(a) No owner or driver of any taxicab shall refuse to transport any passenger to or from any part of the city or ~~[to]~~ the counties of Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico ~~[for a trip originating in the city; provided, however, no driver shall be required to drive the vehicle to any~~

~~place when]~~ unless it may be physically detrimental to such vehicle to do so or when it may endanger the driver or any of the occupants of the vehicle.

(b) Every certificate holder and driver shall give preference to calls or other requests for taxicab service in the order of their receipt.

Sec. 110-51. [~~Driving with firearms, etc., in possession of driver]~~ Prohibited weapons.

It shall be unlawful for a driver to operate and drive a taxicab at any time with dirk, bowie knife, nunchahka, nunchuck, shuriken, throwing star, oriental dart, blackjack, brass or metal knuckles or knife with a blade longer than three inches in length in such driver's personal possession or in the taxicab.

Sec. 110-52. Duty of driver to keep taxicab clean and [~~efficiently]~~ sufficiently lighted.

It shall be unlawful for a taxicab driver to fail, refuse or neglect to keep any vehicle which the driver operates under this article clean and [~~efficiently]~~ sufficiently lighted at night.

Sec. 110-57. [~~Radio scanning devices; monitoring radio]~~ Monitoring dispatches.

~~[(a) It shall be unlawful to have radio frequency scanning or similar electronic devices in a taxicab.~~

(b) It shall [~~also~~] be unlawful to monitor [~~radio~~] communications between a dispatcher and a taxicab or between two or more taxicabs for the purpose of responding to a call for taxicab service without the permission of the participants to the communication or of the company for whom they are employed.

Sec. 110-58. Lost and found property.

(a) It shall be unlawful for a driver to knowingly fail, refuse or neglect to preserve any property left in a taxicab by any passenger and to thereafter deliver it to the certificate holder.

(b) Each certificate holder shall carefully preserve all property left in a taxicab by any passenger and delivered to the certificate holder by a driver, which property shall be kept by the certificate holder ~~[at some convenient place within the city where it may be called for by its owner]~~. When the property shall have been identified and ownership established, ~~[it shall be promptly delivered to its owner]~~ a certificate holder shall make it available for pick up during normal business hours at the business location or as arranged between the certificate holder and the owner. Any property which shall not be called for within ~~[three months]~~ 30 days may be disposed of according to law.

Sec. 110-62. Driver's permit required.

No person shall drive a taxicab subject to the requirements of this article unless such person first attends a basic taxicab driver orientation program, approved by the chief of police, and obtains a driver's permit from the chief; provided, however, such person may be issued a temporary or provisional permit for a period not to exceed ~~[90 days]~~ six months during which period such person shall attend the basic taxicab driver orientation program. The initial driver's permit ~~[shall last for 12 months following its issuance and]~~ shall last for 12 months following its issuance and may be renewed thereafter annually. ~~[Attendance at the basic initial taxicab driver orientation program or the follow-on taxicab orientation program within the 12 months preceding the date of a renewal application shall be required as a condition of driver permit renewal.]~~ The chief shall prescribe a form to be used in applying for a renewal. Each applicant for a driver's permit shall pay an initial application fee as set forth in appendix A to this Code and upon each annual request for renewal of such permit shall pay a fee as set forth in appendix A to this Code. The fee for replacement of lost, stolen or damaged permits shall be as set forth in appendix A to

this Code. The permit shall be valid for the operation of only those vehicles subject to a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under this article.

Sec. 110-66. Revocation of driver's permit.

(a) Subject to section 110-72, the permit of any driver of a taxicab shall immediately become void and shall be immediately surrendered upon the occurrence of any of the following:

(1) The driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere to any felony;

(2) The driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere to any larceny, assault, battery, crime of moral turpitude or illegal possession of controlled substances where such crime is other than a felony;

(3) The driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs;

(4) The driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere within a 12-month period to three or more moving violations under the motor vehicle laws of this commonwealth other than those involving operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs;

(5) The driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere within a 12-month period to three or more violations of this article or of any other local law in this commonwealth governing the operation of taxicabs or other for-hire vehicles;

(6) ~~[The chief finds, after investigation, that the driver has made] [Notwithstanding subsection (5) above, the driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere within a three year period to two or more violations of making]~~

The chief finds, after investigation, that the driver, within a three-year period, has on two or more occasions made a charge above or below the rates prescribed by section 110-37;

(7) The chief finds, after investigation, that the driver knowingly made or caused to be made, either directly or indirectly, any false statement on the application for a permit which was issued;

(8) The chief finds, after investigation, that the driver no longer possesses the physical or mental qualifications prescribed in section 110-65(8); or

(9) The driver no longer possesses a valid and current driver's license issued by the state department of motor vehicles.

(b) All drivers and certificate holders shall notify the chief of police within 15 days of the occurrence of any event enumerated in subsection (a)(1), (2), (3), (4), (5) or (9) of this section.

§ 2. ~~[That section 110-56 of the Code of the City of Richmond (2004) be and is hereby repealed as follows:~~

~~[Sec. 110-56. Certificate holder to have telephone listing.~~

~~Every owner holding a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued pursuant to this article shall provide and maintain at all times in the Greater Richmond telephone directory a listed telephone in the name in which the certificate holder is doing taxicab business, by which calls may be made for taxicab service. If the certificate holder operates five or more taxicabs, the telephone listing shall also appear in the Greater Richmond classified telephone directory. If there has not yet been an opportunity to publish the listing in the required directories, the telephone number shall be available from the Greater Richmond directory assistance service.]~~

~~§ 3.]~~ This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Ordinance/Resolution Request

TO Allen Jackson, City Attorney

THROUGH Lou Ali, Council Chief of Staff *V. Jones for Lou Brown Ali*

FROM Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

COPY Reva Trammell, 8th District Council Member
Henry Mease, 8th District Liaison
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Vincent Jones, Council Deputy Chief of Staff

DATE September 4, 2015

PAGE/s 1 of 2

TITLE CRTAB Recommended Taxi Ordinance

RECEIVED

SEP 04 2015

OFFICE OF CITY ATTORNEY

This is a request for the drafting of an **Ordinance** **Resolution**

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

R. Trammell

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

Land Use, Housing, & Transportation

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

Patron requests that ordinance(s) be drafted and introduced for City Council's consideration to implement the attached draft of a taxi ordinance for the City at the recommendation of the Capital Region Taxicab Advisory Board (CRTAB). This ordinance will be adopted by all of the governing bodies of the member jurisdictions.

Significant proposed amendments are as follows:

- eliminate some restrictions on what vehicles may serve as taxis;
- allow military and veterans' discounts;
- clarify rules on drivers refusing to enter certain areas;
- clarify rules on payment of tolls versus the requirement to take the most direct route;
- eliminate the requirement for taxi companies to maintain a listing in the telephone directory and instead create a taxi company data base administered by CRTAB;
- clarify rules on property left in taxis;
- eliminate an annual taxi driver orientation training requirement while keeping the initial training; and
- modify rules on revocation of driver's permits.

BACKGROUND

The City and surrounding counties are members of the CRTAB. CRTAB brings together representatives from the airport authority, the visitors' bureau, the chamber of commerce and the taxi industry to ensure the quality of the taxi industry and uniform regulations across the metro area.

On 23 April 2015 CRTAB, chaired by Chesterfield Board of Supervisors member Jim Holland, met and approved a request to our jurisdictions for amendments to taxi ordinances. The attached document shows these requests using ordinances as they appear in the Richmond City Code, however the final page is a comparative ordinance table. Because of reciprocity agreements between the localities it is expected that the other member jurisdictions will adopt this legislation also.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Budget Amendment Required	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact	\$ N/A	

Attachment/s Yes No

1. Draft Amended Ordinance
2. Comparative Table of CRTAB Jurisdictions Ordinances

Proposed Amendments to Taxi Ordinances

For Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico code sections, see the table on the final page.

Sec. 110-32. - Certificate of public convenience and necessity.

(g) *Age and mileage limits of vehicles under certificate.* It shall be unlawful for a certificate holder to place into service a taxicab which either is more than 12 model years old or which has more than 300,000 miles at the time it is placed into service. ~~Effective January 1, 1995, it shall be unlawful to operate any taxicab which either is more than 12 model years old or which has more than 300,000 miles.~~

(h) *Minimum specifications for vehicles.* It shall be unlawful for a certificate holder to place into service a taxicab unless the vehicle is a four-door, hardtop vehicle with a minimum of four doors, including station wagons, which meets or exceeds the following minimum specifications; provided, however, that any vehicle properly placed into service prior to October 1, 1994, which does not meet the curb weight requirement of subsection (h)(3) of this section, may continue to be used as a for-hire vehicle by the same certificate holder if such vehicle otherwise meets all the requirements of this article and if the certificate under which it is operated does not lapse, is renewed annually and is not revoked:

- ~~(1) Wheel size: 14 inches.~~
- ~~(2) Wheelbase: 106 inches.~~
- ~~(3) Curb weight: 2,900 pounds.~~

Rational: bring vehicle requirements in line with Virginia statute on Transportation Networking Company (i.e. Uber and Lyft) "partner vehicles".

Sec. 110-33. - Inspection of vehicles.

Every taxicab for which a certificate has been granted by the city shall be inspected by the chief of police or a designated member of the police department or such other reputable agency as the chief of police may prescribe at regular intervals of at least every 12 months and at such other times as the chief may prescribe. If such vehicle shall be found to be in violation of the requirements of this article ~~an unsafe, unfit or unclean condition or to have torn seats or upholstery~~ or to have inoperable air conditioning or heating equipment, the owner thereof shall be notified by the chief at once of such defect, and such vehicle shall not be operated thereafter until such defect has been remedied. If upon inspection it is found that the odometer of a vehicle has been unlawfully tampered with, the vehicle shall be permanently rejected for use as a taxicab.

Rational: in line with requirements for Transportation Networking Company partner vehicles.

Sec. 110-34. - Lettering and decal on vehicle.

(b) No vehicle shall be operated under this article unless the chief of police has first assigned to such vehicle a decal which shall be affixed to and visible from the left rear of the vehicle bumper and which shall contain a number registered with the chief of police. Such decal shall not be transferred to another vehicle, shall be displayed at all times and shall not be removed except when such vehicle is no longer in service in the certificate holder's fleet or except upon direction of the chief of police.

Rational: match taxi industry practices and allow for vehicles other than sedans.

Sec. 110-37. - Rates enumerated; special discount for military, elderly or disabled passengers.

(c) The owner of any taxicab, upon receipt of satisfactory proof that a person is 65 years of age or older, ~~or disabled~~, active duty military or a veteran, may offer a discount not to exceed 20 percent of the total charge for transportation and services. For purposes of eligibility under this subsection, disabled persons include individuals who are physically, hearing, mentally, or visually impaired. The following identification may serve as satisfactory proof of age or disability:

- (1) A valid driver's license;
- (2) A valid GRTC Senior Citizens ID or Medicare Card;
- (3) A valid GRTC Handicapped or Disabled Identification Card; ~~or~~
- (4) A valid identification card issued by a public transportation provider to meet the requirements of the federal Americans with Disabilities Act; or
- (5) A valid military or veteran ID card.

(e) For a trip originating at Richmond International Airport, the rate shall be \$10.00 or the charge registered on the meter, whichever is greater, plus the current airport taxicab access fee ~~\$2.00~~.

(f) When the most direct route to a passenger's destination requires payment of a toll, before proceeding drivers shall verify with the passenger that the route requires payment of a toll and that the passenger agrees to pay it.

Rational: (1) allow discounts to military and veterans; (2) not require ordinance amendment with changes to airport access fees; place toll payment in the fare rate ordinance.

Sec. 110-44. - Transportation of passengers by most direct route; ~~payment of toll charge.~~

Every driver of a taxicab shall transport each passenger from the place the passenger is received in such vehicle to the destination of the passenger by the most direct route, unless otherwise directed by the passenger. ~~When such route requires the payment of a toll, the driver shall transport the passenger across the toll when the passenger agrees to pay the toll charge.~~

Rational: move toll payment provision to the fare ordinance.

Sec. 110-45. - Nonpaying passengers.

No nonpaying passenger shall be transported with a paying passenger in any taxicab, except

drivers in training and a police officers engaged in the performance of any duty and unable to obtain other adequate means of transportation.

Rational: allow for driver training.

Sec. 110-46. - Refusal of drivers to make trips; preference in response to service requests.

(a) No owner or driver of any taxicab shall refuse to transport any passenger to or from any part of the city or ~~to~~ the counties of Chesterfield, Hanover and Henrico unless for a trip originating in the city; provided, however, ~~no driver shall be required to drive the vehicle to any place when~~ it may be physically detrimental to such vehicle to do so or when it may endanger the driver or any of the occupants of the vehicle.

Rational: clarify inclusion of passenger pick up locations.

Sec. 110-51. - Prohibited weapons ~~Driving with firearms, etc., in possession of driver.~~

It shall be unlawful for a driver to operate and drive a taxicab at any time with dirk, bowie knife, nunchahka, nunchuck, shuriken, throwing star, oriental dart, blackjack, brass or metal knuckles or knife with a blade longer than three inches in length in such driver's personal possession or in the taxicab.

Rational: title giving more accurate description of ordinance.

Sec. 110-52. - Duty of driver to keep taxicab clean and sufficiently efficiently lighted.

It shall be unlawful for a taxicab driver to fail, refuse or neglect to keep any vehicle which the driver operates under this article clean and sufficiently efficiently lighted at night.

Rational: more accurate terminology.

~~Sec. 110-56. - Certificate holder to have telephone listing.~~

~~Every owner holding a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued pursuant to this article shall provide and maintain at all times in the Greater Richmond telephone directory a listed telephone in the name in which the certificate holder is doing taxicab business, by which calls may be made for taxicab service. If the certificate holder operates five or more taxicabs, the telephone listing shall also appear in the Greater Richmond classified telephone directory. If there has not yet been an opportunity to publish the listing in the required directories, the telephone number shall be available from the Greater Richmond directory assistance service.~~

Rational: the taxi industry is no longer reliant on telephone directories; CRTAB will maintain a taxi company data base as part of the permitting process to give law enforcement a single source for taxi information.

Sec. 110-57. - ~~Radio scanning devices; monitoring radio dispatches.~~

~~(a) It shall be unlawful to have radio frequency scanning or similar electronic devices in a taxicab.~~

~~(b) It shall also be unlawful to monitor radio communications between a dispatcher and a taxicab or between two or more taxicabs for the purpose of responding to a call for taxicab service without the permission of the participants to the communication or of the company for~~

whom they are employed.

Rational: update ordinance for changes in communication technology and equipment.

Sec. 110-58. - Lost and found property.

(a) It shall be unlawful for a driver to knowingly fail, refuse or neglect to preserve any property left in a taxicab by any passenger and to thereafter deliver it to the certificate holder.

(b) Each certificate holder shall carefully preserve all property left in a taxicab by any passenger and delivered to the certificate holder by a driver, which property shall be kept by the certificate holder ~~at some convenient place within the city where it may be called for by its owner.~~ When the property shall have been identified and ownership established, a certificate holder shall make it available for pick up during normal business hours or as arranged between the certificate holder and the owner ~~it shall be promptly delivered to its owner.~~ Any property which shall not be called for within 30 days ~~three months~~ may be disposed of according to law.

Rational: match GRTC practice and clarify requirements for retrieving property.

Sec. 110-62. - Driver's permit required.

No person shall drive a taxicab subject to the requirements of this article unless such person first attends a basic taxicab driver orientation program, approved by the chief of police, and obtains a driver's permit from the chief; provided, however, such person may be issued a temporary or provisional permit for a period not to exceed six months ~~90 days~~ during which period such person shall attend the basic taxicab driver orientation program. The initial driver's permit ~~shall last for 12 months following its issuance and may be renewed thereafter annually.~~ ~~Attendance at the basic initial taxicab driver orientation program or the follow-on taxicab orientation program within the 12 months preceding the date of a renewal application shall be required as a condition of driver permit renewal.~~ The chief shall prescribe a form to be used in applying for a renewal. Each applicant for a driver's permit shall pay an initial application fee as set forth in appendix A to this Code and upon each annual request for renewal of such permit shall pay a fee as set forth in appendix A to this Code. The fee for replacement of lost, stolen or damaged permits shall be as set forth in appendix A to this Code. The permit shall be valid for the operation of only those vehicles subject to a certificate of public convenience and necessity issued under this article.

Rational: Change in procedure to a six month temporary permit during which new drivers attend driver orientation training and with no follow on training thereafter.

Sec. 110-66. - Revocation of driver's permit.

(a) Subject to section 110-72, the permit of any driver of a taxicab shall immediately become void and shall be immediately surrendered upon the occurrence of any of the following:

(1) The driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere to any felony;

(2) The driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere to any larceny, assault, battery, crime of moral turpitude or illegal possession of controlled substances where such crime is other than a felony;

(3) The driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere to operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs;

(4) The driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere within a 12-month period to three or more moving violations under the motor vehicle laws of this commonwealth other than those involving operating a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol or drugs;

(5) The driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere within a 12-month period to three or more violations of this article or of any other local law in this commonwealth governing the operation of taxicabs or other for-hire vehicles;

(6) Notwithstanding subsection (5) above, the driver is convicted of, pleads guilty to, or pleads nolo contendere within a three year period to two or more violations of making ~~The chief finds, after investigation, that the driver has made~~ a charge above or below the rates prescribed by section 110-37;

(7) The chief finds, after investigation, that the driver knowingly made or caused to be made, either directly or indirectly, any false statement on the application for a permit which was issued;

(8) The chief finds, after investigation, that the driver no longer possesses the physical or mental qualifications prescribed in section 110-65(8); or

(9) The driver no longer possesses a valid and current driver's license issued by the state department of motor vehicles.

Rational: as with other violations, make convictions the basis for loss of a driver's permits for overcharging passengers.

Comparative Ordinance Table

Ordinance Subject	Chesterfield	Hanover	Henrico	Richmond
Certificate of public convenience and necessity	15-179	22.1-4	21-66/67	110-32
Inspection of vehicles	15-173	22.1-28	21-27	110-33
Lettering and decal on vehicle	15-193	22.1-29	21-136	110-34
Rates enumerated; special discount for elderly or disabled passengers	15-195/196	22.1-34	21-139	110-37
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Driving with firearms, etc., in possession of driver	15-210	22.1-47	21-154	110-51
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Dress code for drivers	15-219	22.1-2	21-161	110-53.
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