



CITY OF BETHEL
PUBLIC SAFETY AND TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION
WEDNESDAY, MAY 7, 2025, 6:30 PM
LOCATION: COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL, 300 CHIEF EDDIE HOFFMAN
HIGHWAY, BETHEL ALASKA

JOIN MEETING AT ZOOM.US:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/3350154000?pwd=HYFLQJB5BBF9IUAXHBN9SOZQAFWPLS.1&OMN=81314125060>
MEETING ID: 335 015 4000
PASSCODE: 140569
US TOLL-FREE PHONE NUMBERS: 888 475 4499; 833 548 0276; 833 548 0282; 877 853 5257

MEMBERS	STAFF
Joy Anderson, Chair Musa Sailu John Hastie Jesslyn Elliot Teresa Keller, Council Rep. Jody Brand	James Harris, Ex Officio Member Madison Abolafia, Ex Officio Member MAbolafia@cityofbethel.net 907-543-3781

- I. CALL TO ORDER**
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. PEOPLE TO BE HEARD – FIVE MINUTES PER PERSON**
 - A. Please submit written public comments to police@cityofbethel.net by 4:00 p.m. the day of the meeting.
- IV. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- V. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**
 - A. Lack of Quorum 02/05/25
- VI. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**
 - A. Consideration of BMC Title 5 Amendment to allow transportation network companies to operate in Bethel. (John Hastie)
 - B. Discussion for recommending changes PSTC would like to see concerning public intoxication. (Jesslyn Elliot)
 - C. Review of BMC 5.30: Taxi Cabs and inspection requirements. (John Hastie)
- VII. NEW BUSINESS**
 - A. Discussion about *On Patrol: Live*. (Chief Harris)
 - B. Proposal for Amendments to the Bethel Municipal Code Taxicab Mechanical Equipment Standards and Vehicle Horn Honking (John Hastie)

Posted 5/1/2025 at City Hall, AC Co., Swanson’s, and the Post Office.

Ex-Officio Staff

VIII. EX OFFICIO REPORT

IX. MEMBER COMMENTS

X. ADJOURNMENT

Posted 5/1/2025 at City Hall, AC Co., Swanson's, and the Post Office.

Ex-Officio Staff

Public Safety & Transportation Commission

Meeting Minutes

February 5, 2025

Regular Meeting

Bethel, Alaska

I. CALL TO ORDER:

A regular Public Safety & Transportation Meeting was held on February 5, 2025.

II. ROLL CALL:

The following members were present for Roll Call:

Joy Anderson, Chair

Teresa Keller, Council Rep.

Absent:

Musa Saliu

Jesslyn Elliott

John Hastie

Jody Brand

Also Present:

James Harris

Sophie Poe

A meeting was not held due to a lack of a quorum.

Joy Anderson
Commission Chair

Sophie Poe
Recorder of Minutes

DRAFT

DRAFT

Chapter 11.45 - TRANSPORTATION NETWORK COMPANY SERVICES

11.45.005 - Purpose and intent.

- The purposes of chapter 11.45 are to:
 1. Establish initial regulations to accommodate the entry of transportation network companies (TNCs) into the Anchorage area market.
 2. Acknowledge and legally enable the use of the common features of the technology innovation used by TNCs that have emerged in the passenger transportation services for hire industry.
 3. Empower passengers that use a TNC app on a smartphone or other device to solicit a prearranged ride, accept or reject service from the TNC drivers available, determine the origin and destination of the trip, and submit payments electronically without needing to directly engage the driver for payment processing.
 4. Provide the Municipality's Transportation Inspection Division flexibility to monitor TNC services and respond with policy directives necessary for protection of the public safety.
 5. Protect the safety of drivers, passengers and the public, and protect the public's interest with respect to fairness and disclosure in costs, quality of service, and reasonable safety standards for TNC services.
- The interpretation and application of this chapter shall be consistent with the following principles:
 1. TNC drivers shall have a background check that is reasonably likely to discover any disqualifying traffic and criminal offenses in a TNC driver's history in any jurisdiction.
 2. TNC passengers, drivers, and the public shall be protected from loss and injury by ensuring that the insurance coverage requirements for a TNC vehicle are comparable to the insurance requirements of other for-hire regulated vehicles.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.010 - Definitions.

Unless otherwise provided, the definitions in section 11.10.010 apply to this chapter. The following words, terms and phrases and their other verb forms and tenses, when used in this chapter, shall have the meanings ascribed to them in this section, except where the context clearly indicates a different meaning:

Dynamic pricing or surge pricing means a TNC's ability to adjust pricing when market demand has increased and the TNC desires to attract more TNC drivers to increase availability to accept passengers.

Personal vehicle means a motor vehicle that is used by a TNC driver to provide TNC services and is owned, leased, or otherwise authorized for use by the TNC driver. A "personal vehicle" does not include a taxi, limousine, or other regulated vehicle for hire under chapters 11.10—11.40.

Pearranged ride means transportation for hire provided by a TNC driver to a rider, beginning when a driver accepts a ride requested by a rider through a digital network controlled by a TNC, continuing while the driver transports any passenger, and ending when the last requesting passenger departs from the personal vehicle; "prearranged ride" does not include shared expense carpool or vanpool arrangements or transportation provided using a taxi, limousine, or other regulated vehicle for hire under chapters 11.10—11.40.

TNC app means a TNC digital network.

TNC digital network means any online-enabled application, software, website, or system offered or used by a TNC that enables the prearrangement of rides with TNC drivers.

Transportation network company (TNC) means a corporation, partnership, sole proprietorship, or other entity that provides or uses a digital network to connect TNC passengers to TNC drivers who provide prearranged rides. A TNC may not be considered to control, direct, or manage the personal vehicles or TNC drivers that connect to its digital network, except where agreed to by written contract. The TNC digital network is the exclusive method a TNC may use to facilitate transportation services for hire.

Transportation network company (TNC) driver means an individual who:

- (1) Is authorized to use a licensed TNC's digital network or TNC app to receive connections to potential passengers and related services from a TNC in exchange for compensation paid to the TNC; and
- (2) Uses a personal vehicle to offer or provide a prearranged ride to passengers upon connection through a digital network controlled or provided by a TNC in return for compensation or payment of a fee.

Transportation network company rider or passenger means an individual or person who uses a TNC app to connect with a TNC driver who provides prearranged rides to the passenger in the driver's personal vehicle between points chosen by the passenger.

Transportation network services or TNC services means for-hire transportation offered or provided for compensation by a TNC that uses a digital network or TNC app to connect a passenger with a TNC driver with a personal vehicle for a prearranged ride.

Transportation network company (TNC) vehicle means a personal vehicle used by a TNC driver to provide TNC services.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.015 - Powers and duties of the Transportation Inspector and Anchorage Transportation Commission.

- Notwithstanding other provisions of Title 11 of this Code, chapter 11.45 shall govern regulation of TNCs and application of any code provision inconsistent with this chapter or with the Transportation Inspector's decisions and actions to implement and administer the TNC regulations in this chapter is hereby waived.
- The Transportation Inspection Office is hereby authorized to carry out the directives in this chapter, and to

take any reasonable and necessary actions to implement and administer the provisions of this chapter. Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Code, the Transportation Inspection Office is authorized to issue and adopt interim rules, policy directives, informational bulletins, and other similar documentation. Interim rules and policy directives shall be submitted within 90 days of issuance to the Transportation Commission for consideration of promulgation as regulations in accordance with section 11.10.040. The Transportation Inspector is authorized to:

1. Establish additional rules and directives for TNC services and drivers, and implement them upon notice to existing TNC businesses and drivers, subject to approval by the Transportation Commission.
2. Exempt TNC businesses or drivers from requirements or restrictions of this ordinance, for cause, subject to approval by the Transportation Commission.

C. The Transportation Commission shall regulate TNC businesses, TNC drivers and personal vehicles in accordance with this section. The purpose of the regulations set forth in this chapter or adopted by the commission shall be to protect the public's interest with respect to quality of service and reasonable safety standards provided by TNC services. The commission may promulgate regulations for TNC services in accordance with section 11.10.040. The commission:

1. May establish the amount of a TNC license fee and initial application fee by regulation;
2. May establish a graduated license fee scale based on the number of drivers authorized by the TNC licensee;
3. Shall not regulate the amount of fares or other compensation charged by a TNC; and
4. May advise the Assembly regarding issues and concerns with TNC services and recommend changes to the code.

D. Until a different amount is established by the Commission pursuant to subsection C.:

1. The nonrefundable original application fee is \$100.00; and
2. The annual and renewal TNC license fee is \$15,000.00, except this fee shall be reduced for an original approved application when the original TNC license is issued on or after July 1, in which case the fee shall be half this amount.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.020 - TNC license required; TNC approval of driver and personal vehicle required.

- A person providing a TNC digital network or TNC app for use within the municipality shall have a current TNC license issued by the municipality in accordance with this chapter.
- A person operating a vehicle as a TNC driver shall be approved by a valid and currently licensed TNC business and authorized to use a TNC app as a driver.
- A personal vehicle used by a TNC driver to provide TNC prearranged rides shall be approved by a valid and currently licensed TNC business and authorized for use to provide prearranged rides.

D. A person providing services or transportation substantially similar to the services or transportation describe section without the requisite license, approval or authorization is subject to enforcement action under sectio 11.45.110.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.030 - TNC license eligibility and application requirements; license restrictions.

- An application for a TNC license shall be made to the transportation inspector.
- TNC license application. An application for a TNC license shall be submitted on a form approved by the transportation inspector and shall be approved if all the following requirements are satisfied:

1. The application includes:

- The nonrefundable original application fee established pursuant to section 11.45.015;
- Proof of insurance for the TNC as required by this chapter, if the TNC will provide insurance coverage pursuant to section 11.45.080;
- Proof the applicant has and maintains an agent for service of process if the applicant is a corporation, limited liability company, or other lawful form of business entity;
- Identify one or more natural person(s) who shall be the primary representative(s) for the TNC's operations in the municipality and is authorized to:
 1. File documentation with and respond to requests from the transportation inspector and Transportation Commission;

2. Receive, accept and respond to all correspondence and notices from the municipality pertaining to the TNC, or to affiliated TNC drivers and TNC vehicles;
 3. Forward any correspondence, notices or legal process received by the TNC and intended for a TNC driver or pertaining to a TNC vehicle; and
 4. Direct or effectuate the immediate disabling of a TNC driver's access to the TNC's digital network, in accordance with this chapter and the TNC's own policies;
- A management plan which shall include:
 - A procedure outlining the handling of complaints from passengers, drivers and the public; and
 - A procedure for returning articles left in TNC vehicles to the passengers, that does not require disclosure of personal information of the passenger or driver to one or the other;
 - A signed statement that the applicant acknowledges and accepts the license requirements to:
 - Maintain the insurance required of a TNC licensee in this chapter, and provide notice to TNC drivers of their obligation to maintain insurance coverage for the TNC vehicle the driver uses, as described in this chapter;
 - Comply with the post-incident drug and alcohol testing described in this chapter;
 - Maintain, and to make available to the transportation inspector, records of service and complaint this chapter;
 - Provide the transportation inspector with passenger accounts at no charge and the obligation to provide uninterrupted access to the TNC app by said accounts throughout the effective dates of the TNC license;
 - Comply with the requirements of this chapter to disable a TNC driver's access to the TNC app when:
 - (A) The driver's TNC vehicle's periodic inspection report has not been filed by the required date,

- (B) There is a plausible report the TNC driver violated the drug and alcohol policy described in this chapter; or
- (C) Any other conditions described in this chapter that require the TNC driver to be out of service.
- Conduct a fingerprint-based criminal background check through the State Department of Public Safety, including a check of the national sex offender registry database, on each TNC driver in accordance with this chapter;
- Process payments for TNC services electronically, which may include allowing a passenger to save payment information associated with the TNC app or to submit electronic payment information at the time the ride is requested, and to protect the payment information from unauthorized disclosure; and
- Comply with all requirements of chapters 11.10 through 11.45 applicable to TNCs.

2. The applicant has obtained, possesses and demonstrated to the transportation inspector a functioning and capable TNC digital network which the applicant has a right to use in the intended manner, consistent with the requirements of this chapter; and

C. When the transportation inspector determines an original TNC license shall issue, the applicant shall be notified and the license fee tendered before the TNC business may begin operating. If a license fee is not received within 30 days of notice, the application shall lapse and be denied.

D. License period and annual renewal. An original TNC license issued under this chapter is valid from the date of issuance until the following December 31. Thereafter the TNC license shall be renewable for one year terms, each renewal commencing on January 1. A TNC license shall automatically expire unless an application for renewal is received by the transportation inspector before its expiration date. A renewal application shall be submitted on a form approved by the transportation inspector and shall include or be accompanied by:

1. The TNC license fee established pursuant to section 11.45.015.
2. A complete list of TNC drivers authorized by the licensee at the time of the renewal application, and

each TNC vehicle authorized for use by that driver.

3. A report of all complaints received during the expiring year from passengers or the public, with the investigation, resolution, referral and follow-up for each complaint noted.

- When an application for a TNC license is incomplete, the transportation inspector shall notify the applicant. If an incomplete application is not completed within 60 days of the date first submitted, it lapses. An incomplete original application may be resubmitted at any time with the required fee. An incomplete renewal application must be cured by January 1 or within ten days, whichever is later, or it automatically expires. If the transportation inspector denies an application for a TNC license, a written decision shall be issued to the applicant stating the specific reasons for denial. Such written decision will be issued no later than seven business days after the denial.
- A TNC license is not transferable through sale, lease, rental or any other manner of conveyance, assignment or transfer.
- Nothing in this chapter shall be interpreted to grant any property rights of any kind to a TNC licensee or any other person. All rights and restrictions created by the express language of this chapter may be expanded, reduced or eliminated at any time by ordinance, regulation or other law.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.040 - TNC operations: service restrictions and operations requirements.

A. A TNC is a business that, in accordance with this chapter, provides a TNC app, authorizes TNC drivers to use the TNC app, authorizes the personal vehicles to be used to provide TNC prearranged ride services, and electronically processes payments from passengers.

B. A TNC shall not own or lease any vehicle used to transport passengers. Only personal vehicles owned or leased by TNC drivers, or which the driver is otherwise authorized to use for this purpose, may be used to provide TNC service.

C. Fares, fees and payment processing. A TNC shall generally process payments for TNC services electronically using the company's digital network or TNC app. A TNC may allow payment information to be saved or stored if affirmatively authorized by the passenger, and shall protect such information from unauthorized disclosure.

D. A TNC shall provide the transportation inspector and enforcement officers designated by the transportation inspector with passenger account(s) and capability to view on the TNC app, at any time, standard information provided to TNC passengers. These accounts shall not be blocked from access to the TNC app at any time, and the TNC shall take reasonable steps to ensure TNC drivers cannot identify the accounts belong to the transportation inspector or enforcement officers.

E. Information provided to a passenger. Before a prospective passenger accepts the TNC driver and enters the TNC vehicle, the TNC app shall display, at a minimum:

1. The TNC driver's first name; and
 2. The license plate number of the TNC vehicle, and its make and model.
- Fare calculation and estimate. A TNC shall disclose the method of fare calculation either on its website or within the TNC app used to access the digital network. Prior to commencing a passenger transport, the TNC digital network shall provide to the potential passenger the option to receive an estimated fare amount for the requested trip. If the passenger elects to receive a fare estimate, the TNC app shall require the passenger to affirmatively accept the estimate or decline the transportation prior to the TNC driver commencing the trip. An estimated amount shall include:
 1. The total fare or fare range, clearly displayed;
 2. If dynamic pricing is in effect, clearly indicate it; and
 3. Itemization of any additional charges, stated separately from the fare and clearly indicated, such as tips, waiting time charges, or any other surcharges.
 - Dynamic pricing. TNCs are permitted to use dynamic pricing to incentivize drivers and increase the supply of available TNC vehicles on the digital network to meet demand. If the TNC uses dynamic pricing on its digital network, when it is in effect the TNC app shall:
 1. Clearly and visibly indicate to potential TNC passengers that dynamic pricing is in effect;
 2. Before the potential passenger is able to accept the transportation, require confirmation from the passenger that they understand that dynamic pricing is in effect and will be applied; and

3. If the potential passenger requests an estimated fare amount for the requested trip, the estimate shall indicate the method of fare calculation under dynamic pricing.
- Electronic receipt required. After a prearranged ride is completed and the last passenger has disembarked, the TNC shall provide an electronic receipt to a paying passenger on behalf of the TNC driver which shall include:
 1. The TNC driver's first name and TNC vehicle license number;
 2. The origin and destination of the completed trip;
 3. The total time and distance of the trip, including any dynamic pricing factor applied;
 4. An itemization of the charges and the total fare paid; and
 5. Contact information for the TNC's customer service or for lodging complaints, disputes or locating articles left in the TNC vehicle.
 - Disclosure of a passenger's personal information.
 1. A TNC shall not disclose a passenger's personal information to a third party unless the passenger consents to the disclosure, the disclosure is required by law, the disclosure is required to protect or defend the terms of use of the TNC's services, or the disclosure is required to investigate a violation of the terms of use.
 2. A TNC may share a passenger's name and/or anonymized phone number with a TNC driver in order to

facilitate identification of the passenger by the driver, or to allow communication between such parties. However, a TNC shall provide the passenger with the option, through the TNC app, to disallow any communication with TNC drivers.

J. Post-incident drug and alcohol testing. Upon receiving a report of a TNC driver being involved in a motor vehicle accident, the receipt of a traffic citation or being arrested for a motor vehicle related offense, a TNC shall report the incident to the transportation inspector, and, if it appears drug or alcohol use is likely to have contributed to the incident, require the TNC driver to submit to a post-incident drug and alcohol test administered by the program established by the commission pursuant to section 11.10.085 and regulations adopted thereunder. If the TNC driver's post-

incident drug and alcohol test returns a positive result, or the person fails to submit to the test without good cause, the TNC shall disable the driver's access to the TNC app for a period of not less than six months. However, a positive result for marijuana shall not require disabling the driver's access unless the test demonstrates the TNC driver was under the influence of marijuana at the time of providing TNC services. Costs for the post-incident drug and alcohol test shall be borne by either the TNC or the TNC driver.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.050 - TNC driver authorization.

A. A TNC shall not authorize a person to provide TNC services as a TNC driver unless, at a minimum:

1. The person submits information to the TNC which includes:
 - A copy or image of the applicant's driver's license issued by the State of Alaska;
 - A copy or image of the applicant's State of Alaska driving history record;
 - Proof that the applicant is at least 19 years old; and
 - Information pertaining to the applicant's passenger vehicle intended for use as a TNC vehicle.
2. The TNC has obtained a criminal background check on the prospective driver obtained through the Alaska Department of Public Safety. The background check shall, at a minimum:
 - Include criminal and driving records;
 - Be processed through the Alaska automated fingerprint system;
 - Include a national criminal history record check;
 - Be processed by the Alaska Department of Public Safety with the applicant to pay all fees requested for Federal Bureau of Investigation processing of fingerprints, and processing of information requests including fees for contacting other jurisdictions to determine the disposition of an out-of-state arrest or to clarify the nature of an out-of-state conviction;

- Include the National Sex Offender Registry database; and
- Have been produced less than 30 days from the TNCs authorization of the applicant to be a TNC driver and was not altered or marked by any person other than authorized employees or agents of

the Alaska Department of Public Safety or the TNC, except that any sealed records or reports of the same shall be excluded from the submission.

3. The driving record history and criminal background check indicate:

a. The applicant has not had a conviction entered by a court of competent jurisdiction within 12 months of:

- A moving traffic violation which subjected the applicant's driver's license to suspension or revocation pursuant to AS 28.15.221—28.15.261, or a similar law of another jurisdiction;
- Reckless driving;
- Driving while license suspended or revoked; or
- Driving while under the influence of intoxicating liquor, depressant, hallucinogenic, stimulant or narcotic drugs, or any controlled substance as defined in AS 28.35.030 or any similar law of another jurisdiction;

b. The applicant has at least one year's consecutive driving experience immediately preceding the application and has not had his or her driver's license suspended or revoked within one year prior to the application date, in Alaska or another jurisdiction;

c. The TNC finds no charges pending against the applicant for criminally offensive sexual behavior in any jurisdiction included within the review;

d. The applicant has not had a felony or misdemeanor conviction entered by a court of competent jurisdiction within five years for:

- Assignment, prostitution, solicitation for the purpose of prostitution, offering to secure another for the purpose of prostitution, maintaining a vehicle for the purpose of prostitution or accepting money from a prostitute for any of the aforementioned purposes;
- Sale, transportation, possession or use of any controlled substance as defined in AS 11.71 or any similar law of another jurisdiction;

- Any felony or misdemeanor which includes as an element the use or threat of force upon a person;
- Burglary, larceny, fraud, theft or embezzlement;
- Any offense which pertains to sexual abuse of a minor or sexual exploitation of a minor;

e. The applicant is not required to register as a sex offender or child kidnapper: i. In the State of Alaska pursuant to AS 12.63.010; or

ii. In another jurisdiction pursuant to the laws of that jurisdiction, if the elements of the underlying offense are substantially similar to the State of Alaska offenses for which registration is required pursuant to AS 12.63.010.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.060 - A.

B.

TNC vehicle authorization.

A TNC is responsible to review and approve each personal vehicle for use as a TNC vehicles. A TNC driver shall use only an approved personal vehicle when providing TNC services. Use of an unauthorized vehicle is a violation of this section.

A TNC shall require, at a minimum, the following information for a personal vehicle proposed for use to provide TNC services:

1. The license plate number;
2. A copy of the motor vehicle's registration with the State of Alaska;
3. Proof of automobile liability insurance coverage; and
4. A written statement from a licensed and certified mechanic that the personal vehicle was inspected and complies with subsection D.

A TNC shall not authorize a personal vehicle until the following requirements are satisfied:

1. The vehicle passes the inspection required by subsection D.;

2. The insurance coverage required by section 11.45.080 is in effect; and
3. The TNC driver requesting authorization for the vehicle demonstrates the driver is authorized to operate the vehicle.

TNC vehicles: Inspection required. A TNC shall not authorize a personal vehicle for provision of TNC services until it has been inspected by a licensed and certified mechanic, and certified in writing by the mechanic that the vehicle was inspected and complies with the requirements in subsection E. The mechanic's inspection certificate is valid for one year. Upon expiration of a mechanic's inspection certificate the TNC shall disable the digital network access for the TNC driver authorized to use the vehicle, unless the TNC driver has arranged for use of a different personal vehicle that is authorized. The TNC shall retain records of the inspection in accordance with section 11.45.090.

A TNC vehicle shall be in safe operating condition at all times. A TNC vehicle shall:

1. Comply with the mechanical equipment standards set forth in section 11.10.080E., except the following shall not apply:
 - The taximeter requirement in subsection 11.10.080E.12.; and
 - The taxicab and specialized equipment provisions of subsections 11.10.080E.21. to E.23.; and
2. Not be required to have the surveillance system or GPS system described in section 11.10.185.

A TNC vehicle shall not be used to transport more passengers than the manufacturer's capacity rating allows. A vehicle with a passenger capacity of 16 or more, including the driver, shall not be authorized.

A TNC vehicle shall be subject to an inspection by the transportation inspector or a designee at all times the TNC vehicle is used to provide TNC services.

The TNC licensee and TNC driver may be jointly cited if the licensee permits the TNC driver to use a vehicle

C.

D.

E.

F. G. H.

that does not meet the requirements of this section. (AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.070 - TNC driver code of conduct; restrictions on service.

- A TNC driver shall provide transportation for hire or compensation only by prearranged rides through the use of the TNC's digital platform.
- In addition to other requirements of this chapter, TNC drivers while offering or providing TNC services shall meet the following operating, conduct and passenger relations standards. TNC drivers shall be prohibited from:
 1. Offering passenger transportation in response to a streetside hail, flagging, telephone call, radio communication or any mode of communication other than through the use of the TNC's digital platform.
 2. Using the TNC vehicle to tow or carry a trailer, camper or another vehicle.
 3. Using a vehicle that is not currently authorized by the TNC.
 4. Offering or providing TNC services for more than 12 hours in any 24-hour period.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.080 - TNC insurance requirements.

- If state law establishes insurance requirements for TNC services, the provisions of this section shall apply only to the extent not inconsistent with the state law.
- The time periods pertinent to TNC services insurance coverage requirements are as follows:
 1. "Available for TNC service" means all times when the TNC driver is logged in to, or active on, the TNC's digital network and available to offer or provide TNC services, but not engaged in a prearranged ride.
 2. "Engaged in a prearranged ride" includes all times the TNC driver is providing a prearranged ride as defined in section 11.45.010.

- A TNC shall disclose in writing to its participating drivers, and document in its records each TNC driver's acknowledgment of receipt of such disclosure prior to authorizing the driver to provide TNC services, the following information:
 1. The insurance coverage, including the types of coverage and the limits for each coverage, that the TNC provides while the TNC driver uses a personal vehicle for TNC services;
 2. That the automobile insurance policy of the TNC driver might not provide any coverage while the driver is logged onto the TNC's digital network and is available for TNC service or engaged in a prearranged ride, depending on the terms of the automobile insurance policy of the driver; and
 3. That, if the personal vehicle the TNC driver uses to provide TNC services has a lien against it, using the

motor vehicle for TNC services without physical damage coverage may violate the terms of the contract with the lienholder; and

4. That if insurance maintained by the TNC driver under this section lapses, expires or otherwise is no longer in effect, proceeding to provide TNC services is a violation of law, and the TNC driver's access to the TNC app is required to be disabled.

D. Required coverage. A TNC driver, or a TNC on behalf of the driver, shall maintain primary automobile insurance as required by this section. The insurance coverage shall recognize that the driver is a TNC driver or otherwise uses a personal vehicle to transport passengers for compensation, and shall cover the driver while the driver is logged in to the digital network and available for TNC service, or engaged in a prearranged ride.

1. The following insurance coverage requirements apply at all times a TNC driver is available for TNC service but not engaged in a prearranged ride: primary automobile liability insurance in at least the amount required by AS 28.22.101 and include provisions required by that section. Such provisions include for bodily injury or death, damage to or destruction of property, and shall provide the same coverage for the protection of persons and property insured under the policy who are legally entitled to recover damages from the owner or operator of an uninsured or underinsured motor vehicle. (The required coverage at the time this ordinance was adopted is at least \$50,000.00 for death and bodily injury for

each person, \$100,000.00 for death and bodily injury for each accident, and \$25,000.00 for property damage in one accident.)

2. The following insurance coverage requirements apply at all times a TNC driver is engaged in a prearranged ride:
 - If the TNC vehicle has a manufacturer's rated seating capacity of six persons or less, primary automobile liability insurance that provides at least for all bodily injury or property damage arising from one accident: \$100,000.00 for death and bodily injury for each person, \$300,000.00 aggregate death and bodily injury for each accident, and \$50,000.00 for property damage in one accident.
 - If the TNC vehicle has a manufacturer's rated seating capacity of seven persons or more, primary automobile liability insurance that provides at least for all bodily injury or property damage arising from one accident: \$100,000.00 for death and bodily injury for each person, \$700,000.00 aggregate death and bodily injury for each accident, and \$50,000.00 for property damage in one accident.
 - The same coverage required by subsections a. and b. for the protection of persons and property insured under the policy shall be provided to persons who are legally entitled to recover damages from the owner or operator of an uninsured or underinsured motor vehicle.
3. The requirements for coverage may be satisfied by any of the following:
 - Insurance maintained by the TNC driver;
 - Insurance maintained by a TNC; or
 - Any combination of subparagraphs a. and b.
4. Coverage under an insurance policy maintained by the TNC shall not be dependent on a personal autom insurer first denying a claim nor shall a personal automobile policy be required to first deny a claim.
5. In every instance where insurance maintained by a TNC driver under paragraphs 1. or 2. has lapsed or otherwise does not provide the required coverage, insurance maintained by the TNC shall provide the coverage required by this section beginning with the first dollar of a claim, and the TNC insurer has the duty to defend that claim.

a. This paragraph does not apply where the TNC had disabled the TNC driver's access to the digital network prior to the driver providing TNC services during which the accident occurred giving rise to the claim.

- The insurance policies required by this section shall contain a clause obligating the insurer or surety to give the Transportation Inspector and the TNC the driver is affiliated with written notice no less than 30 days before the cancellation, expiration, nonrenewal, lapse, or other termination of such insurance. A lapse, cancellation, expiration, nonrenewal, or termination of insurance coverage shall automatically require the TNC driver's access to the TNC app to be disabled for so long as the insurance required by this section is not in effect. The insurance policy shall list as a certificate holder:
Municipality of Anchorage Transportation Inspection Division P.O. Box 196650
Anchorage, Alaska 99519
- Before any personal vehicle is authorized for use in providing TNC services, the TNC shall verify and retain in its records proof of coverage as required by this section by one or more policies or certificates of liability insurance issued by an insurance company that is an authorized insurer within the meaning of AS 21.97.900. Insurance policies shall be issued for periods of not less than one year.
- In the event of an accident, the TNC driver shall comply with all applicable law regarding provision of insurance coverage information and shall disclose to directly interested parties, automobile insurers, and investigating police officers whether the driver was offering or providing TNC services.
- In a claims coverage investigation, a TNC and any insurer potentially providing coverage under this section shall cooperate to facilitate the exchange of relevant information with directly involved parties and any insurer of the TNC driver, if applicable, including the precise times that a TNC driver logged onto and off of the TNC's digital network in the 12-hour period immediately preceding and 12-hour period immediately following the accident and disclose to one another a clear description of the coverage, exclusions, and limits provided under any automobile insurance maintained under state law.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.090 - TNC: recordkeeping and reporting requirements.

A. A TNC shall maintain in a form readily accessible and retrievable in a readable form the following records:

1. The name and address of each TNC driver, and identify each TNC vehicle that driver is authorized to use to provide TNC services.
2. Daily activity for each TNC driver, which shall include:
 - The name or identification and driver's license number of the TNC driver;
 - The TNC vehicle license number, make and model;
 - The time:
 - (1) The ride request was accepted by the driver;
 - (2) The passenger boarded the TNC vehicle; and
 - (3) For the trip, and distance;
 - The place of passenger pickup and location of drop off;
 - The fare estimated for the passenger prior to the transport, and the actual fare and itemized charges after completion of the TNC service to the passenger; and

3. All referral, and follow-up for each complaint noted. The report of complaints shall be organized by TNC driver, the TNC company and miscellaneous.

complaints received from members of the public or passengers, with the investigation, resolution,

- The records maintained pursuant to subsection A. of this section shall be retained by the TNC for at least two full calendar years.
- Confidentiality of records. The records shall be open for review by a municipal administrative hearing officer, the transportation inspector, the municipal department of law, or a police officer. Any record or information made available by a TNC pursuant to this section is confidential and proprietary, and shall not be made public without the TNC's express written permission. If the municipality is required to disclose information under court order or other applicable law, the municipality shall promptly notify the TNC primary representative(s) of such requirement, prior to disclosure unless not possible,

and shall make diligent efforts to limit disclosure pursuant to any available legal basis.

1. This subsection does not prohibit the municipality from compiling and publishing statistical information concerning the data submitted provided no identification of passengers or TNC business information, data, or financial information is made.
 2. This subsection shall not prohibit the transportation inspector from sharing information obtained from documents, records, and/or reports filed with the municipality pursuant to this chapter with any local, state, or federal government agency for the purpose of enforcing this chapter or for tax or law enforcement purposes of the other government agency, provided the transportation inspector determines the other government agency provides adequate safeguards for the confidentiality of the shared information and that it will be used only for authorized purposes.
- The TNC shall forward records to the transportation inspector upon request and annually at license

renewal. The transportation inspector may require that a TNC forward the records on a monthly or other periodic basis. The TNC shall send to the transportation inspector on a monthly basis an updated list of all TNC drivers authorized and the authorized vehicle(s) for each driver.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

11.45.100 - Zero tolerance for drug or alcohol use; unlawful discrimination prohibited.

- A TNC shall adopt a zero tolerance policy for drug and alcohol use, and being under the influence of intoxicating drugs or alcohol, during a TNC driver's status as logged in and available for service. A copy of the policy shall be provided to the commission. The TNC shall require a TNC driver to specifically acknowledge and agree to the policy prior to authorizing the person as a TNC driver.
- A TNC shall adopt a policy prohibiting discrimination with respect to a passenger or potential passenger based on any protected characteristic in Title 5 of this Code. TNCs and drivers shall comply with all applicable provisions of the Americans with Disabilities Act, as amended (42 U.S.C. § 12101 et seq.), the Alaska Human Rights Act (AS § 18.80.200 et seq.) and the Anchorage Equal

Rights Act (Title 5 of this Code). The TNC shall inform drivers of the policy and document each TNC driver's acknowledgment of receipt of

the policy.

1. A TNC driver shall comply with all applicable laws relating to accommodation of service animals.
2. A TNC and TNC driver may not impose additional charges for providing services to riders with physical disabilities because of those disabilities.
3. The TNC app may provide prospective passengers a means to indicate whether they require a wheelchair-accessible vehicle at the time a ride is requested. If transportation with a wheelchair-accessible vehicle cannot be arranged by the TNC's services, the TNC app or TNC driver shall direct the passenger to an alternate provider of wheelchair-accessible transportation service, if available.

(AO No. 2017-30 , § 1, 3-21-17)

8.35.400 Consuming alcoholic beverage in public place.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to knowingly consume any alcoholic beverage when the person is:
 - 1. On, in or upon any public place, except as permitted by ordinance, regulation, statute or permit; or
 - 2. Outdoors on property adjacent to a public place, and without consent of the owner or person in control thereof.
- B. For purposes of this section, "public place" means a place to which the public or a substantial group of persons has access and includes, but is not limited to, streets, highways, sidewalks, alleys, transportation facilities, parking areas, convention centers, sports arenas, schools, places of business or amusement, shopping centers, malls, parks, playgrounds, and hallways, lobbies, doorways and other portions of apartment houses and hotels not constituting rooms or apartments designed for actual residence.
- C. This section shall not apply where consumption is authorized by a state permit or license, or authorized by a municipal permit or lease.
- D. Violation of this section is a minor offense punishable as set forth in the minor offenses fine schedule.

(AO No. 2014-42, § 4, 6-21-14)

8.35.410 Intoxicated persons on roadway.

- A. It is unlawful for any person to be upon any public street, road, or highway while intoxicated in such a manner as to be hazardous to motor vehicle traffic.
- B. Violation of this section is a minor offense punishable as set forth in the minor offenses fine schedule.

(AO No. 2014-42, § 4, 6-21-14)

Chapter 5.30

TAXICAB, RIVER TAXI, LIMOUSINE AND BUS PERMITS

Sections:

- 5.30.010 Taxicab permit required.**
- 5.30.020 River taxi permit required.**
- 5.30.030 Bus permit required.**
- 5.30.035 Limousine permit required.**
- 5.30.040 Application for permits.**
- 5.30.050 Issuance of new nontransferable taxicab permits.**
- 5.30.055 Taxicabs – Renewal of existing permits.**
- 5.30.060 Taxicabs – Transfer of existing permit.**
- 5.30.065 Posting of taxicab permit.**
- 5.30.070 Taxicabs – Number of vehicles operated per permit.**
- 5.30.080 Taxicabs – Subscription to dispatch service.**
- 5.30.090 Taxicabs – Vehicle markings.**
- 5.30.100 Required equipment.**
- 5.30.120 Insurance required.**
- 5.30.130 Posting of insurance notice.**
- 5.30.140 Records.**
- 5.30.160 Single use of vehicle.**
- 5.30.170 Vehicle horn honking.**
- 5.30.180 Safety equipment tampering prohibited.**

5.30.010 Taxicab permit required.

A. No person may provide taxicab service in the city unless that person:

1. Is a permittee in possession of a valid taxicab permit issued to them, and is in compliance with Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC; or
2. Has entered into an agreement with a permittee as a lease operator which allows that person to provide taxicab services pursuant to the permittee's authority only for as long as the permittee is lawfully in possession of the permit and complies with all terms and conditions of issuance of the permit, and only if such an arrangement is approved in advance by the transportation inspector. In order to obtain such approval from the transportation inspector, the transportation inspector must approve the language of a written lease agreement and determine that the lease operator meets all requirements imposed on chauffeurs and taxicab permittees by Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC. A decision of the transportation

inspector denying a lease operator arrangement can be appealed to the commission in accordance with BMC [5.20.090](#).

- B. No permittee shall allow another person to provide taxicab service under the authority of their permit except as allowed in subsection [A](#) of this section. Violation of this section is grounds for immediate revocation of a taxicab permit.
- C. No person may operate or dispatch a vehicle as a taxicab unless that vehicle is described on a taxicab permit as provided in subsection [A](#) of this section. Violation of this section is grounds for immediate revocation of a license or permit.
- D. No person may provide taxicab service pursuant to a taxicab permit except in accordance with Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC. Violation of this section is grounds for immediate revocation of a permit.
- E. The permittee shall utilize as chauffeurs only currently licensed chauffeurs who have satisfactorily completed a commission-approved driver training and testing program and who are otherwise in compliance with all of the requirements of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.020 River taxi permit required.

- A. No person may provide river taxi service within the city without a river taxi permit. A river taxi permit, or any interest in a river taxi permit issued pursuant to this section, shall not be transferable through sale, lease, rental, power of attorney, or any other manner of conveyance, and shall become void and revert to the commission if it is revoked or not renewed in accordance with the provisions of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC.
- B. A person may apply for an original or renewal river taxi permit by complying with the requirements of BMC [5.30.040](#). If the applicant is in compliance with all of the terms and conditions of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC that apply to river taxis, they shall be issued a permit. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.030 Bus permit required.

- A. A person may provide bus service within the city with a bus permit. A permit, or any interest in a permit issued pursuant to this section, shall not be transferable through sale, lease, rental, power of attorney, or any other manner of conveyance, and shall become void and revert to the commission if it is revoked or not renewed in accordance with the provisions of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC.
- B. A person may apply for an original or renewal bus permit by complying with the requirements of BMC [5.30.040](#). If the applicant is in compliance with all of the terms and conditions of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC that apply to buses, they shall be issued a permit.
- C. A bus must operate on a defined route. The route must be submitted to the transportation inspector. Any changes in the route must be submitted to the transportation inspector. Bus operators may deviate from the

defined route up to three-fourths (3/4) of a mile to accommodate handicapped passengers. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 10-08 § 2; Ord. 08-17 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.035 Limousine permit required.

- A. A person may provide limousine service in the city if that person:
1. Is a permittee in possession of a valid limousine permit issued to them, and is in compliance with Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC;
 2. Operates a limousine;
 3. Utilizes currently licensed chauffeurs who have satisfactorily completed a commission-approved driver training and testing program and who are otherwise in compliance with all of the requirements of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC.
- B. A limousine will provide service by reservation or prearranged call for service. It is unlawful for a limousine chauffeur to provide flag stop service to passengers by curbside hail or the use of fixed routes.
- C. The current rates to be charged by a limousine permittee shall be provided to the transportation inspector in the form of a rate sheet. The permittee is responsible for providing the inspector with a new rate sheet as prices change. The prices on the rate sheet must be greater than the maximum rates allowed for the provision of a similar ride by taxicab.

The following rates are established as minimum rates for limousine operators:

One-half (1/2) hour or less arranged ride: fifty dollars (\$50.00);

One (1) hour arranged ride: eighty dollars (\$80.00). [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 09-16 § 2; Ord. 08-17 § 2.]

5.30.040 Application for permits.

- A. An application for an original or renewal taxicab, bus, limousine or river taxi permit shall be made to the transportation inspector.
- B. An application for a permit shall be submitted on a form approved by the transportation inspector and shall be accompanied by:
1. The fee specified in BMC [5.20.160](#);
 2. Proof of insurance for the vehicle as required by Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC;
 3. Proof that the applicant is at least eighteen (18) years of age; and

4. Proof that the applicant is in compliance with the drug and alcohol testing requirements of BMC [5.20.080](#).
- C. An applicant shall not be granted an original or renewal permit unless the applicant meets the requirements imposed on chauffeurs in BMC [5.40.030](#).
- D. If the commission determines that the public convenience and necessity requires issuance of additional taxicab permits in accordance with BMC [5.30.050](#), the following persons may apply for such a permit:
 1. Currently active chauffeurs licensed under Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC with no fewer than two (2) years of continuous experience as a taxicab chauffeur in good standing in Bethel;
 2. Applicants who have not had a felony or misdemeanor conviction entered by a court of competent jurisdiction within five (5) years of the date of application for:
 - a. Assignment, prostitution, solicitation for the purpose of prostitution, offering to secure another for the purpose of prostitution, maintaining vehicle for the purpose of prostitution or accepting money from a prostitute; or
 - b. Sale, transportation, possession or use of any controlled substance as defined by AS [11.71](#) or a similar law of another jurisdiction, or engaging in an act prohibited under AS [04.11](#), [04.16](#) or [04.17](#).
- E. If the commission decides to issue an additional permit or permits in accordance with this chapter, a taxicab permit may be issued by the commission only if the applicant complies with subsections [B](#) through [D](#) of this section, and is certified as required by BMC [5.20.150](#).
- F. Each representation made in an application for an original or renewal permit shall be correct. Any false or misleading statement or misrepresentation as to a material matter in an application shall be grounds for denial of the application for a permit or revocation of a permit. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.050 Issuance of new nontransferable taxicab permits.

- A. The total number of outstanding taxicab permits shall be determined by the public convenience and necessity. Any person or any member of the commission may initiate commission inquiry into the public convenience and necessity for issuance of additional permits. Hearings regarding public convenience and necessity shall be held to determine if the public convenience and necessity warrants issuance of one (1) or more additional nontransferable permits. The commission shall hold an inquiry into the public convenience and necessity at least once in a twenty-four- (24-) month period.
- B. At the hearing conducted pursuant to subsection [A](#) of this section, the commission may consider, among other things, evidence of:
 1. The public demand for additional taxi service;

2. The unfulfilled requests for service;
 3. The reasonableness of waiting time for service; and
 4. The economic impact of additional permits on the viability of the existing taxicab industry.
- C. If the commission finds that it is more likely than not, based on the evidence presented at hearing, that the public convenience and necessity would be best served by the issuance of one (1) or more new taxicab permits, such permit or permits shall be issued in the manner provided in subsection [D](#) of this section.
- D. No later than ninety (90) days after the commission determines that a new taxicab permit should be issued, the transportation inspector shall conduct a public auction as follows:
1. The auction shall be conducted by sealed bid, and the permit shall be issued to the highest qualified bidder;
 2. To be responsive, a bid must equal or exceed the taxicab permit issuance fees provided for in BMC [5.20.160](#);
 3. The term “qualified bidder” means a person who meets the requirements of BMC [5.30.040](#), and tenders the successful full bid price in cash within five (5) days after notice that they are the highest bidder;
 4. If the highest bidder is not a qualified bidder, the permit shall be issued to the next highest bidder who is also a qualified bidder. If none of the bidders are also qualified bidders, the transportation inspector shall again offer the permit at auction as provided by this section within one hundred eighty (180) days after the previous auction.
- E. No person may apply for a hearing pursuant to subsection [A](#) of this section within one hundred twenty (120) days after one (1) or more new permits authorized for issuance pursuant to this section have been actually issued. The commission may consolidate multiple hearing requests if it deems it appropriate to do so.
- F. A permit, or any interest in a permit, issued pursuant to this section shall not be transferable through sale, lease, rental, power of attorney, or any other manner of conveyance, and shall become void and revert to the commission if the permit is revoked or not renewed in accordance with the provisions of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC.
- G. Permittees issued nontransferable permits in accordance with this section are subject to all revocation, suspension, and penalty provisions of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC, as well as all other requirements of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.055 Taxicabs – Renewal of existing permits.

An application for renewal of an existing taxicab permit made in accordance with BMC [5.30.040](#) shall be renewed only if the applicant is in compliance with all of the requirements of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC that apply to

taxicabs and taxicab permittees. A permit that is not renewed shall become void and revert to the commission. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.060 Taxicabs – Transfer of existing permit.

- A. A person may transfer an interest (whether financial or proprietary in nature, a security interest, or some other form of interest) in a taxicab permit originally issued prior to December 31, 2000, or any interest in the corporation, joint venture, association, partnership, or other group or entity which owns an interest in a taxicab permit originally issued prior to December 31, 2000, only if the person obtains the prior approval of the transportation inspector.
- B. An application for transfer of a taxicab permit in accordance with subsection [A](#) of this section shall be made to the transportation inspector on forms approved by the transportation inspector and shall be accompanied by the proposed contract for sale or other interest transfer which states the specific consideration to be paid by the transferee, as well as all other material conditions of the sale or other transfer of interest. The application for transfer shall also identify all parties who have or are proposed to have a financial, proprietary, security or other interest in the permit. The application may request other information necessary to determine if the transfer is in the best interests of the public, including but not limited to evidence of the financial ability to meet the consideration requirements of the contract for sale or other interest transfer. If the transferee meets the requirements of this section and all other requirements for obtaining a taxicab permit contained in Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC, and the transportation inspector approves the language of the contract for sale or other interest transfer, the transportation inspector may approve the transfer.
- C. A decision of the transportation inspector with respect to transfer of an interest under this section may be appealed to the commission in accordance with BMC [5.20.090](#).
- D. If transfer of a permit is not approved in accordance with this section and the permittee no longer wishes to operate under the permit or the permittee is no longer in compliance with the provisions of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC, the permit shall become void and revert to the commission.
- E. New permits issued in accordance with BMC [5.30.050](#) shall not be transferable, and shall become void and revert to the commission if the permit is revoked or not renewed in accordance with the provisions of Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.065 Posting of taxicab permit.

The permit for each taxicab, river taxi, limousine or bus shall be posted in the interior of the taxicab, river taxi, limousine or bus in the manner designated by the transportation inspector. No person may operate a taxicab, river taxi, limousine or bus unless the permit is so posted. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 02-01 § 4.]

5.30.070 Taxicabs – Number of vehicles operated per permit.

- A. Except as otherwise provided in this section, only one (1) vehicle, which shall be designated on the taxicab permit application, may be operated pursuant to that permit.
- B. Upon application to the transportation inspector, payment of the appropriate fee, and a demonstration of need, the transportation inspector may authorize operation of a substitute vehicle for a period of time not to exceed thirty (30) consecutive days. The transportation inspector shall be notified prior to substitution of the date, time, and substitution vehicle being placed in service, the permit number utilizing the substitute vehicle, the reason for the use of the substitute vehicle and the signature of the person authorizing the use of the substitute vehicle. If substitution is authorized, the transportation inspector shall subsequently be immediately notified of the date and time the substitute vehicle is removed from service and the original permitted vehicle is placed back in service. The transportation inspector shall require an inspection of the original vehicle before it is returned into service. No person may operate a substitute vehicle under this section unless the substitution has been authorized by the transportation inspector in accordance with this section, and a copy of the authorization is carried in the substitute vehicle at all times.
- C. If the use of the substitute vehicle was occasioned by a mechanical problem or vehicle accident affecting the safe operation of the original vehicle, the transportation inspector may allow a permanent vehicle transfer.
- D. The transportation inspector may permit a permanent vehicle transfer not more than four (4) times before the expiration of the original permit for reasons other than mechanical problems. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 07-15 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.080 Taxicabs – Subscription to dispatch service.

Every taxicab permittee shall subscribe to a dispatch service permitted pursuant to Chapter [5.50](#) BMC for the taxicab operated under their permit. No taxicab may be dispatched by more than one (1) dispatch service. Failure to comply with this section shall be grounds for immediate revocation of a permit or license. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.090 Taxicabs – Vehicle markings.

- A. Every taxicab shall display the trade name under which it operates and the vehicle number assigned to it by the transportation inspector in the area between the back bumper and the top of the trunk of the taxicab on the rear end of the taxicab with permanent contrasting letters and numbers no less than four (4) inches high.
- B. Every taxicab shall bear its vehicle number, as assigned to it by the transportation inspector, on all sides of the taxicab with permanent letters no less than four (4) inches high. Every taxicab shall display its vehicle number assigned by the transportation inspector on the front fender adjacent to the front door jam on both the driver and passenger side of the vehicle in numbers no less than four (4) inches high. The number shall be placed in the

middle of the fender, but in no event less than two (2) inches above the bottom of the fender, or more than four (4) inches below the top of the fender.

- C. The transportation inspector will provide every taxicab permit holder with reflective decals bearing the assigned vehicle number required to meet the requirements of this section. Taxicab permit holders shall display trade names on vehicles with reflective decals that meet the requirements of this section.
- D. Except as otherwise provided by law, no taxicab may be used or sold for any purpose other than for use as a taxicab until all signs, insignia, license plates, lights or other markings have been removed or an "out of service" sign is posted on the taxicab in the form and manner designated by the transportation inspector. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.100 Required equipment.

In addition to the mechanical equipment required in BMC [5.20.070\(D\)](#), every taxicab shall have the following equipment:

- A. Every taxicab shall be equipped with an operable two-way radio that receives and transmits a signal only on the frequency used by that taxicab's dispatch service. At no time may a taxicab be equipped with an apparatus capable of monitoring a frequency used by a dispatch service other than that used by that taxicab's dispatch service. The radio of each taxicab shall be identifiable through the dispatch company through which the taxicab is dispatched.
- B. Every taxicab shall be equipped at all times with an interior light of not less than two (2) candlepower arranged so as to illuminate the entire passenger compartment. The light shall be illuminated whenever passengers are being loaded or unloaded from the taxicab between one-half (1/2) hour after sunset of one (1) day and one-half (1/2) hour before sunrise the next day. No shades or blinds shall be drawn over any windows of the taxicab while occupied by a passenger.
- C. Every taxicab shall be equipped with a nonflashing light on the exterior of the roof of a type approved by the transportation inspector. The light shall be illuminated only when the taxicab is in service.
- D. All taxicabs, limousines and buses must have factory seat belts for the maximum number of passengers that may be transported in a particular vehicle.
- E. River taxis shall have the following:
1. Four- (4-) wheel drive vehicle with at least twelve- (12-) inch clearance;
 2. VHF radio;
 3. Dual battery system;

4. All equipment listed in subsections [A](#) through [C](#) of this section in addition to the following: a come-a-long or winch and shovel; ground and air flares; carbon monoxide detector; first aid kit; safe alternate form of heat, i.e., candles, canned heat, etc., one (1) wool blanket, one (1) survival or space blanket for each potential passenger, spare tire, and tools required to change a tire, i.e., jack lug wrench, etc.;

5. A river taxi driver shall carry clothes appropriate for the weather conditions and the number of passengers for a particular trip, to include but not be limited to winter hats, boots, gloves, pants and coats.

F. Every regulated vehicle shall be equipped at all times with a video camera surveillance system. The surveillance system shall be capable of recording and storing the data of at least seventy-two (72) hours of in-service operations. The recorded data shall be stored on board the taxicab or transmitted for storage. The stored data for the immediately preceding seventy-two (72) hours of recording shall not be altered or manipulated by any person, and shall be made available for review and inspection by the transportation inspector for purposes of enforcement of Chapters [5.20](#) and [5.40](#) BMC and this chapter or by a peace officer as defined in AS [1.10.060](#) upon request. For good cause, the transportation inspector may order retention of recorded data of specific dates, trips, or incidents for up to two (2) years.

1. The video camera surveillance system shall have the capability to operate twenty-four (24) hours a day, record video only, and be compatible with surveillance during both daytime and nighttime. The surveillance system shall either have continuous operation or be activated by the opening of a door, or some other self-initiating device which does not require the specific decision or action by the chauffeur to activate the surveillance system. The system shall be capable of producing high-quality pictures for law enforcement use. The system shall have cameras facing the front and rear and positioned in a manner that provides views of the regulated vehicle interior that are visible to passerby and does not violate privacy rights. A limousine shall not have video surveillance of the passenger area designed and intended to provide privacy from the chauffeur and public view, but may have a view into that area when a privacy partition or device is open. [Ord. 18-09 § 2; Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.120 Insurance required.

A. Before any permit is issued for any taxicab, river taxi, limousine or bus, the applicant shall furnish to the transportation inspector proof of insurance as evidenced by a copy of the insurance policy currently in effect, issued by an insurance company that is authorized to do business within the state.

B. The insurance required by this section for vehicles with a manufacturer's rated seating capacity of six (6) persons or less (or, if a mini-van, the seating capacity after seat removal to accommodate baggage) shall provide coverage as follows:

1. One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per-person bodily injury limit, three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) per-accident bodily injury limit, and fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per-accident property damage limit; and

2. Uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per-person bodily injury limit, three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) per-accident bodily injury limit, and fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per-accident damage limit.

C. The insurance required by this section for vehicles with a manufacturer's rated seating capacity (or if a mini-van, the seating capacity after seating removal to accommodate baggage) of seven (7) persons or more shall provide coverage as follows:

1. One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per-person bodily injury limit, seven hundred thousand dollars (\$700,000) per-accident bodily injury limit, and fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per-accident property damage limit; and

2. Uninsured or underinsured motorist coverage of one hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000) per-person bodily injury limit, three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000) per-accident bodily injury limit, and fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000) per-accident damage limit.

D. Every insurance policy or certificate shall contain a clause obligating the insurer or surety to give the transportation inspector written notice no less than thirty (30) days before the cancellation, expiration, nonrenewal, lapse, or other termination of such insurance, unless the specified policy is for a vehicle which will no longer be used as a taxicab. A lapse, cancellation, expiration, nonrenewal, or termination of insurance coverage shall work as an automatic suspension of any permit for so long as the permittee is without insurance as required by this section, and it shall be a violation of this chapter to provide taxicab service with a vehicle not insured as required by this section. The insurance policy shall list the city as a certificate holder. [Ord. 17-09 § 2; Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 07-19 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.130 Posting of insurance notice.

Proof of insurance as required by Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC shall be carried in the passenger compartment of all taxicabs at all times. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.140 Records.

A. Every taxicab, river taxi, and limousine permittee shall maintain a current and accurate daily list of the regulated vehicles operated pursuant to the permit. The daily list shall contain the following information:

1. The name, address, telephone number, chauffeur's license number and expiration of each chauffeur operating such regulated vehicles;
2. The daily hours worked by each chauffeur operating such regulated vehicles;
3. The number of days each such regulated vehicle is operated during each calendar month;

4. The records maintained pursuant to this subsection A as well as any other records related to the operation of the permit shall be retained by the permittee for at least six (6) months and shall be made available upon the request of the transportation commission or the transportation inspector. The transportation inspector may request that the permittee forward the record to them on a monthly basis. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 08-17 § 2; Ord. 07-16 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.160 Single use of vehicle.

It is unlawful to use a regulated vehicle for any other transportation service regulated by Chapters [5.20](#) through [5.50](#) BMC other than that service which is authorized on the permit. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.170 Vehicle horn honking.

It is unlawful to honk the horn of a taxicab from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., Sunday through Thursday, and from 12:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., Friday and Saturday. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

5.30.180 Safety equipment tampering prohibited.

Except for maintenance or repair, no person shall disconnect, cover, misdirect or cause to be nonfunctional the radio identifier, silent electronic alarm, surveillance or security camera, or global positioning system in a regulated vehicle. Tampering with the safety equipment as described herein is a violation subject to civil penalty of:

- A. First violation: two hundred fifty dollars (\$250).
- B. Second violation: five hundred dollars (\$500).
- C. Third violation: seven hundred fifty dollars (\$750).
- D. Fourth violation: one thousand dollars (\$1,000). [Ord. 15-21 § 2.]

The Bethel Municipal Code is current through Ordinance 24-15, passed November 12, 2024.

Disclaimer: The city clerk's office has the official version of the Bethel Municipal Code. Users should contact the city clerk's office for ordinances passed subsequent to the ordinance cited above.

[City Website: www.cityofbethel.org](http://www.cityofbethel.org)

[Hosted by General Code.](#)

24 April 2025

***Proposal for Amendments to the Bethel Municipal Code
Re: Taxicab Mechanical Equipment Standards and Vehicle Horn Honking***

5.20.070

Vehicle operations and inspections.

D. Mechanical Equipment Standards.

All mechanical equipment shall be of original manufacture specifications. Aftermarket modifications are not permitted.

3. All windows shall be fully operable and composed of approved safety glass. The windshield shall have no chips or stars larger than a twenty-five cent (\$0.25) piece and shall not be cracked above four (4) inches from the bottom or below four (4) inches from the top of the windshield. No cracks in a vertical position are permitted on either side of the windshield. At no time shall a driver's vision be obstructed by damage to the windshield, side windows or rear window. Interior and exterior mirrors shall be firmly attached to the vehicle;

All windows shall not be altered with tint. If any sign of tint is present, it shall not exceed manufacturers original limits.

9. All exterior and interior lights and turn signals shall be in good mechanical order. **Headlights shall be properly aligned for both high and low beam use.** Headlights shall be on when operating the vehicle for hire regardless of time of day;

All lighting shall be of original factory specifications. Aftermarket lighting is not permitted.

10. The horn and two (2) windshield wipers shall be in good mechanical working order;

The horn shall be of original factory specifications. Aftermarket horns are not permitted.

12. The vehicle shall be structurally sound and **not have cracked or dented fenders** and shall be painted so as to provide reasonable protection against structural deterioration. Body and sheet metal should have all the manufactured parts securely mounted with no dangerous protuberances;

E. All regulated vehicles shall be subject at all times to an inspection by the transportation inspector, or a police officer who has reason to believe that the vehicle does not comply with all federal, state and local equipment laws or regulations. [Ord. 21-21 § 2, 2021; Ord. 02-30 § 2; Ord. 02-07 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3. Formerly 5.20.080.]

5.30.170

Vehicle horn honking.

It is unlawful to honk the horn of a taxicab from 10:00 p.m. to 7:00 a.m., Sunday through Thursday, and from 12:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m., Friday and Saturday. [Ord. 15-21 § 2; Ord. 01-02 § 3.]

Vehicle horn honking, in the effort to notify the customer of taxicab arrival, shall occur one time and only when the taxi has arrived in the driveway of the address which summoned. Vehicle horn honking shall not exceed one horn honk and will not occur in the street, under movement, or during the approach of the taxicab to the address being summoned.