



COUNTY OF SAN MATEO
Inter-Departmental Correspondence
Board of Supervisors



DATE: July 13, 2011
BOARD MEETING DATE: July 26, 2011
SPECIAL NOTICE/HEARING: None
VOTE REQUIRED: Majority

TO: Honorable Board of Supervisors
FROM: Supervisor Adrienne J. Tissier
SUBJECT: Amendment to Ordinance Governing Regulation of Taxicabs

RECOMMENDATION:

Adopt an ordinance amending Section 5.10.020 and Section 5.10.130 of Chapter 5.10 of Title 5 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code Governing Regulation of Taxicabs.

BACKGROUND:

Section 5.10.020 of the Ordinance Code already requires a permit to lawfully operate a taxicab within unincorporated San Mateo County. Currently, a permit issued by any city within the county satisfies this requirement; current ordinance also establishes penalties for operating a taxicab without a permit.

The unincorporated community of Broadmoor, through the Broadmoor Police Protection District, has expressed concerns about alleged illegal taxis operating within the District, *i.e.*, taxis that are unregulated and potentially unsafe. The Broadmoor Police Department has agreed to separately permit taxis within the district to enhance public safety.

DISCUSSION:

The proposed amendment to Section 5.10.020 requires that taxicabs that pick-up a fare within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Broadmoor Police Protection District, first obtain a permit from the Broadmoor Police Department. Such a permitting process will allow the PD to ensure that taxicabs operating in its jurisdiction are safe. Minor modifications to Section 5.10.130 are made via amendment to reflect the changes to Section 5.10.020 and make it an infraction for a taxicab to pick-up a fare from within the district without a district-issued permit. In addition, Section 5.10.130 has been renumbered 5.10.030 to make it consistent with the county's current number scheme.

County Counsel has reviewed and approved the proposed amendments to the Ordinance.

Adoption of the amendments contributes to the Shared Vision 2025 outcome of a Livable Community by reducing the number of unsafe taxicabs.

FISCAL IMPACT:

None.

ORDINANCE NO. _____
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS, COUNTY OF SAN MATEO,
STATE OF CALIFORNIA

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AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 5.10.020 AND SECTION 5.10.130 OF
CHAPTER 5.10 OF TITLE 7 OF THE SAN MATEO COUNTY ORDINANCE CODE
GOVERNING REGULATION OF TAXICABS, TO ENHANCE ITS APPLICATION
LIMITED TO THE BROADMOOR POLICE PROTECTION DISTRICT

The Board of Supervisors of the County of San Mateo, State of California,
ORDAINS as follows

SECTION 1. Section 5.10.130 of Chapter 5.10, Title 5 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code is hereby renumbered Section 5.10.030 .

SECTION 2. Section 5.10.130, renumbered Section 5.10.030, and Section 5.10.020 of Chapter 5.10, Title 5 of the San Mateo County Ordinance Code are hereby amended to read as follows:

5.10.020 Requirement of a valid permit.

(a)

It is unlawful for any person to operate a taxicab within the unincorporated areas of the County without first obtaining and maintaining a valid permit to operate a taxicab from any city located within San Mateo County. The Sheriff, or any member of the Sheriff's Office under his direction, or the Chief of Police for the Broadmoor Police Protection District, or any member of the Police Protection District under his direction, shall have the right to request proof of a valid permit issued under this subsection.

(b)

In addition to the general requirement of subsection (a), it is unlawful for any person that operates a taxicab to pick-up a fare within the jurisdictional boundaries of the Broadmoor Police Protection District without first obtaining from the Broadmoor Police Department a valid permit to operate a taxicab within its jurisdiction. The Chief of Police for the Broadmoor Police Protection District, or any member of the Police Protection District under his direction, shall have the right to request proof of a valid permit issued under this subsection. A permit issued by the Broadmoor Police Department shall satisfy the general permit requirement of subdivision (a) of this Section.

5.10.030 Operation of taxicab without a valid permit.

Any person who, in violation of Subsection 5.10.020(a) or Subsection 5.10.020(b), operates a taxicab without a valid permit or with a permit that has been

revoked or is currently suspended shall have committed an infraction, punishable by:

(a)

A fine not exceeding one hundred dollars (\$100) for a first violation;

(b)

A fine not exceeding two hundred dollars (\$200) for a second violation;

(c)

A fine not exceeding five hundred dollars (\$500) for each additional violation within one (1) year.

SECTION 3. This Ordinance shall be effective thirty (30) days from the passage date thereof.

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