

CITY OF HAMILTON

MOTION

Council Date: February 10, 2016

MOVED BY COUNCILLOR S. MERULLA.....

SECONDED BY MAYOR F. EISENBERGER.....

Licensing of UBER and Other Ride Sharing Applications

WHEREAS the City of Hamilton Licenses 447 Taxi Cabs, 2 Taxi Brokers and 1,200 Taxi Drivers, all of whom operate within the City's Business Licensing By-law 07-170 to ensure public safety;

AND WHEREAS in July, 2015, UBER was launched in the City without ensuring that their drivers and vehicles were licensed, had proper insurance and operated within the City's Business Licensing By-law;

AND WHEREAS the City's Licensing Section has laid 35 charges against UBER drivers for operating without a proper license, contrary to the City's Business Licensing By-law;

AND WHEREAS the City of Edmonton has successfully licensed UBER vehicles, drivers and UBER as a company;

AND WHEREAS a new By-law Category to regulate UBER can more effectively resolve this matter;

AND WHEREAS the Insurance industry has now come forward with products providing coverage for UBER;

AND WHEREAS on December 9, 2015, City staff met with UBER and the taxi industry, as per the direction provided by Council at its meeting on October 28, 2015, to determine how each could work on a level playing field, while continuing to ensure public safety.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the City of Hamilton Licensing Section be directed to develop and bring forward by March 30, 2016 a License Category that creates a level playing field for the taxi industry while ensuring operators of UBER or like Ride Sharing applications are licensed to ensure consumer protection and public safety.