

## DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TAXICAB COMMISSION

### NOTICE OF EMERGENCY RULEMAKING

The District of Columbia Taxicab Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to the authority set forth in Sections 8(c)(2), (3), (5), (7), (12), and (19), 14, and 20 of the District of Columbia Taxicab Commission Establishment Act of 1985 (“Establishment Act”), effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-97; D.C. Official Code §§ 50-301.07(c)(2) (3), (5), (7), (12), and (19), 50-301.13, and 50-301.19 (2014 Repl. & 2015 Supp.)), and D.C. Official Code § 47-2829 (b), (d), (e), (e-1), and (i) (2015 Repl.), hereby gives notice of its intent to adopt amendments to Chapter 10 (Public Vehicles for Hire) of Title 31 (Taxicabs and Public Vehicles For Hire) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR).

This emergency rulemaking amends Chapter 10 to clarify the authority of the Office of Taxicabs (“Office”) to impose licensing conditions in connection with the existing and proposed pathways for those seeking new DCTC vehicle licenses (and corresponding “H” tags from DMV). The Commission finds there is an immediate need to preserve and promote the safety and welfare of District residents by immediately clarifying the Office’s authority to impose conditions on new licenses, in order to: (1) reduce stakeholder confusion about regulatory and financial requirements for new vehicle licenses which flow from the Office’s authority to impose conditions on vehicle licensing; and (2) to minimize the District’s potential exposure from such stakeholder confusion. This notice effectuates, on an emergency basis, rulemaking contained in a notice of proposed rulemaking adopted by the Commission on December 9, 2015 and published in the *D.C. Register* on March 25, 2016 at 63 DCR 004467. The earlier notice also proposed that applicants for new DCTC operator licenses complete disability sensitivity training; that provision is not part of this notice. The notice of final rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on May 11, 2016 but has not yet been published in the *D.C. Register*.

This emergency rulemaking was adopted by the Commission on June 23, 2016 and took effect immediately. The emergency rulemaking will remain in effect for one hundred and twenty (120) days after the date of adoption (expiring on October 21, 2016) unless earlier superseded by an amendment or repeal by the Commission or the publication of final rulemaking, whichever occurs first.

**Chapter 10, PUBLIC VEHICLES FOR HIRE, of Title 31 DCMR, TAXICABS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES FOR HIRE, is amended to read as follows:**

**Section 1010, ISSUANCE OF DCTC VEHICLE LICENSE, is amended as follows:**

**A new subsection 1010.21 is added as follows:**

1010.21       The Office may issue a new DCTC vehicle license to each applicant that meets the applicable requirements of this title and other applicable laws. In addition, each applicant may be required by the Office to:

- (a) Purchase or lease a vehicle that uses electric or other efficient means of propulsion, and/or is wheelchair accessible;
- (b) Provide service in underserved areas of the District, as identified by the Office; or
- (c) Meet other requirements to enhance safety and consumer protection, to improve customer service, or to achieve other lawful purposes within the jurisdiction of the Commission, as determined in an administrative issuance.