

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TAXICAB COMMISSION

NOTICE OF INTENDED RULEMAKING AND INVITATION FOR COMMENT

The District of Columbia Taxicab Commission (“Commission”), pursuant to the authority set forth in Sections 8(c) (2), (3), (5), (7), (10), (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 §§ 50-307(c) (2) (3), (5), (7), (10), (12), and (19), 50-313, and 50-319 (2012 Repl. & 2015 Supp.), and D.C. Official Code § 47-2829 (b), (d), (e), (e-1), and (i) (2012 Repl. & 2015 Supp.)), hereby gives notice of its consideration of amendments to Chapter 16 (Dispatch Services and District of Columbia Taxicab Industry Co-Op), Chapter 20 (Fines and Civil Penalties), and Chapter 99 (Definitions) and to adopt a new Chapter 22 (Dispatched Public Vehicles) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR).

Through this notice of intended rulemaking and request for comment, the Commission invites public comments prior to the publication of a notice of proposed rulemaking in the *D.C. Register*. The Commission is seeking early, comprehensive input from the for-hire industry and the general public about the important ideas explored in this notice. The rules in this notice would create a Chapter 22, a pilot program for “dispatched public vehicles”, or “Xclass”, an innovative public vehicle-for-hire service with limited or zero up-front application fees, expedited licensing for operators, , reduced equipment costs, use of privately-owned and rented vehicles, and utilization of innovative technologies to enhance the ride experience and provide operators with options to enhance their revenue. The rules would also make necessary changes in Chapter 16 to require digital dispatch services to make quarterly payments of one percent of gross receipts from the dispatch of Xclass vehicles, in Chapter 20 to add relevant fines, and in Chapter 99 to add appropriate definitions.

Directions for submitting comments appear at the end of this notice.

A new Chapter 22, PILOT PROGRAM FOR DISPATCHED PUBLIC VEHICLES, of Title 31, TAXICABS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES FOR HIRE, of the DCMR, is added as follows:

2200 APPLICATION AND SCOPE

- 2200.1 This chapter authorizes a pilot program for a new public vehicle-for-hire service known as “dispatched public vehicles” or “Xclass”.

- 2200.2 This chapter shall be interpreted to comply with the language and intent of the Establishment Act.

- 2200.3 In the event of a conflict between a provision of this chapter and a provision of another chapter of this title, the more restrictive provision shall control.

2201 GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

- 2201.1 Each Xclass trip shall be arranged by a digital dispatch service registered with the Office under Chapter 16, electronically, or through a DCTC network, API, website, mobile app, URL, or hardware.
- 2201.2 An individual seeking an Xclass operator's license ("Xclass individual applicant") shall be eligible for licensing if the applicant already possesses a current and valid DCTC operator's license (face card). Other applicants may be eligible for provisional Xclass operator's licenses.
- 2201.3 An entity seeking to rent Xclass vehicles to Xclass operators, shall be eligible for Xclass business operating authority if it meets the requirements of § 2203 and either possesses current and valid operating authority as a taxicab company or as a luxury class service organization, or if it acquires operating authority pursuant to this chapter.
- 2201.4 Any vehicle MSA registered and inspected vehicle other than a taxicab shall be eligible for licensing may be used to provide Xclass service.
- 2201.5 The Office may issue an administrative issuance concerning the Xclass pilot program, which shall be posted on the DCTC website. Xclass applicants (both individuals and businesses) are encouraged to review this administrative issuance to answer their questions about the application process and the rules for providing Xclass service. Pursuant to § 701, the administrative issuance may:
- (a) Explain the requirements for individuals who wish to obtain an Xclass operator's license, and rules for using their personal vehicles to provide Xclass service;
 - (b) Explain the requirements for businesses that wish to rent vehicles to licensed Xclass operators;
 - (c) Establish uniform deadlines for renewing Xclass operator's and Xclass vehicle licenses, not more frequently than on an annual basis;
 - (d) Clarify ongoing requirements for compliance with the Xclass rules and regulations; and
 - (e) Establish other reasonable requirements consistent with this chapter and within the jurisdiction of the Commission.
- 2201.6 Xclass service operates only through digital dispatch. No Xclass operator shall solicit or accept a street hail, loiter, engage in false dispatch, or use a taxicab or limousine stand.

2201.7 Notwithstanding any other provision of this title, no Xclass license or operating authority shall be issued to a person not in good standing with the Office, including a person that holds a DCTC license which is pending an enforcement action, or that holds a DCTC license, operating authority, or registration that is then suspended or revoked.

2201.8 Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to alter the legal rights or obligations of any individual or entity under any D.C. Municipal Regulation or District law other than the rules and regulations of this title.

2202 LICENSING PROCESS

2202.1 The Office shall accept for filing a completed Xclass application form, executed under oath, which includes:

- (a) Basic contact information about the applicant, including name, address, telephone number, and email address;
- (b) For each Xclass individual applicant:
 - (1) If the applicant has a current and valid DCTC operator's license (Face card): the number and date of issuance of such license;
 - (2) If the applicant does not have a current and valid DCTC operator's license (Face card): the applicant's social security number, driver's license number; and
 - (3) Proof of compliance with the eligibility requirements of § 2203.1;
- (c) For each Xclass business applicant:
 - (1) If the applicant has a current and valid DCTC operating authority for a taxicab company or luxury class service organization: the number and date of issuance of such operating authority;
 - (2) If the applicant does not have a current and valid DCTC operating authority for a taxicab company or luxury class service organization: the name, address, telephone number, and email address of its owner, manager, and registered agent; its taxpayer identification number; and proof that it is a District-based business, registered with DCRA, with a bona fide place of business in the District; and
 - (3) Proof of compliance with the eligibility requirements of § 2203.3;
- (d) For each vehicle that any applicant wishes to use as an Xclass vehicle:

- (1) Basic contact information for the owner; the make, model, model year; the vehicle identification number (VIN); the registration and tag numbers; and proof of vehicle inspection; and
- (2) Proof of compliance with the eligibility requirements of § 2203.2;
- (e) Such other reasonable information and documentation showing that the applicant, and the vehicle(s), if any, for which Xclass licenses or operating authority are sought, meet the applicable eligibility and operating requirements of this chapter, as the Office may require in an administrative issuance.

2202.2 If the pilot program continues, applications for renewed licenses and operating authority shall be required to submit all or a portion of such information and documentation necessary for a new Xclass license or operating authority, as the Office may require in an administrative issuance.

2202.3 Application fees for Xclass operator and vehicle licenses, and for Xclass business operating authority shall be assessed as follows:

- (a) There shall be no application fee for an Xclass operator's license, regardless of whether the applicant already possesses a DCTC operator's license for another public vehicle-for-hire service.
- (b) There shall be no application fee for an Xclass business operating authority, regardless of whether the applicant already possesses DCTC operator authority as a taxicab company or luxury class service organization.
- (c) The application fee for each Xclass vehicle license shall be five thousand dollars (\$5,000), which shall be paid as ten percent (10%) of the total fare of all completed trips during the twelve (12) month licensing period toward an application fee of Applicants who do not complete sufficient trips to pay the application fee during a licensing period shall not be required to pay the remaining balance.
- (c) Each applicant seeking both Xclass business operating authority, regardless of whether or not the applicant already possesses current and valid operating authority as a taxicab company or luxury class service organization, shall pay nothing at the time of application. Such applicant, once, but shall pay a fee per-vehicle of ten percent (10%) of the total fare of all completed trips during each twelve (12) month licensing period toward the application fee of five thousand dollars (\$5,000). Applicants that do not complete sufficient trips to pay the application fee during a licensing period shall not be required to pay the remaining balance.

- 2202.4 The Office shall issue a decision to grant or deny an application as follows:
- (a) Within three (3) business days for an Xclass individual applicant for:
 - (1) Either a provisional Xclass operator's license or a full Xclass operator's license; and
 - (2) If requested, an Xclass vehicle license; and
 - (b) Within three (3) business days for an Xclass business applicant that has current and valid operating authority for another public vehicle-for-hire business for:
 - (1) Operating authority as an Xclass business; and
 - (2) Such Xclass vehicle licenses as the applicant has applied.
 - (c) Within ten (10) business days, the Office shall issue a decision to grant or deny an application by an Xclass business applicant that does not have current and valid operating authority another public vehicle-for-hire business, for:
 - (1) Operating authority as an Xclass business; and
 - (2) Such Xclass vehicle licenses as the applicant has applied.
- 2202.5 Each Xclass operator's license, Xclass vehicle license, and Xclass operating authority shall be valid and effective for twelve (12) months.
- 2202.6 The Office may issue Xclass licenses and operating authorities in any reasonable and reliable form, including on paper or online, as set forth in an administrative issuance.
- 2202.7 The Office may uniformly issue provisional Xclass operator's licenses in lieu of full Xclass licenses pursuant to an administrative issuance, as follows:
- (a) A provisional Xclass operator's license shall require the applicant to satisfy such portion of the requirements for a full Xclass operator's license as the Office determines are necessary for safety, consumer protection, and other reasonable requirements within the jurisdiction of the Commission.
 - (b) If the Office issues a provisional Xclass operator's license to an operator, the Office shall thereafter issue a full Xclass operator's license to the operator only if and when it determines that the operator meets all remaining requirements for licensing.

- 2202.8 If, at any time, the Office determines that an individual who has been issued a provisional Xclass operator's license is not eligible for a full Xclass operator's license, the Office shall, in the same document:
- (a) Provide notice of the deny of a full Xclass operator's license to the individual and a summary of the reasons for that decision; and
 - (b) Order the immediate suspension of the individual's provisional Xclass operator's license.

2202.9 An individual who provides Xclass service without both a valid and current Xclass operator's license and a valid and current Xclass vehicle license shall be guilty of unlicensed hacking and subject to the penalties provided in this title, in the Establishment Act, and in the Impoundment Act.

2203 ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- 2203.1 An individual shall be eligible for an Xclass operator's license if the individual:
- (a) Is the holder of a current and valid DCTC operator's license (face card) to provide any other public vehicle-for-hire service (taxicab, black car, and/or limousine), or any combination thereof; or
 - (b) Meets the following requirements:
 - (1) Resides within the MSA;
 - (2) Is at least eighteen (18) years of age;
 - (3) Reads, writes, and speaks the English language;
 - (4) Possesses a current and valid motor vehicle operator's permit (driver's license) issued by a motor vehicle licensing agency within the MSA;
 - (5) Is not be covered by diplomatic immunity;
 - (6) Does not have a physical or mental disability or disease which would provide the Office with good cause to believe the individual cannot safely operate a vehicle-for-hire;
 - (7) Is not employed by a federal or District agency which, if notified of the individual's application, would prohibit the individual from providing Xclass service;

- (8) Is not employed by an employer whose business is concerned directly with the issuance of licenses to operate vehicles-for-hire or the enforcement of the laws, rules, and regulations related to the operation of motor vehicles or vehicles-for-hire;
- (9) Has not been convicted of an offense against the traffic regulations of the District or any jurisdiction with a frequency or of such severity as to indicate a disrespect for traffic laws, that fact being established by the point system described in § 303 of title 18 DCMR, or for a serious traffic offense or offenses which indicate a disregard for the safety of other persons or property, and does not have eight (8) or more points on the applicant's license from any jurisdiction;
- (10) Is not an alcoholic, and is not addicted to the use of any legal or illegal drugs;
- (11) Is not on parole or probation at the time of the filing of the application for a license, except that if the applicant is on parole or probation based on a conviction other than one listed in paragraph (m) of this subsection, the parolee's or probationer's application may be considered if accompanied by a letter from the appropriate parole or probation officer expressing the officer's recommendation and support for the issuance of the license;
- (12) Has not been convicted of or served any portion of a sentence for the following crimes (or an attempt to commit any of the following crimes), within the seven (7) years immediately preceding the filing of the application:
 - (A) Murder, manslaughter, mayhem, malicious disfiguring of another, abduction, kidnapping, burglary, theft, breaking and entering, robbery, larceny, or any other felony;
 - (B) Assault with the intent to commit any offense punishable by imprisonment in the penitentiary;
 - (C) Assault on any law enforcement official, including a hack inspector or police officer;
 - (D) A sex offense;
 - (E) A violation of the narcotic laws, except simple narcotics possession without intent to distribute (a misdemeanor) or possession of drug paraphernalia;

- (F) Any criminal offense involving fraud; or
- (G) Identity theft;
- (13) Has successfully completed the Xclass training required by an administrative issuance;
- (14) Has no outstanding obligations to the District which would prevent licensing under the Clean Hands Act;
- (15) Submits proof of insurance as required for the operator, and and vehicle which meets the requirements of Chapter 9; and
- (16) Has met any additional reasonable requirements, including additional terms and conditions for a provisional Xclass operator's license, contained in an administrative issuance, related to:
 - (1) Passenger, operator, or public safety;
 - (2) Consumer protection; or
 - (3) Any other purpose within the jurisdiction of the Commission.

2203.2 A vehicle shall be eligible for licensing as an Xclass vehicle if it:

- (a) Is owned or leased by the applicant as the applicant's private vehicle; or is leased or rented by the operator from any source, such as an Xclass business;
- (b) Is properly registered with a motor vehicle licensing agency within the MSA; and
- (c) Is in compliance with the annual safety inspection required by the MSA jurisdiction where it is registered.

2203.3 A business shall be eligible for operating authority as an Xclass business if it:

- (a) Is the holder of a current and valid DCTC operating authority for a taxicab company or luxury class service organization; or
- (b) Meets the following requirements:
 - (1) Is a District-based business, with a *bona fide* place of business in the District;

- (2) Is registered with DCRA with all necessary endorsements;
- (3) Carries such commercial insurance as necessary in connection with its business, including the vehicle insurance required for its Xclass vehicle, and worker's compensation insurance for its workplace.

2204 OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

2204.1 Each licensed Xclass operator shall at all times:

- (a) Be in compliance with the applicable eligibility requirements of § 2203.1;
- (b) Be covered by public vehicle-for-hire insurance under Chapter 9;
- (c) Provide Xclass service consistent with the following operating requirements and an applicable administrative issuance:
 - (1) Accept and complete requests for service only when logged into a digital meter system approved by the Office for Xclass service which:
 - (A) Provides a safety device for the operator, and two-way messaging capability for the operator when the vehicle is not in motion;
 - (B) Is integrated with a rear console that provides a safety mechanism for passengers approved by the Office, incorporates features for payment processing, and allows the passenger to rate the ride experience;
 - (C) Offers passengers the option of making an in-vehicle payment using a payment card if the passenger does not elect to make a digital payment;
 - (D) Provides features to allow operators to offer additional services;
 - (E) Allows system upgrades to improve security and functionality, and enhance customer service;
 - (F) Is operated by a business which provides the Office with real-time vehicle location information and trip sheet data only when the operator is on duty; and is, or is integrated with, one or more digital dispatch services registered with the Office pursuant to Chapter 16 for Xclass service.

- (3) Display the licensing decals provided by the Office;
- (4) Safely maintain the following documents accessible in the vehicle for prompt inspection by a vehicle inspection officer, police officer, or other District enforcement official:
 - (A) A current and valid personal driver's license issued by a jurisdiction within the MSA;
 - (B) A current and valid motor vehicle registration issued by a jurisdiction within the MSA;
 - (C) A current and valid Xclass operator's license, current and valid provisional Xclass operator's license, or current and valid DCTC operator's license to provide taxicab, black car, or limousine service;
 - (D) A current and valid Xclass vehicle license;
 - (E) Written or electronic proof of the personal motor vehicle insurance coverage required by D.C. Official Code § 31-2403; and
 - (F) Written or electronic proof of the insurance for Xclass service required by § 2204.1 (a); and
- (d) Fully and timely cooperate with vehicle inspection officers, police officers, and other District enforcement officials, during traffic stops, and during all other enforcement and compliance actions under this title and other applicable laws. A violation of this paragraph shall be treated as a violation of a compliance order under § 702;
- (e) In the event of an accident: provide the operator's Xclass and personal motor vehicle insurance information to all parties, insurance adjusters, and District enforcement officials; notify the Office of the accident within 48 hours; and take such other reasonable steps as may be required in an administrative issuance;
- (f) Maintain an election with the Office about the operator's choice of providing additional services, which, if elected, shall require the operator to provide service in the manner required in an applicable administrative issuance;
- (g) Not discriminate against any individual while providing Xclass service. Discriminatory conduct shall include but not be limited to:

- (1) Refusal of service on the basis of a protected characteristic;
 - (2) Using derogatory or harassing language on the basis of a protected characteristic of the passenger under D.C. Official Code § 2-1402.31;
 - (3) Refusal of service based on the pickup or drop-off location of the passenger;
 - (4) Refusal of service based solely on an individual's disability; and
 - (5) Rating a passenger on the basis of a protected characteristic;
- (h) Not provide service while using, or under the impairment of, alcohol or intoxicating drugs;
 - (i) Operate the vehicle at all times in a safe, prudent, and reasonable manner, in strict compliance with all applicable motor safety laws and regulations applicable within the District of Columbia; and
 - (j) Meet additional reasonable safety, consumer protection, and other requirements within the jurisdiction of the Commission as stated in an administrative issuance.

2204.2 Each licensed Xclass vehicle shall at all times:

- (a) Be in compliance with the applicable eligibility requirements of § 2203.2;
- (b) Be covered by public vehicle-for-hire insurance under Chapter 9; and
- (c) Meet additional reasonable safety, consumer protection, and other requirements within the jurisdiction of the Commission as stated in an administrative issuance.

2204.3 Each Xclass business with operating authority shall at all times:

- (a) Be in compliance with the applicable eligibility requirements of § 2203.3;
- (b) Maintain with the Office a current and accurate registry of the Xclass operators and vehicles associated with the business;
- (c) Enforce reasonable policies to ensure that its associated operators are at all times in compliance with § 2204.1, and other applicable laws and regulations of the District of Columbia;
- (d) Ensure that its vehicles are at all times in compliance with § 2204.2

- (e) Maintain a 24-hour customer support system;
- (f) Establish and maintain zero tolerance policies applicable to its associated operators against:
 - (1) The use of, or impairment by, alcohol or intoxicating drugs; and
 - (2) Discrimination and discriminatory conduct against any person in connection with providing Xclass service, which meets or exceeds the requirements of § 2204.1 (g);
- (g) Display on its website:
 - (1) Its customer support system;
 - (2) Its zero tolerance policies established pursuant § 2204.3 (f);
 - (3) Its procedure to allow a customer to report an operator who may have violated one of the business's zero tolerance policies; and
 - (4) Contact information for the Office to allow a customer to file a public complaint;
- (h) Conduct a timely investigation when a passenger alleges that one of its operator has violated one of the business's zero tolerance policies; immediately suspend an operator for the duration of the investigation upon receiving a written complaint that the operator has violated its policy regarding the use or impairment by alcohol or intoxicating drugs; and promptly report to the Office the outcome of any investigation adverse to an operator;
- (i) File a public complaint with the Office against any person who engages in conduct which constitutes a clear threat to public safety or consumer protection, or which constitutes grounds for immediate suspension of a vehicle operator's license under this title;
- (j) Maintain its business records, including its records relevant to its compliance with this chapter, for five (5) years;
- (k) Maintain reasonable insurance as necessary to protect operators and the public in connection with its operations;
- (l) Remain in compliance with the requirements of this chapter and any applicable administrative issuance; and

- (m) Meet additional reasonable safety, consumer protection, and other requirements within the jurisdiction of the Commission as stated in an administrative issuance.

2205 PROHIBITIONS

- 2205.1 No person shall provide or participate in providing Xclass service except as stated in this chapter.
- 2205.2 No person shall violate an applicable provision of this chapter or other applicable law.
- 2205.3 No Xclass operator shall solicit or accept a street hail, loiter, engage in false dispatch, or use a taxicab or limousine stand.
- 2205.4 No Xclass operator shall fail or refuse to timely accept a ride request received through the digital meter while the operator is signed in and available to provide service. Proof that an operator has failed to accept two (2) or more requests for service transmitted to the operator through the app of any DDS registered with the Office under Chapter 16, including but not limited to the DC TaxiApp, during the same two (2) hour period of any tour of duty, shall be treated as a refusal to haul under § 818.2 or 819.5.
- 2205.5 No Xclass operator shall fail or refuse to timely accept a request for an additional service where the operator has elected to offer such service, if the request is received through the digital meter while the operator is signed in and available to provide service. Proof that an operator has failed to provide service as required in an applicable administrative issuance shall be sufficient to permit the Office to administratively disqualify the operator from providing additional services for a reasonable period not to exceed thirty (30) days, a decision which shall not be subject to appeal, but which shall not be used or considered by the Office for any other action against the operator.
- 2205.6 No person shall participate in providing Xclass service where such person, or any other person acting with such person, lacks a license, operating authority, or registration required by this title or by other applicable law or regulation, for any reason, including non-issuance, non-renewal, revocation, or suspension.

2206 PENALTIES

- 2206.1 An individual who violates this chapter or an applicable provision of another chapter of this title is subject to:
 - (a) Suspension, revocation, or non-renewal of the Office's approval of the individual's DCTC operator's license, including a Provisional DCTC dispatch vehicle operator's license, or DCTC vehicle license;

- (b) Civil fines as set forth in Chapter 20; or
- (c) Any combination of the sanctions listed in (a) through (b) of this subsection.

2206.2 A business that violates this chapter or an applicable provision of another chapter of this title is subject to:

- (a) Suspension, revocation, or non-renewal of the Office's approval of the individual's DCTC operator's license, including a Provisional DCTC dispatch vehicle operator's license, or DCTC vehicle license;
- (b) Civil fines as set forth in Chapter 20; or
- (c) Any combination of the sanctions listed in (a) through (b) of this subsection.

2206.3 The enforcement of the provisions of this chapter shall be governed by the applicable procedures of Chapter 7.

2206.4 The loss (for any reason, including suspension, revocation, or non-renewal) of an individual's DCTC operator's license for a public vehicle-for-hire service other than Xclass, or of a business's DCTC operating authority for a public vehicle-for-hire service other than Xclass, which allows such individual or business to participate in Xclass without a license or operating authority, respectively, issued under this chapter, shall automatically, and without additional and specific notice to the individual or business, disallow such individual or business to participate in Xclass until such DCTC operator's license or DCTC operating authority is fully restored and the individual or business is again in good standing with the Office.

Chapter 16, DISPATCH SERVICES AND DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TAXICAB INDUSTRY CO-OP, of Title 31, TAXICABS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES FOR HIRE, of the DCMR, is amended as follows:

Section 1600 is amended as follows:

Subsection 1600.2 is amended to read as follows:

1600.2 Additional provisions applicable to the businesses, owners, operators, and vehicles which participate in providing vehicle-for-hire services appear in other chapters of this title as follows: taxicab (Chapters 4-11); black cars (Chapters 12 and 14); private sedans (Chapter 19); and dispatched public vehicles (Xclass) (Chapter 22).

Subsection 1600.3 is deleted and reserved.

Section 1604 is amended as follows:

Subsection 1604.7 is amended to read as follows:

1604.7 Every three (3) months, based on the District's fiscal year calendar, each digital dispatch service shall separately transmit to the Office of the Chief Financial Officer (OCFO), for deposit into the Consumer Service Fund in accordance with Chapter 11 of the Title, each of the following amounts, reflecting business activity from (1) October through December; (2) January through March; (3) April through June; and (4) July through September:

- (a) For trips by taxicabs: the per trip taxicab passenger surcharge; and
- (b) For trips by black cars, private sedans, and Xclass vehicles: one (1) percent of all gross receipts.

Chapter 20, FINES AND CIVIL PENALTIES, of Title 31, TAXICABS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES FOR HIRE, of the DCMR, is amended as follows:

Section 2000, FINES AND CIVIL PENALTIES, is amended as follows:

Subsection 2000.8 is amended as follows:

Schedule 3, Fines for Entities, Owners and Operators Maximum Fines Based on Circumstances, is amended to add as follows:

Xclass Vehicles	\$500
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Providing service without the insurance required by this chapter	

Schedule 4, Fines for Owners and Operators Maximum Fines Based on Circumstances, is amended to add as follows:

Xclass Operators	\$250
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Soliciting or accepting a street hail• Refusal to haul• Providing service other than through an approved digital meter	
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Operating without a required decal	\$150

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Chapter 99, DEFINITIONS, of Title 31, TAXICABS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES FOR HIRE, of the DCMR is amended as follows:

Section 9901, DEFINITIONS, is amended as follows:

Subsection 9901.1 amended to add the following:

“Dispatched public vehicles” – public vehicles-for-hire operated by licensed DCTC operators, for which service is obtained through digital dispatch.

“DMV” – the District of Columbia Department of Motor Vehicles.

“Full Xclass operator’s license” – a DCTC operator’s license for Xclass where all requirements for licensing have been completed, including a background check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

“Provisional Xclass operator’s license” – a temporary DCTC operator’s license for Xclass which authorizes its holder to operate an Xclass vehicle on a temporary basis where the Office, pursuant to an administrative issuance, has determined that sufficient requirements for temporary licensing have been met, and the holder remains subject to additional requirements or conditions prior to the issuance of a full Xclass operator’s license, such as the completion of a background check by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

“Uniform resource locator” - a protocol for specifying addresses on the Internet.

“URL” – a uniform resource locator, as defined in this chapter.

“Xclass business” – a public vehicle-for-hire business that rents Xclass vehicles to Xclass operators, as defined in this chapter.

“Xclass operating authority” – operating authority for an Xclass business

“Xclass operator” – a public vehicle-for-hire operator authorized to provide Xclass service, as defined in this chapter.

“Xclass operator’s license” – unless otherwise indicated, either a full or provisional DCTC operator’s license for Xclass, as defined in this chapter.

“Xclass vehicle” – a public vehicle-for-hire authorized for use within Xclass including being properly registered and inspected within the MSA, not being a salvaged vehicle, and having a seating capacity of eight (8) or fewer passengers, exclusive of the driver, hired by digital dispatch, for which the fare shall be calculated by the digital dispatch service that arranges the trip.

“Xclass vehicle license” – a DCTC license for an Xclass vehicle, as defined in this chapter.

“Xclass service” – the service consisting of dispatched public vehicles, as defined in this chapter.

Copies of this notice of intended rulemaking and invitation for comment can be obtained at www.dcregs.dc.gov or by contacting Secretary to the Commission, District of Columbia Taxicab Commission, 2235 Shannon Place, S.E., Suite 3001, Washington, D.C. 20020. All persons desiring to file comments should submit written comments via e-mail to dctc@dc.gov or by mail to the DC Taxicab Commission, 2235 Shannon Place, S.E., Suite 3001, Washington, DC 20020, Attn: Secretary to the Commission, no later than thirty (30) days after the publication of this notice in the *D.C. Register*.