

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA TAXICAB COMMISSION

NOTICE OF EMERGENCY AND PROPOSED RULEMAKING

The District of Columbia Taxicab Commission (Commission), pursuant to the authority set forth in § 8(c)(3), (5), (19), and (20) of the District of Columbia Taxicab Commission Establishment Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986 (D.C. Law 6-97; D.C. Official Code §§ 50-307(c)(3), (5), (19) and (20) (2012 Supp.)) (“Act”), as amended by the Taxicab Service Improvement Amendment Act of 2012 (D.C. Law 19-0184; D.C. Official Code §§ 50-301 *et. seq.*) and the Public Vehicle for Hire Innovation Amendment Act of 2012 (D.C. Law 19-0270, D.C. Official Code § 50-307(c)(20)), hereby gives notice of the adoption of amendments to chapter 6 (Taxicab Parts and Equipment) of Title 31 (Taxicabs and Public Vehicles for Hire) of the District of Columbia Municipal Regulations (DCMR).

These rules are necessary because there is an immediate need to preserve and promote the safety and welfare of the District’s taxicab industry by addressing legal uncertainties created by the existing 5 year removal schedule for taxicab vehicles. The failure to immediately implement these regulatory changes would perpetuate legal uncertainty for vehicle owners and operators, and thereby also negatively impact residents and visitors. The amendments will: (1) clarify the 5 year removal schedule for taxicab vehicles; (2) extend the implementation date for the 5 year removal schedule due to the clarification amendments; and (3) correct an associated cross-reference within this chapter.

The emergency rulemaking was adopted on November 13, 2013, shall take effect immediately, and shall remain in effect for one hundred twenty (120) days after the date of adoption (expiring March 13, 2014, unless earlier superseded by an amendment or repeal by the Commission, or the publication of final rulemaking, whichever occurs first.

The Commission also hereby gives notice of the intent to take final rulemaking action to adopt these proposed rules in not less than thirty (30) days after the publication of this notice in the D.C. Register.

Chapter 6, TAXICAB PARTS AND EQUIPMENT, of title 31, TAXICABS AND PUBLIC VEHICLES FOR HIRE, of the DCMR, is amended to read as follows:

Section 609, AGE OF TAXICAB, is amended as follows:

Subsection 609.2 is amended as follows:

609.2 The Commission establishes a schedule to gradually implement the vehicle age policy. The schedule removes older vehicles from service in order to prevent a significant loss of service that would result if the age policy were immediately implemented in full, which would negatively impact owners and passengers. Mileage is not a factor in this removal schedule.

- (a) Effective January 1, 2013, the following five (5) year schedule for gradual implementation of the vehicle age policy will apply to all taxicab vehicles currently in service in the District of Columbia, whether owned, rented, or leased.

**SCHEDULE FOR GRADUAL IMPLEMENTATION
OF THE VEHICLE AGE POLICY**

Disposal Year**	Model Year
----------------------------	-------------------

2013	1998 and older
-------------	----------------

2014	2000 and older
-------------	----------------

2015	2004 and older
-------------	----------------

2016	2007 and older
-------------	----------------

2017	2010 and older
-------------	----------------

**** Vehicles must go out of service on Jan 1st of the year listed.**

Subsection 609.6 is amended to read as follows:

609.6 Effective immediately, §§ 609.2 and 609.3 of this section are suspended and shall not be enforced by the Commission until July 1, 2014, at which time they shall resume their effect and shall be enforced as if this suspension had not occurred.

Copies of this proposed rulemaking can be obtained at www.dcregs.dc.gov or by contacting Jacques Lerner, General Counsel and Secretary to the Commission, District of Columbia **Taxicab Commission**, 2041 Martin Luther King, Jr., Avenue, S.E., Suite 204, Washington, D.C. 20020. All persons desiring to file comments on this proposed rulemaking should submit written comments via e-mail to dctc@dc.gov or by postal mail or hand delivery to the DC Taxicab Commission, 2041 Martin Luther King, Jr., Ave., S.E., Suite 204, Washington, D.C. 20020, Attn: Jacques Lerner, Interim General Counsel and Secretary to the Commission. Comments should be filed within thirty (30) days after publication of this notice in the *D.C. Register*.