

ORDINANCE NO. 4784

AN ORDINANCE to amend and reordain Division 6 (FARES), Article A.1 (TAXICABS), Chapter 12 (TAXICABS AND OTHER VEHICLES FOR HIRE), of Title 9 (LICENSING & REGULATION) of The Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended.

THE CITY COUNCIL OF ALEXANDRIA HEREBY ORDAINS:

Section 1. That Division 6, Article A.1, Chapter 12, all of Title 9 of the Code of the City of Alexandria, Virginia, 1981, as amended, be, and the same hereby is, amended and reordained by the amendment of Section 9-12-132 to read as follows:

Sec. 9-12-132 - Amount of fare to be charged.

(a) The rates to be charged to passengers in taxicabs shall be as follows. It shall be unlawful to make any greater or lesser charge:

- (1) For the initial meter charge, \$3.00.
- (2) For the second and for each additional passenger who is five years of age or older, \$1.25.
- (3) For the first one-sixth of a mile traveled and each one-sixth mile or fraction thereof thereafter traveled for one or more passengers, \$0.36.
- (4) For each one hour of waiting time for one or more passengers, \$25.00. The incremental cost of this charge shall be \$0.36 for each 52 seconds. Waiting time shall include time consumed while the taxicab is waiting and available to passengers beginning three minutes after the scheduled time of arrival at the place to which it has been called, time consumed while the taxicab is stopped or slowed for traffic to a speed of less than seven miles per hour and time consumed for delays or stopovers en route at the direction of a passenger. There shall be no charge for mileage when time is being charged for a taxicab that is stopped or slowed for traffic to a speed of less than seven miles per hour. Waiting time shall not include time lost on account of the inefficiency of a taxicab.
- (5) For any item placed in the cab trunk or rear of the vehicle, \$0.50 if handled by the driver. The maximum charge for all such items shall be \$7.00.
- (6) (Reserved)
- (7) (Reserved)
- (8) For each animal, \$2.00. There shall be no charge for guide dogs or service animals assisting persons with disabilities.

- (9) For each trip originating at Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, the airport fee shall be added to the fare for the trip.
- (10) Taximeter fares shall be increased by \$5 during any period in which a snow emergency declaration of Level 2 or Level 3 has been made by the city manager or his designee, or in the event that the director of transportation and environmental services determines that driving conditions in the city are, or are reasonably expected to become, unduly hazardous due to the accumulation of snow, sleet or ice on the streets, regardless of the declaration of a snow emergency or the level thereof. The transportation division of the department of transportation and environmental services will notify each taxicab company by telephone of the exact time any such taximeter fare increase is to go into effect and the exact time that such fare increase is terminated.
- (11) Taximeter fares may be increased by a surcharge authorized by the city manager, in the event that the city manager determines that a sudden increase in the cost of gasoline requires a surcharge to maintain stability in the provision of taxicab services in the city and to prevent the gas cost increase from having a serious adverse financial impact on the drivers of taxicabs. The surcharge shall continue in effect for such period, not to exceed one year, as the city manager shall determine, but may be terminated sooner if the manager determines that the surcharge is no longer warranted. The determination of the city manager shall be based on information provided by taxicab companies, and from such other sources as the city manager deems appropriate. The transportation division of the department of transportation and environmental services will notify each taxicab company in writing of any such surcharge. Such notice shall indicate the amount of the surcharge, and the period during which such surcharge shall be permitted. A copy of such notice, shall be displayed within the vehicle in addition to the rate card required under section 9-12-134.
- (b) This section shall not apply when any taxicab is operated pursuant to a contract provided for in section 9-12-133 of this chapter.
- (c) Nothing contained herein shall prevent a certificate holder from establishing a coupon or reward program for its customers where a discount coupon, customer loyalty certificate or some other marketing device is accepted as part of the allowed fare set forth herein.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall become effective March 1, 2013 upon passage.

WILLIAM D. EUILLE
Mayor

Final Passage: January 22, 2013