



CITY OF RICHMOND

REPORT TO COMMITTEE

TO: Public Works and Transportation Committee

DATE: February 16, 2000

FROM: Ken Fryer
Manager, Fleet Operations

FILE: 0780-01

RE: Taxi Cab Inspections

STAFF RECOMMENDATION

That Fleet Operations Pilot Project Business Plan to inspect taxi cabs not proceed, and to explore other opportunities/initiatives identified in our Operational Plan such as

- Explore opportunities for new revenue and
- Explore new revenue sources to support Public Works' Operations and Utilities Budgets.

Ken Fryer
Manager, Fleet Operations

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ROUTED TO:	CONCURRENCE	CONCURRENCE OF GENERAL MANAGER
Engineering.....	Y <input type="checkbox"/> N <input type="checkbox"/>	
		CONCURRENCE OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OFFICER - Marcia Freeman

STAFF REPORT

ORIGIN

A report to Committee and Council dated June 2, 1999 identified a pilot project to inspect taxi cabs operating in the City of Richmond.

FINDINGS OF FACT

The City of Richmond's Fleet Operations was designated by the Ministry of Transportation (now ICBC) as the single source providing inspection services for Richmond based taxi cabs.. A business plan was put forth based on information and direction from the Province which was approved by Council.

Subsequently the information provided to Fleet Operations by the Chief Inspector of ICBC was found to be incomplete. Since then and unbeknown to Fleet Operations, two additional inspection facilities – Lansdowne Pontiac and Dennison Chevrolet were already performing similar inspections. They have been certified since 1989 and 1986 respectively. This was verified by Marcia Freeman – Manager – Business Liaison and Development and found to be conclusive.

Fleet Operations after re-consultation with the Chief Inspector decided to postpone implementation until the Province concluded it's assessment of the two facilities. ICBC has monitored inspections performed by these two inspection facilities since June to ensure compliance. On February 1, 2000 a six month inspection of all cabs operating in Richmond has been performed by Mr. Sam Nair –ICBC. Mr. Nair has made his final assessment and will allow the aforementioned facilities to retain their designation to inspect Taxi Cabs.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

None

CONCLUSION

Due to open market competition by these two private businesses and high fixed overhead expenses in Fleet Operations, staff recommend that the City does not enter into a contract with the Province to provide this service.

Ken Fryer
Manager, Fleet Operations

pc: Eric G. Gilfillan, Director, Operations