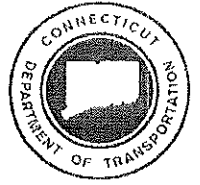




**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**

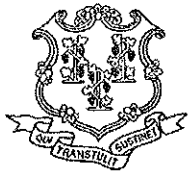


DOCKET NO. 2111-R-94-T CASINO CAB CO. INC DBA YELLOW CAB CO
2111-R-95-T ACE TAXI SERVICE INC AND EAST HARTFORD CAB COMPANY, INC
2201-R-8-T TRANSPORTATION GENERAL, INC DBA M7 AND FAIRFIELD
COUNTY TRANSPORTATION, LLC DBA M7

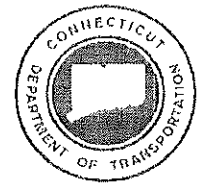
**RE PETITION OF ACE TAXI SERVICE, INC, EAST HARTFORD CAB COMPANY,
INC., CASINO CAB CO. INC DBA YELLOW CAB CO., TRANSPORTATION GENERAL, INC DBA
M7 AND FAIRFIELD COUNTY TRANSPORTATION, LLC DBA M7 TO INCREASE THEIR
TAXICAB METER RATES OF FARE**

DECISION

MARCH 31, 2022



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**



I INTRODUCTION

A. PETITIONERS PROPOSAL

By amended request letters dated January 14, 2022, January 19, 2022, and January 20, 2022, filed with the Department of Transportation (hereinafter” department”), pursuant to Section 13b-96 of the Connecticut General Statutes, the five petitioners have requested authorization to increase their taxicab meter rates of fare as follows:

APPLICANT: Ace Taxi Service, Inc / Certificate # 1066

Pursuit to the provisions of 13b-96 and 4-177 through 182, of the Connecticut General Statutes, the applicant seeks authorization to increase the under fifteen-mile taxicab meter rate within and to and from the towns of **Bloomfield, East Hartford, East Windsor, Enfield, Farmington, Granby, Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South Windsor, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor, Ellington, Tolland, Somers, Suffield and Windsor Locks in Connecticut as follows:**

Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	01/01/2012	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

With no statewide fuel surcharge.

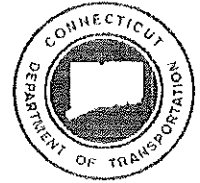
Columbia as follows:

Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/8 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/8 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	01/01/2012	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

With no statewide fuel surcharge.



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**



Andover, Coventry, Mansfield, Stafford, Willington, and Windham as follows:

Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	02/01/2016	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1st 1/9th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

With no statewide fuel surcharge.

APPLICANT: East Hartford Cab Company, Inc / Certificate # 1145

Pursuit to the provisions of 13b-96 and 4-177 through 182, of the Connecticut General Statutes, the applicant seeks authorization to increase the under fifteen-mile taxicab meter rate within and to and from the towns of **Bloomfield, East Hartford, East Windsor, Enfield, Farmington, Granby, Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South Windsor, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor, Windsor Locks and Glastonbury in Connecticut as follows:**

Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	01/01/2012	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1st 1/9th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

With no statewide fuel surcharge.

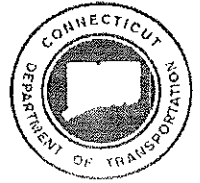
Bolton, and Coventry as follows:

Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	02/01/2016	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1st 1/9th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

With no statewide fuel surcharge.



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**



APPLICANT: Casino Cab Co. Inc DBA Yellow Cab Co / Certificate # 225

Pursuit to the provisions of 13b-96 and 4-177 through 182, of the Connecticut General Statutes, the applicant seeks authorization to increase the under fifteen-mile taxicab meter rate within and to and from the towns of **Bridgeport, Stratford and Trumbull** in Connecticut as follows:

Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	01/01/2012	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

With no statewide fuel surcharge.

Fairfield as follows:

Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	02/01/2016	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

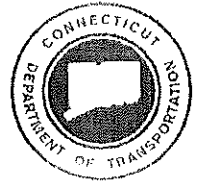
With no statewide fuel surcharge.

APPLICANT: Transportation General, Inc DBA M7 / Certificate # 86

Pursuit to the provisions of 13b-96 and 4-177 through 182, of the Connecticut General Statutes, seeks authorization to increase the under fifteen-mile taxicab meter rate within and to and from the towns of **East Haven, New Haven, West Haven, Hamden, Woodbridge, Orange, Milford, Branford, North Branford, Guilford, North Haven, Wallingford, Meriden, Berlin, New Britain, Windsor Locks, Windsor, South Windsor, Hartford, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Bloomfield, East Hartford, East Windsor, Enfield, Farmington, Granby, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, and Vernon** in Connecticut as follows:



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**



Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	01/01/2012	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

With no statewide fuel surcharge.

APPLICANT: Fairfield County Transportation, LLC DBA M7 / Certificate # 1154

Pursuit to the provisions of 13b-96 and 4-177 through 182, of the Connecticut General Statutes, the applicant seeks authorization to increase the under fifteen-mile taxicab meter rate within and to and from the towns of **Bridgeport, Trumbull and Stratford** in Connecticut as follows:

Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	01/01/2012	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

With no statewide fuel surcharge.

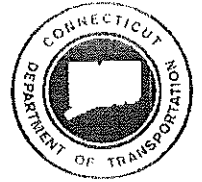
Mansfield (Storrs), and Windham (Willimantic) as follows:

Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	02/01/2016	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

With no statewide fuel surcharge.



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**



Norwich, Bozrah, Franklin, Griswold, Lisbon, Sprague, Canterbury, Plainfield, Sterling, Voluntown, Preston, New London, Groton, Stonington, North Stonington, Ledyard, Montville, Waterford, Chaplin, and Columbia as follows:

Current Meter Rates:	Effective Date on:	Proposed Meter Rates:	Proposed effective Date on:
Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.00 per 1 st 1/8 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/8 th mile \$.30 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.30	01/01/2012	Meter Drop: Initial charge: \$3.75 per 1 st 1/9 th mile Travel: Each additional 1/9 th mile \$.40 Waiting Time: Each additional 30 second \$.40	04/15/2022

With no statewide fuel surcharge

B. HEARING HELD

Pursuant to Sections 13b-96 of the Connecticut General Statutes, as amended, and Sections 4-177 through 4-182 of the Connecticut General Statutes, inclusive, this petition was assigned for a public hearing which was held by telephone conference on March 17, 2022.

Notice of the petition and of the hearing to be held thereon was given to the petitioner, and to such other parties as deemed necessary by the department as required by Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-97, as amended. Legal notice to the public was given by publication on the department's website.

C. APPEARANCES

Elhassan Aitelqadi, Accounts Examiner, appeared as witness on behalf of the Department of Transportation, Regulatory & Compliance Unit.

Michael Olschafskie appeared on behalf of Ace Taxi Service, Inc and East Hartford Cab Company, Inc. The mailing address for those companies is P.O. Box 411, Vernon, Connecticut 06066.

Raymond Longo appeared on behalf of Casino Cab Co., Inc dba Yellow Cab Co. The mailing address for that company is 65 Stillman Street, Bridgeport, Connecticut 06608.

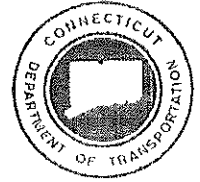
William Scalzi appeared on behalf of Transportation General, Inc dba M7 and Fairfield County Transportation, LLC dba M7. The mailing address for those companies is 65 Industry Way, West Haven, Connecticut 06516.

II. FINDINGS OF FACT

1. The five petitioners seek to increase the meter rate for taxicab fares in the towns of Bloomfield, East Hartford, East Windsor, Enfield, Farmington, Granby, Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South Windsor, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor, Ellington, Tolland, Somers, Suffield, Windsor Locks, Columbia, Andover, Coventry, Mansfield, Stafford, Willington, Windham, Glastonbury, Bolton, Coventry,



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**



Bridgeport, Stratford, Trumbull, Fairfield, East Haven, New Haven, West Haven, Hamden, Woodbridge, Mansfield (Storrs), Windham, Orange, Milford, Branford, North Branford, Guilford, North Haven, Wallingford, Meriden, Berlin, New Britain, Norwich, Bozrah, Franklin, Griswold, Lisbon, Sprague, Canterbury, Plainfield, Sterling, Voluntown, Preston, New London, Groton, Stonington, North Stonington, Ledyard, Montville, Waterford, Chaplin and Columbia.

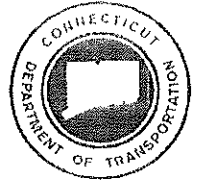
2. The last metered rate increase in this area was either in 2012 or 2016.
3. The taxicab rates must be unified to avoid possible confusion for the public as to why the same trip will cost different amounts depending on the starting or ending point.
4. Taxicab operators must have the same taxicab rate in their entire service area, or they will have difficulty administering the different taxicab rates. There is some question as to whether different meter rates could be installed on some meters.
5. Since the last meter rate increase, the costs associated with operating the taxicab business have risen dramatically. This increase includes almost every aspect of operating a taxicab company including employee salaries, car parts, the cost to acquire vehicles, gasoline and cost of Covid safety equipment among others.
6. Transportation has been one of the most effected business. As the result of inflation transportation costs are up 20%.
7. Some examples of rising costs are car prices are up 40%, car repairs are up 300% and gasoline is up 40%.
8. Some examples of these increases are since last September a transmission cost has increased from \$500 to \$900 and an engine cost has gone from \$1,100 to \$3,500.
9. The cost to buy a comparable Hyundai Sonata in 2019 was \$12,000 and in 2022 it was \$20,000. The approximate cost of a Dodge Caravan in 2019 was \$32,000 while the same vehicle cost \$40,000 in 2022.
10. The cost to heat a transportation facility went from \$1,600 to \$2,300 in one year.
11. The cost to insure a taxicab went from \$5,000 to \$9,000 over ten years.
12. The approximate taxicab rate increase after taking into account inflation is 9% to 14%.
13. The consumer price index has risen 6% over the past year which is the largest increase in 13 years.
14. Two other taxicab operators with authorized towns in the service area, Shoreline Taxi and Suburban Transportation Inc also support the taxicab rate increase.
15. There was no opposition to the rate increase.

III. DEPARTMENT ANALYSIS

The department has jurisdiction over each person, association, limited liability company or corporation owning or operating a taxicab in accordance with Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-93 as amended. In addition, the department is authorized to prescribe adequate service and reasonable rates and charges with respect to fares, service, operations, and equipment, as it deems necessary.



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**



The petitioners put forth convincing evidence concerning the confusion that would occur if the taxicab rates in their service area were not unified. Unifying the rates will help the taxicab operators and the public to avoid confusion since the same trip will cost the same amount regardless of the starting or ending point. In addition, it may not be possible for some taxicab companies to have more than one meter rate on the meter.

The taxicab rates have been in effect in this service area since either 2012 or 2016 which is a long time. In either case, the taxicab companies need to get this rate increase to keep their fleet safe for the riding public. All the basic needs of operating a taxicab company have increased dramatically such as parts, labor, vehicles, and gas. The taxicab companies simply cannot keep absorbing these rising costs without passing some of them on to the public. While it is unfortunate that the public will have to bear some of the expense of the taxicab rate increase, the alternative of operators going out of business or cutting corners to operate is not acceptable either. Safety of the riding public is our top concern and requires that the taxicab companies meet their necessary expenses.

IV. CONCLUSION AND ORDER

Based upon the above and pursuant to the authority granted under Connecticut General Statutes Section 13b-96, as amended, the petitions filed by the five petitioners is hereby granted.

Therefore, it is hereby ordered that the following schedule of metered rates of fare shall be implemented for the towns of **Bloomfield, East Hartford, East Windsor, Enfield, Farmington, Granby, Hartford, Manchester, Newington, Rocky Hill, Simsbury, South Windsor, Vernon, West Hartford, Wethersfield, Windsor, Ellington, Tolland, Somers, Suffield, Windsor Locks, Columbia, Andover, Coventry, Mansfield, Stafford, Willington, Windham, Glastonbury, Bolton, Coventry, Bridgeport, Stratford, Trumbull, Fairfield, East Haven, New Haven, West Haven, Hamden, Woodbridge, Mansfield (Storrs), Windham Orange, Milford, Branford, North Branford, Guilford, North Haven, Wallingford, Meriden, Berlin, New Britain, Norwich, Bozrah, Franklin, Griswold, Lisbon, Sprague, Canterbury, Plainfield, Sterling, Voluntown, Preston, New London, Groton, Stonington, North Stonington, Ledyard, Montville, Waterford, Chaplin and Columbia** subject to the conditions below, shall become effective on Friday, April 15, 2022 at 12:01 a.m.

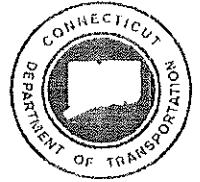
NEW METERED TAXICAB RATES OF FARE:

METER DROP:	\$ 3.75 first 1/9 mile
TRAVEL:	.40 each additional 1/9 mile
WAITING TIME:	.40 every 30 seconds

There is no fuel surcharge. The metered rates in effect for the towns listed above on the date of the final decision are cancelled upon implementation of the new taxicab rates authorized herein. Public notice of the intent to implement the rates authorized herein shall be given by the petitioner through publication of a legal notice, in the local newspapers which cover the area of concern, not less than five (5) days prior to such implementation. The petitioner shall be responsible for the expense to place the legal notice. The metered rates of fare approved herein shall apply to all taxicab operators servicing any of the above-included towns



**STATE OF CONNECTICUT
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION
BUREAU OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION PROGRAM MANAGEMENT**



Dated at Newington, Connecticut on the 31st day of March 2022.

CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Judith Almeida
Staff Attorney III
Administrative Law Unit
Bureau of Finance and Administration