

CITY OF UNALASKA
UNALASKA, ALASKA

RESOLUTION 2025-06

A RESOLUTION OF THE UNALASKA CITY COUNCIL ESTABLISHING TAXICAB RATES FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2025

WHEREAS, Unalaska Code of Ordinances § 9.12.065 requires all licensed taxicabs operating within the city to have installed an instrument (meter) by which charges for hire of such taxicabs are calculated; and

WHEREAS, Unalaska Code of Ordinances requires that the meter shall calculate the fare and be calibrated in accordance with the fare standards set by the City Council at its first regular meeting in January each year; and

WHEREAS, the taxi rates for calendar year 2025 will change from the rates for calendar year 2024.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Unalaska City Council establishes the taxicab rates for 2025, which include the 3% sales tax, as follows:

- \$3.00 per flag drop;
- \$0.40 per 1/10 mile;
- \$6.00 for each additional fare over two;
- \$1.50 per minute waiting time;
- \$90.00 per hour charter.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that said rates include a Senior Citizen Discount of \$1.00 off any metered rate between \$5.00 and \$10.00, and \$2.00 off any metered rate over \$10.00.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by a duly constituted quorum of the Unalaska City Council on January 28, 2025.


Vincent M. Tutiakoff, Sr.
Mayor

ATTEST:



Estkarlen P. Magdaong, CMC
City Clerk



MEMORANDUM TO COUNCIL

To: Mayor and City Council Members
From: Estkarlen P. Magdaong, CMC
Through: William Homka, City Manager
Date: January 28, 2025
Re: Resolution 2025-06: Establishing taxicab rates for the calendar year 2025 as required by the Unalaska Code of Ordinances

SUMMARY: Unalaska Code of Ordinances (UCO) § 9.12.065(A)(3) requires that the City Council set taxicab rates at the first regular meeting in January each year. On January 14, 2025 staff presented Resolution 2025-06 which set the rates for calendar year 2025 at the same level as the rates for 2024. The council voted to postpone adopting the resolution until January 28, 2025 to allow staff to incorporate input from taxi permit holders. Resolution 2025-06 was amended after consultation with taxi permit holders.

PREVIOUS COUNCIL ACTION: Council has adopted taxicab rates annually since 1993. Through Resolution 2006-01, Council increased rates by \$0.03 per minute for waiting time and added \$80 per hour for charters. Rates have not changed since 2006.

BACKGROUND: The taxicab ordinance was adopted in 1993 and revised in 2003 and 2005. In 2005, several changes were made, but UCO § 9.12.065(A)(3) has not changed through the years of revision. The ordinance requires the City Council to set the rates each year. At the time of the 1993 adoption, the Taxi Owners Association was active and provided input on this issue.

During a meeting held at Public Safety in November 2017, taxi drivers and taxi permit holders expressed no interest in changing the rates. There was no public comment on this topic at the council meetings from 2018-2024.

On December 16, 2024, the Acting City Clerk mailed letters to all taxi permit holders inviting them to attend the January 14 council meeting to submit comments regarding taxicab rates for 2025. One permit holder spoke with personnel in the Clerk's Department, indicating they desired to see an increase in rates. This taxi permit holder and all others were encouraged to provide comments either in writing or in person the January 14 meeting. One permit holder submitted a written comment.

Following the January 14 meeting, the Clerk's Department arranged to meet with the taxi permit holders and listen to their input on rates for 2025. Currently, there are nine taxi permit holders, two of which indicated that they are not able to meet with the City Clerk but wanted to keep the rates the same. One was out of the country on vacation. One taxi permit holder provided written comment on January 14. On January 23 the City Clerk met with five taxi permit holders to gather input and recommendations as to the rates for 2025. Most of them suggested to keep the rates the same, but expressed financial hardship with maintenance and operational costs. Another permit holder suggested that the Council make the decision about rates and that they will follow what has been decided. City Clerk informed the group of the written comment that was given last January 14 meeting and they were not in favor of that suggestion.

ALTERNATIVES: Council can choose to adopt the resolution with the rate change as recommended, or Council can choose to keep the rates the same as previous years or amend the rates as they see fit.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS: If rates are changed, it is expected that a corresponding increase or decrease would be seen in sales tax revenue to the City. Also, if rates are changed, meters would have to be recalibrated and inspected at the expense of taxi owners. The City Clerk checked with automotive shops and the cost to recalibrate the meter ranges from \$92.50 up to \$125. Taxi permit inspections cost \$20.

LEGAL: None.

STAFF RECOMMENDATION: Staff recommends the taxi rates to be raised at this level:

Old Rates		New Rates	
\$ 2.65	per flag drop	\$ 3.00	per flag drop
\$ 0.30	per 1/10 mile	\$ 0.40	per 1/10 mile
\$ 5.30	for each additional fare over two	\$ 6.00	for each additional fare over two
\$ 1.06	per minute waiting time	\$ 1.50	per minute waiting time
\$ 80.00	per hour charter	\$ 90.00	per hour charter

A customer from a processing plant at Captains Bay Road pays around \$11.05 one-way to go the store. With this rate increase, that particular trip would now cost around \$14.02. Upon consultation with a taxi permit owner, she feels that this fare would still be affordable and manageable for passengers and would be helpful for taxi operators.

PROPOSED MOTION: I move to adopt Resolution 2025-06.

CITY MANAGER'S COMMENTS:

ATTACHMENTS:

- Letter to Taxicab Permit Holders for 2025
- Nationwide Taxi Rates

CITY OF UNALASKA
43 Raven Way - P.O. Box 610
Unalaska, Alaska 99685
Tel (907) 581-1251 FAX (907) 581-1417



December 16, 2024

Taxi Permit Holders:

At the first City Council meeting in January, they will discuss taxicab rates for the calendar year 2025. You are invited to attend the Council meeting to provide your comments/input. The Council meeting will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, at City Hall Council Chambers.

If you prefer not to attend the meeting but would still like to provide your comment regarding taxicab rates, you may send your written comments to the City Clerk's office on or before 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, January 14, 2025, in person or via email at aaguilar@ci.unalaska.ak.us.

The City Council would like to hear your opinions regarding taxicab rates.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact our office.

Regards,

CITY OF UNALASKA



Alicia Aguilar
Deputy City Clerk
aaguilar@ci.unalaska.ak.us

CITY	FLAG DROP	PER KM	1 HR WAIT
Albany, NY	\$ 5.00	\$ 1.39	\$ 27.50
Albuquerque, NM	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.83	\$ 29.00
Alpharetta, GA	\$ 3.00	\$ 2.40	\$ 40.00
Anchorage, AK	\$ 2.75	\$ 1.71	\$ 38.00
Ann Arbor, MI	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.55	\$ 26.40
Arlington, VA	\$ 2.85	\$ 1.55	\$ 22.00
Asheville, NC	\$ 5.00	\$ 3.11	\$ 50.00
Atlanta, GA	\$ 3.50	\$ 1.48	\$ 24.00
Austin, TX	\$ 3.50	\$ 1.79	\$ 35.00
Baltimore, MD	\$ 1.80	\$ 1.37	\$ 24.00
Baton Rouge, LA	\$ 4.00	\$ 1.24	\$ 60.00
Bethesda, MD	\$ 5.00	\$ 3.00	\$ 35.00
Birmingham, AL	\$ 4.00	\$ 1.59	\$ 31.00
Bloomington, IN	\$ 5.70	\$ 1.06	\$ 18.00
Boise, ID	\$ 2.60	\$ 1.50	\$ 24.00
Boston, MA	\$ 2.60	\$ 1.74	\$ 28.00
Boulder, CO	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.40	\$ 24.00
Brooklyn, NY	\$ 3.00	\$ 2.17	\$ 42.00
Buffalo, NY	\$ 5.30	\$ 2.24	\$ 45.00
Chandler, AZ	\$ 2.83	\$ 1.71	\$ 29.00
Charleston, SC	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.57	\$ 20.00
Charlotte, NC	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.86	\$ 30.00
Chicago, IL	\$ 3.25	\$ 1.40	\$ 25.00
Cincinnati, OH	\$ 3.75	\$ 1.24	\$ 25.00
Cleveland, OH	\$ 2.75	\$ 1.40	\$ 25.80
Colorado Springs, CO	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.40	\$ 25.00
Columbia, SC	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.55	\$ 18.00
Columbus, OH	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.26	\$ 27.00
Dallas, TX	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.74	\$ 24.00
Denver, CO	\$ 3.50	\$ 1.74	\$ 24.00
Des Moines, IA	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.24	\$ 20.00
Detroit, MI	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.41	\$ 48.00
El Paso, TX	\$ 1.65	\$ 1.40	\$ 27.00
Eugene, OR	\$ 4.00	\$ 1.24	\$ 30.00
Fort Collins, CO	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.86	\$ 25.00
Fort Lauderdale, FL	\$ 4.50	\$ 1.55	\$ 22.00
Fort Worth, TX	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.74	\$ 24.00
Fresno, CA	\$ 3.40	\$ 2.50	\$ 25.00
Gainesville, FL	\$ 3.50	\$ 1.49	\$ 30.00
Grand Rapids, MI	\$ 4.70	\$ 2.00	\$ 28.25
Greensboro, NC	\$ 2.00	\$ 2.33	\$ 18.00

Greenville, SC	\$	3.50	\$	1.48	\$	18.00
Honolulu, HI	\$	3.50	\$	2.61	\$	44.80
Houston, TX	\$	3.88	\$	1.86	\$	30.00
Huntsville, AL	\$	5.00	\$	2.17	\$	38.50
Indianapolis, IN	\$	2.00	\$	1.74	\$	34.00
Irvine, CA	\$	4.00	\$	2.75	\$	32.00
Jacksonville, FL	\$	4.00	\$	2.49	\$	25.00
Jersey City, NJ	\$	3.00	\$	2.05	\$	24.00
Kansas City, MO	\$	2.50	\$	2.21	\$	21.00
Knoxville, TN	\$	5.00	\$	1.55	\$	30.00
Las Vegas, NV	\$	3.50	\$	1.86	\$	32.40
Lincoln, NE	\$	6.75	\$	2.27	\$	35.00
Little Rock, AR	\$	2.50	\$	1.50	\$	24.00
Los Angeles, CA	\$	3.10	\$	1.76	\$	29.19
Louisville, KY	\$	2.75	\$	1.40	\$	30.00
Madison, WI	\$	4.50	\$	2.17	\$	42.00
Manchester, NH	\$	4.00	\$	0.93	\$	30.00
Memphis, TN	\$	2.00	\$	1.37	\$	20.00
Miami, FL	\$	4.00	\$	1.30	\$	45.00
Milwaukee, WI	\$	2.80	\$	1.60	\$	21.00
Minneapolis, MN	\$	4.70	\$	1.74	\$	24.00
Mobile, AL	\$	6.62	\$	1.27	\$	16.52
Nashville, TN	\$	5.00	\$	1.55	\$	21.00
New Orleans, LA	\$	3.50	\$	1.49	\$	35.00
New York, NY	\$	5.00	\$	2.17	\$	39.00
Oakland, CA	\$	3.50	\$	2.40	\$	40.00
Ocala, FL	\$	4.75	\$	1.55	\$	22.00
Oklahoma City, OK	\$	2.75	\$	1.25	\$	30.00
Olympia, WA	\$	5.00	\$	2.64	\$	52.50
Omaha, NE	\$	2.99	\$	1.37	\$	25.12
Orlando, FL	\$	2.90	\$	1.90	\$	35.00
Palm Springs, CA	\$	3.00	\$	1.40	\$	37.50
Pensacola, FL	\$	2.50	\$	1.62	\$	26.00
Peoria, IL	\$	4.53	\$	2.87	\$	17.50
Philadelphia, PA	\$	3.25	\$	1.55	\$	22.00
Phoenix, AZ	\$	2.75	\$	1.37	\$	36.00
Pittsburgh, PA	\$	4.00	\$	1.20	\$	21.00
Pleasanton, CA	\$	4.00	\$	2.17	\$	50.00
Portland, OR	\$	3.80	\$	1.99	\$	36.00
Princeton, NJ	\$	6.00	\$	2.43	\$	42.00
Raleigh, NC	\$	2.23	\$	1.55	\$	15.00
Reno, NV	\$	3.85	\$	2.55	\$	33.00

Richmond, VA	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.55	\$ 22.50
Rochester, NY	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.86	\$ 21.00
Sacramento, CA	\$ 4.00	\$ 1.86	\$ 27.69
Saint Louis, MO	\$ 3.50	\$ 1.55	\$ 40.00
Saint Petersburg, FL	\$ 3.37	\$ 1.48	\$ 60.00
Salt Lake City, UT	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.43	\$ 25.00
San Antonio, TX	\$ 3.50	\$ 1.86	\$ 45.00
San Diego, CA	\$ 3.00	\$ 2.05	\$ 28.00
San Francisco, CA	\$ 4.15	\$ 2.02	\$ 39.00
San Jose, CA	\$ 3.50	\$ 1.86	\$ 30.00
San Luis Obispo, CA	\$ 6.50	\$ 3.42	\$ 50.00
Santa Barbara, CA	\$ 5.97	\$ 4.35	\$ 51.00
Santa Clara, CA	\$ 4.50	\$ 3.99	\$ 30.00
Santa Rosa, CA	\$ 4.00	\$ 1.90	\$ 29.00
Seattle, WA	\$ 2.60	\$ 1.68	\$ 30.00
Spokane, WA	\$ 5.00	\$ 1.74	\$ 40.00
Springfield, MO	\$ 3.00	\$ 1.43	\$ 36.00
Syracuse, NY	\$ 4.00	\$ 1.99	\$ 30.00
Tacoma, WA	\$ 2.60	\$ 1.68	\$ 30.00
Tampa, FL	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.49	\$ 30.00
Toledo, OH	\$ 2.50	\$ 2.50	\$ 40.00
Tucson, AZ	\$ 2.75	\$ 1.37	\$ 36.00
Tulsa, OK	\$ 2.00	\$ 1.24	\$ 30.00
Virginia Beach, VA	\$ 4.65	\$ 1.30	\$ 20.00
Washington, DC	\$ 4.00	\$ 2.49	\$ 30.00
Wichita, KS	\$ 2.50	\$ 1.55	\$ 26.38
Average	\$ 3.53	\$ 1.75	\$ 30.75