

City of Chicago



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Meeting Date:

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Sponsor(s):

Lightfoot (Mayor)

Type:

Ordinance

Title:

Amendment of Municipal Code Section 9-12-600 regarding

fuel surcharges for taxicabs

Committee(s) Assignment:

Committee on License and Consumer Protection



OFFICE OF THE MAYOR CITY OF CHICAGO

LORI E. LIGHTFOOT

July 20, 2022

TO THE HONORABLE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO

Ladies and Gentlemen:

At the request of the Commissioner of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection, I transmit herewith an ordinance amending Section 9-12-600 of the Municipal Code regarding fuel surcharge.

Your favorable consideration of this ordinance will be appreciated.

Very truly yours

Mayor

ORDINANCE

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF CHICAGO:

SECTION 1. Section 9-112-600 of the Municipal Code of Chicago is hereby amended by adding the language underscored, as follows:

9-112-600 Taxicab rates of fare.

(Omitted text is unaffected by this ordinance)

- (j) (1) Licensees may charge compensation for service based on a flat prearranged fare (for purposes of this subsection, "flat rate") for transportation of passengers between two locations.
- (2) Any licensee shall display the licensee's flat rate on such licensee's website and Internet-enabled application or digital platform used by the licensee to connect drivers and passengers.
- (3) Except as otherwise provided in Section 9-114-265, it is unlawful for a licensee to charge passengers a fare greater than the fare rate shown on the taximeter or the licensee's Internet-enabled application or digital platform.
- (k) A fuel surcharge may be added by the chauffeur of a taxicab to every taxicab fare, as follows:
- (1) Except as otherwise provided in item (4) of this subsection, if the price of gasoline equals or exceeds \$5.00 per gallon and the Commissioner issues a public vehicle industry notice authorizing fuel surcharge on the rates of fare, the chauffeur of a taxicab may add to the total taxicab fare that would otherwise apply a fuel surcharge as provided in table 9-112-600. The total fare used to calculate the fuel surcharge shall be based upon the rates of fare listed in Section 9-112-0600 (a), except for any additional passenger or vomit clean-up fees.

Table 9-112-600 Fuel Surcharge by Total Fare

Total fare before applicable taxes or fees	<u>Fuel surcharge</u>
\$20.00 or less	\$1.00
\$20.01 to \$40.00	\$2.00
\$40.01 or more	<u>\$3.00</u>

- (2) If the price of gasoline falls below \$5.00 per gallon at any time after such public vehicle industry notice is issued under subsection (k)(1), the Commissioner is authorized to issue a public vehicle industry notice terminating the fuel surcharge. No taxicab chauffeur shall impose a fuel surcharge after the Commissioner has issued a public vehicle industry notice terminating the fuel surcharge.
- (3) If a fuel surcharge is authorized by the Commissioner under subsection (k)(1) of this section, no taxicab chauffeur shall add such fuel surcharge to any rate of fare unless the relevant public vehicle industry notice authorizing the fuel surcharge, is posted in a prominent place within the taxicab. The Commissioner may, by rule, specify the location, size, and other features of the public vehicle industry notice required by this subsection (k)(3). After the Commissioner issues a public vehicle industry notice terminating the fuel surcharge, taxicab chauffeurs shall remove the public vehicle industry notice authorizing the fuel surcharge from the taxicab.

- (4) It shall be unlawful for any person to add any fuel surcharge to any rate of fare in violation of this subsection (k). In addition to any other penalty provided by law, any person who violates this subsection (k) shall be fined not less than \$100.00 nor more than \$500.00 for each offense. Each improperly imposed fuel surcharge shall constitute a separate and distinct offense to which a separate fine shall apply.
- (5) All public vehicle industry notice issued by the Commissioner under this subsection (k) shall be posted on the Department's website and may be made available by the Commissioner to taxicab chauffeurs and their affiliates using other appropriate means as determined by the Commissioner.
- (6) As used in this subsection (k), "Price of gasoline" means the "month ago avg." regular gasoline price for the City of Chicago Statistical Area as published in AAA's Online Gas Prices Report.

SECTION 2. This ordinance shall be in full force and effect 10 days after its passage and publication.