

Order 181-15/16

Passage: 8-0 (Thibodeau absent) on 3/21/2016

Effective 4/20/2016

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**CITY OF PORTLAND
IN THE CITY COUNCIL**

DAVID H. BRENERMAN (5)
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NICHOLAS M. MAVODONES, JR (A/L)

**AMENDMENT TO PORTLAND CITY CODE
CHAPTER 15 LICENSING AND PERMITS AND
CHAPTER 30 VEHICLES FOR HIRE
Re: Tour Operator Licensing**

**BE IT ORDAINED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF PORTLAND, MAINE IN
CITY COUNCIL ASSEMBLED AS FOLLOWS:**

1. *That Section 15-12 of the Portland City Code is hereby amended to read as follows:*

Sec. 15-12. Fees and expiration dates.

(a) Unless specified elsewhere in this Code, fees for licenses issued pursuant to this Code and the expiration date of each license shall be as follows:

...

Ch. 30, Art. III	Horse-drawn cabs	200.00, plus 20.00 per driver	April 30
Ch. 30, Art. III IV	Bicycle cabs	100.00, plus 20.00 per driver	
<u>Ch. 30, Art. V</u>	<u>Tour companies</u>	<u>300.00, plus 30.00 per vehicle/operator</u>	<u>April 30</u>

...

2. *That Chapter 30 of the Portland City Code is hereby amended by adding Sections 30-93 to 30-109, which said sections read as follows:*

ARTICLE V. TOUR COMPANIES

DIVISION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Sec. 30-93. Definitions.

As used in this article, unless the context otherwise indicates, the following words shall have the following meanings:

Tour company means any individual, group, or entity that solicits, provides or offers tours to individuals or groups for profit of any portion of the City of Portland. For purposes of this Article, an individual, group, or entity that exclusively provides tours that are pre-paid and pre-arranged with a charter group or cruise line is not a tour company and is not required to be licensed as a tour company by the City.

Tour vehicle means any motorized vehicle or apparatus that is used to transport individuals or passengers during a tour of and in any portion of the City. Tour vehicles shall include, but shall not be limited to, cars, trucks, vans, buses, motorcycles, mopeds, and segways.

Street, way, or public place means any street, way, trail, path, promenade, park, plaza, square, or other public property, or portion thereof.

To operate means to drive, pedal, pull, push or otherwise cause the tour vehicle to move.

Sec. 30-94. General licensing provisions to apply.

Except to the extent that this article contains a contrary provision, all general licensing provisions of chapter 15 shall apply to this article.

DIVISION 2. LICENSES

Sec. 30-95. License Required.

No tour company shall operate a tour vehicle on any street or way or in any public place without a tour company license. In obtaining or renewing a tour company license, accurate information for each operator and vehicle shall be provided pursuant to Section 30-96. An operator for whom such information has not been provided to the Licensing Authority is not licensed to operate. A vehicle for which such information

has not been provided to the Licensing Authority is not licensed to be operated. Any operator who is less than eighteen (18) years old shall be restricted to operation between the hours of 8 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Sec. 30-96. Applications.

In addition to the general provisions of chapter 15 relating to the contents of applications, applications for tour company licenses shall contain the following:

- (a) A complete listing of all operators to be employed by or associated with the applicant, giving each person's full name, age and present address.
- (b) A complete record (Maine Criminal History Record search) of disqualifying criminal convictions or civil offenses as defined in Section 30-33(b) (3-6), if any, for all operators to be employed by or associated with the applicant, and for the applicant, or if the applicant is other than an individual, for each principal officer of the applicant.
- (c) A detailed description of each tour vehicle and any other equipment to be used by the applicant, including a photograph of each tour vehicle and the make, model, color, year, power, and seating capacity specifications of each such vehicle.

Sec. 30-97. Licensing authority and regulations.

Notwithstanding any provision of chapter 15 to the contrary, the City Manager or his or her designee shall be the licensing authority for the owner/operator, vehicle, and operator licenses. The City Manager or his or her designee shall also have the authority to promulgate rules and regulations for tour licenses as he or she may deem necessary.

Sec. 30-98. Conditions precedent to issuance.

Prior to the issuance of any tour company license, and in addition to any other requirements of this article or chapter 15, the applicant shall file with the City Manager or his or her designee the following:

- (a) A certificate issued by the applicant that the tour company to be licensed and all operators operating

thereunder shall comply with the rules made under authority of this article by the licensing authority; and

- (b) An insurance policy covering the term of the license and executed by an insurance company authorized to issue such policies in this state in the usual form of vehicle or other liability insurance policies in this state for injuries to persons and property resulting from the use and operation of the tour company to be licensed. Such policy of insurance shall be issued for a principal sum sufficient to provide indemnity in the amount of not less than four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000.00) per occurrence, for bodily injury, death and property damage. A certificate of insurance bearing an endorsement thereon by the issuing agent shall be deposited with the licensing authority. Such certificate shall state that the issuing agent shall notify the licensing authority in writing no less than thirty (30) days prior to the cancellation thereof. The City of Portland shall be included in the policy as an additional named insured.

Sec. 30-99. Denial, suspension, or revocation.

In addition to the general provisions of chapter 15 relating to the grounds for denial, suspension or revocation of license, a tour company, tour operator, or tour vehicle license may be denied, suspended or revoked on any of the following grounds:

- (a) The applicant or licensee or any operator is less than seventeen (17) years of age or has had a disqualifying criminal conviction or civil offense as provided in Section 30-33(b) (3-6);
- (b) Disobeying any order or direction of the City Manager or his or her designee, including, but not limited to, the city traffic engineer, license inspector, or any police officer; or
- (c) Causing or permitting any violation of this article or chapter 25.

DIVISION 3. OPERATING REQUIREMENTS

Sec. 30-100. Operation limited to roadways; carrying of passengers; prohibited locations.

Licensed tour vehicles shall be operated within roadways only. Tour vehicles shall not be operated upon sidewalks or bicycle paths, except those paths specifically designated for that purpose by the Director of Parks and Recreation. Tour vehicles may carry passengers to locations chosen by the passengers or may follow an agreed-upon route for sightseeing purposes. The City Manager or his or her designee shall have the right to prohibit tour vehicles from streets or roadways where the operation of such vehicles will present a threat to the safety of the tour vehicle operator and passengers or to other users of the street or roadway. The City Manager or his or her designee also shall have the authority to erect appropriate signs or markers, and to impose such conditions on the use of routes and locations as he or she deems proper, including limiting the number of such tour vehicles in operation on the same route or at the same location at any one (1) time, and restricting the days, times, or other circumstances of operation on any such route or at any such location. No such vehicle shall stop, stand, or park in any place while on route, to load or unload passengers or otherwise, except in accordance with traffic regulations, traffic-control devices, or the directions of a police officer or other authorized person. In no event shall a tour vehicle utilize a designated taxicab stand for any purpose whatsoever, unless required for an immediate response to an emergency situation. Tour vehicles shall not be permitted at the Jetport.

Sec. 30-101. Not to obstruct traffic; police orders.

No tour company or tour vehicle shall be operated in any manner which unreasonably or unnecessarily obstructs or impedes the free flow of vehicular or pedestrian traffic or otherwise endangers public safety. Any designee of the City Manager, including, but not limited to, police officers and the city traffic engineer, may at any time order the operator of any such company or vehicle to move along, pull over, make way, or temporarily discontinue the use of any such route or location, or any portion thereof, for the public safety or reduction of high-traffic areas.

Sec. 30-102. Traffic regulations to apply.

Except to the extent that this article contains a contrary provision, all traffic regulations of chapter 28, article III, shall apply to the operation of licensed tour companies and tour vehicles.

Sec. 30-103. Display of plate and badge.

A plate, to be issued by the licensing authority and bearing an identification number shall be displayed in a conspicuous place on each licensed tour vehicle at all times while in service. A badge, to be issued by the licensing authority and identifying the wearer by number as a licensed operator of such tour company or tour vehicle, shall be worn prominently on his or her person by each such operator at all times while on duty.

Sec. 30-104. Solicitation of business.

No person shall solicit business in any manner for any licensed tour company or tour vehicle while on route. Prohibited solicitation while standing shall include shouting, hollering, whistling, clapping, or making other loud noises, grabbing or otherwise annoying or harassing passersby, or any other conduct detrimental to the image or reputation of the trade or the public safety or convenience.

The City Manager or his or her designee may restrict the solicitation of business to certain designated areas within a specified zone in certain high-traffic areas.

Sec. 30-105. Passengers to be seated and well-behaved.

No operator of any tour company or tour vehicle shall load or admit more passengers at any one (1) time than may be fully seated in such tour vehicle. Every passenger in any such tour vehicle shall be and remain fully seated at all times while on route and shall refrain from any other conduct or behavior detrimental to the safety or comfort of passengers or others.

Sec. 30-106. Care and maintenance of tour vehicle.

Each licensed tour vehicle shall be at all times clean and in good repair.

Sec. 30-107. Conduct and appearance of operators; rule-making authority.

Every operator of a licensed tour company or tour vehicle shall be courteous at all times when on duty and shall refrain from any loud argument, fight or disturbance, or any other conduct or behavior detrimental to the image or reputation of the trade or the safety or comfort of passengers or others. The City Manager or his or her designee shall have authority to make reasonable rules and regulations, consistent with the public safety and the image and reputation of the trade, governing the training and qualifications of such operators.

Sec. 30-108. Unsafe vehicles; inspections; order from service.

No licensed tour vehicle shall be operated at any time while unsafe, defective or in disrepair. The City Manager or his or her designee, including, but not limited to, any police officer or the license inspector may inspect a tour vehicle at any and all reasonable times, prior to being placed into service, while in service, or otherwise, and may at any time order such vehicle to be removed from service for any defect, unsafe condition, or want of repair. No such vehicle shall be returned to service except upon re-inspection by such officer, the license inspector or the licensing authority, and upon a finding that such repair has been made or that such defect or unsafe condition has been corrected.

Sec. 30-109. Storage of vehicles and equipment.

No tour vehicle or related equipment shall be kept or stored on any street or way or in any public place while not in service.