

Item No. 10.1.7

**Halifax Regional Council
December 11, 2007**

TO: Mayor Kelly and Members of Halifax Regional Council



SUBMITTED BY: _____
Dan English, Chief Administrative Officer

DATE: November 21, 2007

SUBJECT: **By-law T-137 - Amendment To By-law T-108, Respecting The Regulations Of Taxis & Limousines**

ORIGIN

The Limousine Industry has requested an amendment to By-law T-108, to reduce the minimum seating capacity for limousine vehicles from a minimum five passenger capacity to a minimum four passenger capacity and to permit full size luxury class Sport Utility Vehicles (SUV's) to be licenced as a limousine.

RECOMMENDATION:

It is recommended that Regional Council:

1. Approve in principle By-Law T-137, Respecting the Regulations of Taxi & Limousines (attached as Appendix A) to reduce the minimum seating capacity for limousine vehicles from 5 passengers (excluding the driver) to 4 passengers (excluding the driver).
2. Approve in principle By-Law T-137, Respecting the Regulations of Taxi & Limousines (attached as Appendix A) to permit full size luxury class SUV's to be licenced as a limousine.
1. Upon approval in principle, give Notice of Motion for First Reading of By-Law T-137, Respecting the Regulations of Taxi & Limousines to reduce the minimum seating capacity for limousine vehicles from 5 passengers (excluding the driver) to 4 passengers (excluding the driver) and to permit full size luxury class SUV's to be licenced as a limousine.

BACKGROUND

The current definition of a limousine vehicle in By-law T-108, Respecting the Regulations of Taxi & Limousines in part states:

*"limousine" means a full sized luxury class four door sedan motor vehicle **having a standard seating capacity for at least five passengers excluding the driver**, which is kept or used for hire for the conveyance of passengers, and which has carpeted floors and either a leather or other superior quality upholstered interior; that is not equipped with a taxi meter or roof light, and is furnished with a minimum of four of the following features: ...*

DISCUSSION

Most of today's newly designed luxury class four door sedans no longer accommodate the required standard five passenger seating capacity identified in the definition of a limousine in By-Law T-108, Respecting the Regulations of Taxi & Limousines.

The change in vehicle designs has resulted in limousine owners having difficulty finding replacement vehicles that meet the current definition of a "Limousine" included in the by-law.

The Limousine Industry has requested the following amendments:

- to reduce the minimum seating capacity for limousine vehicles from a minimum five passenger capacity to a minimum four passenger capacity; and
- to permit full size luxury class SUV's to be licenced as a limousine.

The amended definition of a limousine vehicle would state in part:

*"limousine" means a full sized luxury class four door sedan or full sized luxury class **Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV)** motor vehicle **having a standard seating capacity for at least four passengers excluding the driver**, which is kept or used for hire for the conveyance of passengers, and which has carpeted floors and either a leather or other superior quality upholstered interior; that is not equipped with a taxi meter or roof light, and is furnished with a minimum of four of the following features: ...*

BUDGET IMPLICATIONS

There are no budget implications as a result of this report.

FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT POLICIES / BUSINESS PLAN

This report complies with the Municipality's Multi-Year Financial Strategy, the approved Operating, Capital and Reserve budgets, policies and procedures regarding withdrawals from the utilization of Capital and Operating reserves, as well as any relevant legislation.

ALTERNATIVES

Maintaining the status quo, and not adopt the recommended amendments to By-Law, T-108. This alternative is not recommended.

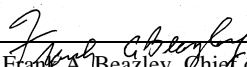
ATTACHMENTS

Appendix A: By-Law T-137, Respecting the Regulations of Taxi & Limousines to reduce the minimum seating capacity for limousine vehicles from 5 passengers (excluding the driver) to 4 passengers (excluding the driver) and to permit full size luxury class SUV's to be licenced as a limousine.

A copy of this report can be obtained online at <http://www.halifax.ca/council/agendasc/cagenda.html> then choose the appropriate meeting date, or by contacting the Office of the Municipal Clerk at 490-4210, or Fax 490-4208.

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Report Approved by: 
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Appendix A

**HALIFAX REGIONAL MUNICIPALITY
BY-LAW NUMBER T-137**

RESPECTING THE REGULATION OF TAXIS AND LIMOUSINES

BE IT ENACTED by the Council of Halifax Regional Municipality, under the authority of Section 305 of the Motor Vehicle Act, Chapter 293, R.S.N.S. 1989 that By-Law T-108, Respecting the Regulation of Taxis and Limousines be amended as follows:

2. The definition of “limousine” is amended to read as follows:

"limousine" means a full sized luxury class four door sedan or full sized luxury class Sport Utility Vehicle (SUV) motor vehicle having a standard seating capacity for at least four passengers excluding the driver, which is kept or used for hire for the conveyance of passengers, and which has carpeted floors and either a leather or other superior quality upholstered interior; that is not equipped with a taxi meter or roof light, and is furnished with a minimum of four of the following features:

- (i) glass partition separating the front and rear seats;
- (ii) top quality interior appointments, being either leather or other plush upholstery;
- (iii) power windows;
- (iv) one-way tinted glass;
- (v) television;
- (vi) stereo system;
- (vii) cellular telephone;
- (viii) air conditioning;

and restricted to the following makes:

- (i) Cadillac;
- (ii) Lincoln;
- (iii) Rolls Royce;
- (iv) Jaguar;
- (v) Mercedes-Benz;

(vi) Bentley

(vii) Royal Princess;

(viii) any other vehicle which is of comparable limousine quality to those vehicles listed above.

Done and passed on this day of 2007.

Mayor

Municipal Clerk

I, , Municipal Clerk for the Halifax Regional Municipality, hereby certify that the above-noted by-law was passed at a meeting of the Halifax Regional Council held on , 2007.

Municipal Clerk