# **Designated Driver Services (M. Nickel)**

### Recommendation

That May 28, 2021, Urban Planning and Economy report UPE00486, be received for information.

# **Previous Council/Committee Action**

At the March 3, 2021, Community and Public Services Committee meeting, Councillor Nickel made the following inquiry:

That Administration bring forward the current operational requirements, within the City of Edmonton, for providers of Designated Driver Services.

# **Executive Summary**

Designated driver services provide a service for citizens and their vehicle to arrive home safe when they are unable to drive. The service provides two drivers to transport the customer and their vehicle to a specified location, as well as to transport the two drivers to the business base of operations.

Designated driver services also contribute to The City Plan outcome of contributing to Edmonton's safe, secure, accessible and responsive mobility system.

# Report

Designated driver services provide options to citizens requiring a way to safely return home with their vehicle, as an alternative to services where a passenger is transported in a third party's vehicle, leaving their own vehicle behind. As the designated driver service is dependent on the citizen's vehicle, this service differs from a vehicle for hire service which offers private driver passenger transportation service in the vehicle for hire driver's vehicle.

Vehicle for Hire means a motor vehicle used or offered for the transportation of at least one passenger in return for compensation from any place within the City to a destination either within or outside of the City.

Designated driver services offer vehicle transportation to a specified location when the customer is unable to drive their own vehicle. The service provides two drivers, one

driver would drive the customer in their own vehicle and the other driver would drive a different vehicle associated with the business to follow and then return both drivers to the base of operations. The designated driver transports the customer's vehicle with the customer as a passenger.

The service is only provided when a customer requires their own vehicle to be transported and services would not be provided to a customer without a vehicle to transport. As the service is focused on transporting the vehicle home, this operation is not considered as a vehicle for hire. Accordingly, they are not regulated under the Vehicle for Hire Bylaw 17400, which applies to the service of transporting passengers, not the service of delivering a vehicle. Instead, the designated driver services fall under the Business Licence Bylaw 13138 as a General Business. This licence category does not impose any specific requirements beyond the requirement to obtain a licence.

### **Operational Requirements**

Provincial vehicle safety and operating requirements apply to all those receiving designated driver services in the same way as all other Alberta drivers. This includes the requirement for the customer's vehicle to be properly registered, insured and mechanically safe while the driver is properly licensed.

Corporate Outcome(s): Edmonton is a safe city			
Outcome(s)	Measure(s)	Result(s)	Target(s)
Edmonton is a safe city	Transportation deaths per 100 000 population	2019: 14 deaths = 1.36/100 000	0

# **Corporate Outcomes and Performance Management**

# Others Reviewing this Report

- K. Fallis-Howell, Acting City Solicitor
- M. Persson, Deputy City Manager and Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Corporate Services
- C. Owen, Deputy City Manager, Communications and Engagement