

May 29, 2025

To: Mayor and Members of City Council
From: Sheryl M. M. Long, City Manager
Subject: **Ordinance – Repealing Chapters 407 and 408 “Public Vehicles” in their Entirety**

202501100

Attached is an Ordinance captioned:

MODIFYING the Cincinnati Municipal Code (“CMC”) by **REPEALING** Chapter 407, “Public Vehicles,” and Chapter 408, “Drivers’ Licenses for Public Vehicles,” in their entirety to reflect the changing nature of the transportation industry and the sharp decline in the number of traditional public vehicles operating within Cincinnati; **MODIFYING** Chapter 1419, “Additional Development Regulations,” of the CMC by **AMENDING** Section 1419-40, “Public Vehicle Operations and Service,” to account for the repeal of Chapters 407 and 408 of the CMC; and **AMENDING** Section 6, “Administrative Services,” of Article II, “City Manager,” of the Administrative Code of the City of Cincinnati to account for the repeal of Chapters 407 and 408 of the CMC.

The Department of Public Service, through its Division of Fleet Services, is repealing the City of Cincinnati’s Public Vehicle Licensing Program. This action includes the elimination of provisions related to the licensing of drivers, the licensing of public vehicles, and the operational guidelines for such vehicles within city limits.

These changes will take effect thirty days after passage of the ordinance and will impact the following vehicle types: taxicabs, limousines, accessible public vehicles, tour vehicles, animal-drawn carriages, transportation network vehicles, and pedicabs. Please note that this repeal does not affect mass transit systems such as Metro, TANK, or Cincinnati Streetcar.

This action reflects the evolving landscape of urban transportation. The demand for traditional public vehicle services—such as taxicabs—has significantly declined, and the current licensing and regulatory processes are outdated. Additionally, the program has not been financially sustainable and no longer generates sufficient revenue to cover its administrative costs.

The elimination of this program will not result in layoffs or the displacement of City personnel. The classification of Public Vehicle Inspector is currently vacant

Cc: Jerry Wilkerson, Director of Public Services
Cathy B. Bailey, Assistant City Manager