

City of Cincinnati

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An Ordinance No. 176

- 2025

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.

WHEREAS, Cincinnati Municipal Code (“CMC”) Chapter 407, “Public Vehicles,” currently regulates the licensing and operation of public vehicles in Cincinnati, including taxicabs, limousines, pedicabs, and similar services; and

WHEREAS, CMC Chapter 408, “Drivers’ Licenses for Public Vehicles,” currently regulates the licensing, training, and conduct of individuals operating public vehicles in Cincinnati; and

WHEREAS, the City’s continued regulation of public vehicles is no longer necessary due to the significant decline in their presence on Cincinnati streets; and

WHEREAS, many of the key safety and insurance requirements that the City previously enforced—such as liability coverage and driver qualifications—are already addressed by state law and other non-municipal regulations; and

WHEREAS, ride-sharing services like Uber and Lyft, which now constitute the bulk of on-demand transportation in Cincinnati, are regulated exclusively at the state level under Ohio Revised Code Chapters 3942 and 4925 and are not subject to municipal oversight; and

WHEREAS, Council finds that repealing the existing licensing requirements for public vehicles and their drivers under CMC Chapters 407 and 408 will streamline City operations and eliminate administrative costs associated with an outdated regulatory framework; now, therefore,

BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Cincinnati, State of Ohio:

Section 1. That existing Chapter 407, “Public Vehicles,” and Chapter 408, “Drivers’ Licenses for Public Vehicles,” of the Cincinnati Municipal Code (“CMC”) are repealed in their entirety.

Section 2. That Section 1419-40, "Public Vehicle Operations and Service," of Chapter 1419, "Additional Development Regulations," of the CMC is amended as follows:

Public vehicle operations and service must be located, developed and operated in compliance with the following:

- (a) ~~*License required.*~~ All public vehicles must first obtain licensing according to Chapter 407 of the City of Cincinnati Municipal Code. "Public vehicle" shall have the same meaning as in Title VIII, Section 850-1-P3 of the Cincinnati Municipal Code, or its successor provision.
- (b) *Off-Street Parking.* Off-street parking shall be provided for all public vehicles and employee vehicles as set forth in Schedule 1425-19-A: Off-Street Parking and Loading Requirements and shall be allowed only in designated off-street spaces. Vehicles must be ~~licensed and operational~~ and licensed or registered in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Any storage or repairs must be indoors.
- (c) *Operations.* Operations shall be limited to the fleet owned or leased by the operator of the facility. Dispatching shall be made by radio or other telecommunications; loud speakers shall be prohibited.
- (d) *Vehicle Repairs.* All servicing shall be performed only on ~~licensed~~ public vehicles in accordance with Section 1419-27 (a), (b), (d) and (e) Vehicle Repairs.
- (e) *Screening.* All outdoor parking must comply with Chapter 1425: Parking and Loading Regulations.

Section 3. That Section 6, "Administrative Services," of Article II, "City Manager," of the Administrative Code of the City of Cincinnati is amended as follows:

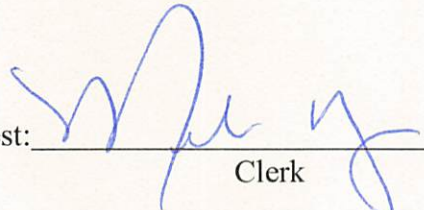
The city manager shall assign the following administrative services, formerly under the direction of the director of safety, to appropriate administrative offices.

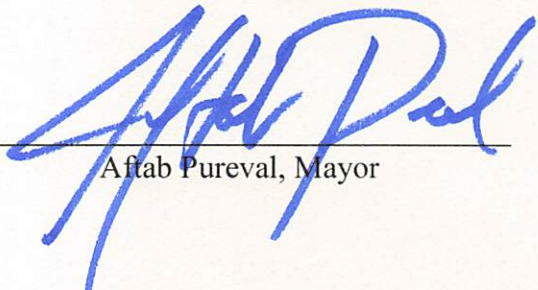
- (a) ~~the administration of ordinances relating to the licensing and control of public vehicles and their operations;~~ [Repealed]
- (b) the administration of ordinances relating to the licensing and control of off-street parking facilities not owned by the City of Cincinnati;
- (c) the management, control, and preservation of all public burying grounds and cemeteries belonging to the city;

- (d) the licensing and supervision of all hand peddlers and itinerant vendors not otherwise licensed under ordinances;
- (e) the management and administration of the city's radio systems and all radio systems maintenance;
- (f) the general supervision and direction of offices established in the former department of safety by ordinance.

Section 4. That this ordinance shall take effect and be in force from and after the earliest period allowed by law.

Passed: June 11, 2025

Attest: 
Clerk


Aftab Pureval, Mayor

Deletions are indicated by strikethrough; additions are indicated by underline.

I HEREBY CERTIFY THAT ORDINANCE NO. 176 2025
WAS PUBLISHED IN THE CITY BULLETIN
IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE CHARTER ON 6/24/2025
Melissa Antley
CLERK OF COUNCIL