Ordinance No. 3838

(Amending or Repealing Ordinances)

CFN=175 – Business License
Taxicabs & Vehicles For-Hire Appointment of King County as Licensing &
Enforcement Authority

Amends Ord. 1922
ORDINANCE NO. 3838

AN ORDINANCE of the city council of the city of Kent, Washington, amending Ch. 5.03 of the Kent City Code, entitled “Taxicabs and Vehicles For-Hire,” to formally delegate to King County the regulation of taxicabs and vehicles for-hire and operating within the city of Kent.

RECITALS

A. RCW 81.72.210 provides that local municipalities may license, control, and regulate privately operated taxicab transportation services operating within their respective jurisdictions.

B. In 1975, the city of Kent adopted Ordinance No. 1922, which required taxicab companies operating in the city of Kent to obtain a city business license and a King County taxicab or for-hire vehicle license. This ordinance was later codified in Ch. 5.03 of the Kent City Code.

C. Although the caption of Ordinance No. 1922 stated the intent was to adopt King County taxicab regulations, no specific language of such adoption was made within the body of the ordinance and no agreement was entered into between the city and King County for King County’s regulation of taxicab and vehicle for-hire companies operating in the city of Kent. This ordinance corrects that oversight.

D. Ch. 39.34 RCW allows municipalities to contract with one another for cooperative action in order to make the most efficient use of their powers. In order to adequately protect the interests of the county, the city, and their
respective citizens, it is desirable to provide for a uniform county-wide system of licensing and regulating taxicabs and for-hire vehicles and their drivers.

F. King County currently contracts with eleven (11) other municipalities for the regulation of taxicabs and for-hire vehicles—Bellevue, Burien, Covington, Federal Way, Kenmore, Kirkland, Maple Valley, Port of Seattle, Sammamish, SeaTac, and Seattle. Therefore, King County Records, Elections, and Licensing Services Division is well qualified and able in matters relating to the licensing and enforcement of laws relating to the conduct of the taxicab and for-hire vehicle business. Accordingly, the city desires to obtain the assistance of King County in regulating taxicabs and for-hire vehicles, and the driver's thereof, within the city of Kent.

NOW THEREFORE, THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF KENT, WASHINGTON, DOES HEREBY ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

ORDINANCE

SECTION 1. - Amendment. Ch. 5.03 of the Kent City Code, entitled "Taxicabs and Vehicles For-Hire," is amended to read as follows:

CHAPTER 5.03
TAXICABS AND VEHICLES FOR-HIRE

Sec. 5.03.010. City of Kent taxicab business license required. All taxicab and for-hire vehicle companies located and/or operating within the city shall secure a city business license.

Sec. 5.03.020. King County taxicab and for-hire vehicle license required. All taxicabs and for-hire vehicles operating within the city shall secure a King County taxicab or for-hire vehicle license.

Sec. 5.03.030. Appointment of licensing and enforcement authority.

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Appointment of King County as Licensing and Enforcement Authority
A. Pursuant to an interlocal agreement, the director of the King County Department of Executive Administration, and his or her authorized representatives, are delegated the power to determine eligibility for King County taxicab and for-hire vehicle licenses and the power to enforce the provisions of this chapter, which shall include the power to deny, suspend, or revoke King County taxicab and for-hire vehicle licenses. A copy of the interlocal agreement shall be available in the city clerk's office for use and examination by the public.

B. Denial, suspension, or revocation of any King County taxicab or for-hire vehicle license shall cause the immediate denial, suspension, or revocation of any Kent business license issued for the operation of taxicab or for-hire vehicle companies.

**Sec. 5.03.040. Licensing and regulation of taxicab and for-hire vehicles—Adopted by reference.**

A. The following sections of Ch. 6.64 of the King County Code, as currently enacted or as later amended or recodified, are adopted by this reference and shall have the same force and effect as if set forth in this ordinance, except that, unless the context indicates otherwise, the word “county” and the words “King County” shall refer to the city and references to violations of the county code or county ordinances shall be deemed to be references to violations of city ordinances.

B. If a county ordinance specifically adopted in this chapter refers to another county ordinance not specifically adopted in this chapter, the ordinance referred to shall be given the force and effect necessary to enforce the ordinance specifically adopted in this chapter.

**King County Code 6 : Title:**

- 6.64.005 Purpose.
- 6.64.007 Scope of authority.
- 6.64.010 Definitions.
- 6.64.015 Interlocal agreement.
- 6.64.025 Fees.
- 6.64.200 Service organization registration.
- 6.64.210 Color scheme.

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6.64.220 Independent color scheme.
6.64.300 Taxicab and for-hire license required.
6.64.310 Application.
6.64.320 Required documents.
6.64.330 Applicant requirements.
6.64.340 Vehicle requirements.
6.64.350 Insurance required.
6.64.360 Certificate of safety.
6.64.370 Vehicle standards.
6.64.380 Taxicab and for-hire vehicle license expiration.
6.64.390 Taxicab and for-hire vehicle license plate.
6.64.400 Taximeter.
6.64.410 Consumer information board.
6.64.420 Taxicab and for-hire licensee - Responsibilities.
6.64.430 Standards for denial - Taxicab or for-hire vehicle owner.
6.64.440 Standards for suspension and revocation - Taxicab or for-hire vehicle licensee.
6.64.450 Destruction, replacement, retirement of a taxicab.
6.64.460 Surrender of vehicle license.
6.64.500 For-hire driver's license required.
6.64.510 Application.
6.64.520 Investigation.
6.64.530 Qualifications.
6.64.540 Temporary permit.
6.64.550 Application null and void.
6.64.560 Medical certification.
6.64.570 Training program.
6.64.580 Written and oral examination.
6.64.590 Driving record.
6.64.600 Standards for denial of a license - for-hire driver.
6.64.610 Standards for suspension/revocation - for-hire driver.
6.64.620 License issuance.
6.64.630 License expiration - for-hire driver.
6.64.640 For-hire driver operating standards.
6.64.650 Vehicle safety standards.
6.64.660 Conduct standards.
6.64.670 Taxicab meter/rates standards.
5.93.939. Violations, penalties. Any violation of the provisions of this chapter by any person, firm, association, partnership, or corporation shall be deemed a misdemeanor and upon conviction thereof, shall be punishable by a fine of not more than five hundred dollars ($500) or by imprisonment for a period of not more than one hundred eighty (180) days or by both such fine and imprisonment. Each person, firm, association, partnership or corporation shall be deemed guilty of a separate offense for each vehicle failing to comply with the provisions of this chapter.

SECTION 2. - Severability. If any one or more section, subsections, or sentences of this ordinance are held to be unconstitutional or invalid, such decision shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion of this ordinance and the same shall remain in full force and effect.

SECTION 3. - Effective Date. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force thirty (30) days from and after its passage as provided by law.
I hereby certify that this is a true copy of Ordinance No. 3838 passed by the city council of the city of Kent, Washington, and approved by the mayor of the city of Kent as hereon indicated.

BRENDA JACOBER, CITY CLERK
MARY SIMMONS, DEPUTY CITY CLERK

Taxicabs and Vehicles For-Hire
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