

CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON

ORDINANCE NO. 6082

AN ORDINANCE amending Chapter 11.04 of the Bellevue City Code to add a new section 11.04.050 defining "for hire vehicles" and amending Chapter 11.23 to add a new Section 11.23.026 to address "for hire vehicle" parking.

WHEREAS, taxicab parking is regulated under WAC 308-330-454(3) which states in pertinent part, "the operator of a taxicab shall not stop, stand, or park such vehicle upon any highway at any place other than in a designated taxicab stand"; and

WHEREAS, this section of the WAC is incorporated into the Model Traffic Ordinance (MTO-Chapter 308-330 WAC) and was adopted by the City in Chapter 11.23 BCC (parking enforcement code); and

WHEREAS, enforcement of parking regulations fall under Chapter 11.23 of the Bellevue City Code; and

WHEREAS, the current regulations and City Code contain provisions for the enforcement of parking rules against taxicabs but not for "for hire vehicles"; and

WHEREAS, it has been difficult for the City to enforce the provisions of the WAC against "for hire vehicles" since there is no definition of the term "for hire vehicles" contained in Chapter 11.23 BCC or the MTO; and

WHEREAS, taxicabs and "for hire vehicles" are regulated under Chapter 5.16 of the Bellevue City Code from a licensing and business operations standpoint; and

WHEREAS, the definitions contained in Chapter 5.16 for both "for hire vehicles" and "taxicabs" apply to licensing and the business operation of taxicabs and for-hire vehicles and not parking enforcement; and

WHEREAS, the current codes appears to give an unfair advantage to businesses that call their vehicles "for hire vehicles" instead of "taxicabs", although the two are essentially operating in the same manner and competing for the same customers; and

WHEREAS, the intent of this ordinance is to have a consistent approach to parking with respect to "for hire vehicles" and "taxicabs"; now, therefore,

THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BELLEVUE, WASHINGTON, DOES
ORDAIN AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Bellevue City Code Section 11.04. is hereby amended to add a new section as follows:

11.040.050 – For Hire Vehicles

For purposes of Title 11, "for hire vehicle" means every motor vehicle, including but not limited to taxicabs and commercially operated limousines, used for the transportation of passengers for hire regardless of seating capacity, not operated exclusively over a fixed and definite route.

Section 2. Bellevue City Code Section 11.23. is hereby amended to add a new section as follows:

11.23.026-For Hire Vehicle Stopping Standing Parking

The operator of a for hire vehicle shall not stop, stand, or park such vehicle upon any street at any place other than in a designated taxicab stand. This provision shall not prevent the operator of a for hire vehicle from temporarily stopping in accordance with other stopping, standing, and parking regulations at any place for the purpose of and while actually engaged in the expeditious loading and unloading of passengers. This provision does not apply to vehicles or companies that have leases or other such agreements with the City for use of its right of ways.

Section 3. This ordinance shall take effect and be in force five (5) days after passage and legal publication.

ORIGINAL

1308-ORD
11/29/12

Passed by the City Council this 3rd day of December, 2012
and signed in authentication of its passage this 3rd day of December,
2012.

(SEAL)


Conrad Lee
Conrad Lee, Mayor

Approved as to form:

Lori M. Riordan, City Attorney

Jerome Y. Roaché
Jerome Y. Roaché, Assistant City Attorney

Attest:

Myrna L. Basich
Myrna L. Basich, City Clerk

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