

Date: 2021-01-18

Subject: **Mobile Licensing By-law 67-2014, Expiry Dates, ALL WARDS**

Contact: J. Bisson, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, Legislative Services,
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Report Number: Legislative Services-2021-144

Recommendations:

1. **THAT** the report from James Bisson, Manager, Licensing Enforcement, Legislative Services, dated January 18, 2021, to the Committee of Council Meeting of February 3, 2021, re: Mobile Licensing By-law 67-2014, Expiry Dates, ALL WARDS, be received.
2. **THAT** Council enact amendments to the Mobile Licensing By-Law, 67-2014, as described in Appendix 1 to this Report.

Overview:

- **Appendix B of the Mobile Licensing By-law sets the expiry dates for all classes of licences issued under the By-law.**
- **Staff reviewed the expiry dates and recommend changes in some areas. This would assist staff with a more effective workload distribution to meet the needs of the businesses.**

Background:

The Mobile Licensing By-law 67-2014 was enacted March 26, 2014. At that time, the expiry dates (Appendix B to the By-law) for some licences were changed to assist with a more effective workload distribution for licence renewals and to provide applicants with more suitable licence expiry dates for their businesses. There were three changes overall - Taxicab Brokerages, Driving School Operators and priority list applicant renewals.

The Taxicab Brokerage renewal was moved from May 31 to February 28. This would ensure that renewals coincide with the requirement to supply their number of completed trips for the previous year.

Driving School Operators were changed from April 30 to February 28 to allow time for all schools to renew their licences before the April 30 renewal of the driving school vehicle licences. The driving school instructors are not permitted to operate under the school name if the school is not licensed.

The expiry dates have been in place since 2014. In those six years staff continued to monitor the effectiveness of the changes.

Current Situation:

In 2020, as part of the relief for the mobile businesses, the expiry dates were extended for many of the businesses. The change to the expiry dates and the extension of 90 days for driver and operator licences was expected to help make a difference in the enforcement clerks' workload in 2020. The extended reopening of Ontario businesses caused issues with the new expiries along with the processing of licences from emailed submissions delayed renewals and resulted in delays for processing licensing renewal. The delays were due to the overlapping of the submissions of the renewals and the numbers of renewals for the month of September for drivers and tow trucks. The renewal processing extended past October.

This resulted in staff looking at solutions to create a more even distribution of the expiry dates for large licence groups and creating open months between large renewals. Under the current expiry date system driving school vehicle owner licence expires on April 30 followed by taxicab owners on May 31 and tow trucks on June 30. In 2020, there were over 1,300 owner licences to be processed in that three month period. In 2021, there will be 1,100 licences to renew due to the effects of the pandemic on the industries.

Taxicab Owner Licences

In order to break up the expiry dates for these licences, staff is proposing that the taxicab owner licence expiry be moved to February 28. Currently the expiry date of these licences is May 31 and in 2020 the licences were extended to expire on November 30. Staff suggest that taxicab owners do not renew in 2021 and the licence be extended to February 28, 2022. This will provide some relief to this industry that has been impacted by the pandemic. Staff will require the taxicab owners to provide a Vehicle safety certificate in July 2021 to ensure the vehicles are in safe mechanical order.

Driving School Operator (Schools) Licences

Driving school operator's licence expire on February 28, however their Ministry permits expire on September 30 every 4 years. This results in conditional licences being issued to the September expiry date. Moving driving school operator's licences to September will benefit the businesses and will allow for a smoother renewal process and timeline for driving school vehicle owners who cannot renew their licence unless the school is licensed. This also makes the February renewal solely for taxicabs. If Council approves these recommended changes, the driving school operator licences issued in 2021 will expire on September 30, 2022.

Refreshment Vehicle Owner Licenses

Currently, refreshment vehicle owner and operator licences expire in March and April. Many of the refreshment vehicles are seasonal and they do not get licensed until the weather gets warmer. There are less than 100 licences for renewal. Since taxicab renewals are being moved and the month of May tends to be when the weather gets warmer, it is suggested that these licences get moved to a May 31 expiry. The expiry date change would be effective in this licence year extending the renewals from March and April for the current licensees.

A chart showing the plate owner expiry changes is attached an Appendix 1

Corporate Implications:

Financial Implications:

The financial impact for changing the expiry dates and subsequently extending the renewal for taxicab owners to February 28, 2022 can result in revenue loss of up to \$171,000. The actual revenue loss will be dependant on the number of plates that are renewed.

This report aligns with the City of Brampton 2018-2022 Priorities:

Brampton is a Healthy and Safe City: Focusing on community safety and encourage active and healthy lifestyles. Residents need to feel safe when using the various transportation services.

Brampton is a Well-Run City: Continuously improving the day-to-day operation of the Corporation by streamlining service delivery while providing a safe and functional licensing experience to the small business operators providing service to the residents in the City.

Conclusion:

A review of expiry dates has been completed by staff with the aim of creating a more efficient licensing process and in meeting the needs for the various businesses licensed under the Mobile Licensing By-law. A new expiry schedule has been suggested by staff for Council's consideration to enact as part of the Mobile Licensing By-law.

The proposed changes create a more balanced workload for the clerks throughout the year. The change will assist the refreshment vehicle owners by moving the expiry to date where they will be operating the vehicles they are renewing. This also helps driving school vehicle owners by having the expiry for the driving school licences occur after their expiry date thereby resulting in a smoother renewal process. The driving schools will benefit from having the expiry date correspond with the provincial permit expiry date for their school.

Authored by:

Reviewed by:

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Approved by:

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Attachments:

APPENDIX 1: Expiry Date Changes Table