



Legislation Text

File #: 3009-2015, Version: 2

1. BACKGROUND:

This ordinance amends existing City Codes to clarify established licensing requirements and regulations for peer to peer transportation network companies and drivers operating as vehicles for hire in Columbus. Since November 2013, the City has been working to create new City Code that would incorporate peer to peer transportation network companies and drivers into the Vehicle for Hire Code. Peer to peer companies are new to the City of Columbus and are a growing trend in the vehicle for hire industry. Public Safety began meeting with peer to peer companies over the past year to gain a better understanding of how these companies operate and how they interact with drivers. Through these meetings, the City has created regulation that is consistent with the City's overarching requirements for the entire vehicle for hire industry. Chapter 585, entitled "Vehicle For Hire Board" defines permitted transportation industries and establishes the board's regulatory authority. Chapter 588, entitled "Peer to Peer Transportation Network Company License," requires companies to obtain a license; meet and maintain insurance requirements; provide key information to passengers through the online application; and meet company standards. Chapter 590, entitled "Peer to Peer Transportation Network Driver's License," requires drivers to obtain a license; meet criminal background standards; complete a third party vehicle mechanical inspection; and abide by driver standards.

Peer to Peer companies and drivers are an emerging industry in Columbus with a vested interest in ensuring that the public has a safe, successful experience that reflects well on the industry as a whole. These amended codes will clarify and streamline existing regulation to ensure that companies and drivers abide by the standards put in place to ensure public safety. These changes reflect national trends regulating this industry and brings Columbus' City Code inline with other municipalities and states. Creating these City Codes will continue Columbus' trend of welcoming new and innovate options to residents and businesses.

2. FISCAL IMPACT: None

To amend and repeal various sections of City Code Chapters 585, 588 and 590 to clarify established licensing requirements and regulations for peer to peer transportation network companies and drivers operating as vehicles for hire in Columbus. **(REPEALED BY ORD. 0249-2016 PASSED 01/25/2016)**

WHEREAS, there is a need to amend various Chapters in the Columbus City Code for the purpose of regulating peer-to-peer transportation network companies as vehicles for hire in Columbus; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance provides consistent regulations with all other forms of vehicles for hire in Columbus; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance established licensing requirements for both companies and drivers to ensure public safety; and

WHEREAS, this ordinance establishes language and authorizes the amendment of Chapters 585, 588 and 590 of the Columbus City Code for the above-described purpose; now, therefore

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLUMBUS:

SEE ATTACHMENT