



Puget Sound Taxi Driver

June 2014

FORE TIMES

News for the Western Washington Taxicab Operators Association (WWTCOA) - Teamsters Local 117

Teamsters Local 117: 14675 Interurban Ave. S, Suite 307 • Tukwila, WA 98168 (206) 441-4860 • www.teamstertaxi.org

BIG WINS FOR TAXIS IN CITY NEGOTIATIONS



WWTCOA members stand to benefit from the agreement negotiated with the City.

On June 16, Seattle mayor Ed Murray announced a deal that could shape the future of the city's taxi industry for years to come.

The agreement is the result of negotiations between representatives of the taxi industry, including the Teamsters and the WWTCOA, the for-hires, the TNCs, and the City.

Taking part in the negotiations were Dawn Gearhart and Tracey Thompson from the Teamsters, Salah Mohamed of the WWTCOA, Amien Shifow representing WAT, and Anmol Cheema representing the lease drivers.

Our taxi team approached the negotiations with four objectives in mind:

1. To level the playing field so that taxis

would have the opportunity to compete with TNCs;

2. To get financial support for wheelchair accessible taxis so that Seattle's disabled citizens have access to transportation;

3. To give taxi drivers who have driven for many years but do not own a taxi cab the opportunity to obtain a license;

4. To protect the investment that taxi owners have made by preserving the traditional taxicab brand.

We were able to achieve these goals and more!

The next step in the process is to get the deal through the City Council. Your participation in hearings that will take place over the next few months will be critical! ●

Highlights of the Agreement

- ✓ **10 new taxi stands to be established over the next year for taxi use only;**
- ✓ **200 new taxi licenses issued over the next three years;**
- ✓ **A fund to offset higher operating fees for wheelchair accessible cabs;**
- ✓ **The same insurance, licensing, training, inspections, and background checks as the TNCs;**
- ✓ **Elimination of English-language testing and uniform requirements;**
- ✓ **Medallions as a property right for taxi owners!**



Medallions like this one from New York City could be on the way!

TAXIS **STRIKE!** ACROSS EUROPE



Berlin

London

Paris



Rome

Madrid

The WWTCOA is sponsoring a:

CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINING

In Partnership with South Seattle Community College

The WWTCOA is offering a 4-hour customer service training for members of the association. The training was developed in partnership with South Seattle Community College. Graduates of the class will receive a certificate that they can display in their cabs.

Teamsters Local 117

14675 Interurban Ave. S. Tukwila, WA



Registration: \$60

TRAINING DATES:
July 9, 2014 at 10 A.M.
July 15, 2014 at 2 P.M.



To register for the training, contact Dawn at 206-441-4860 ext 1254.

Teamster

TAXI TICKET DEFENSE

The **Teamster Taxi Ticket Defense** program helps protect members of the WWTCOA when they get a ticket. Since launching the program last year, we have dismissed 50 tickets for members of the association!

TEAMSTER TAXI TICKET DEFENSE PROGRAM

*** Annual Fee: \$120/ year**

"A Teamster attorney helped me fight a ticket that would have put my job at risk. The Teamsters are experienced and professional."



Contact Dawn at 206-441-4860 ext 1254 to sign up for the program.