



Puget Sound Taxi Driver

May 2015

FORE TIMES

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

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WHEN WE FIGHT, WE WIN!



Washington State Governor Jay Inslee signs SB 5550 into law on May 11; WWTCOA Leadership Council members attend the signing.

IT'S OFFICIAL: L&I is optional starting July 1, 2015!

In a big win for taxis, Governor Inslee signed Senate Bill 5550 into law on May 11, 2015.

SB 5550 gives you the choice of whether to participate in the State's L&I program.

The new law takes effect July 1, 2015

The law also protects your right to be heard by your city and county governments.

We were able to pass SB 5550 because dozens of members of the **Western Washington Taxicab Association** made the trip to Olympia to meet with their representatives and testify in legislative hearings.

This is great news! Your partnership with the Teamsters is bringing real, meaningful change for you and your families!



Taxi Stands Fixed!

Starting this week, the taxi stands at **Hotel Monaco** and **Alexis Hotel** are open for business exclusively to licensed, metered taxis!

If any other cars are picking up here, please contact Dawn Gearhart at (206)-441-4860, ext. 1254 or Adam Hoyt at (206)-441-4860, ext. 1276.



MEDALLIONS UPDATE

Give your input on the city's medallion system



Last summer, in the agreement negotiated by the WWTCOA and the Teamsters, taxis won

medallions as a property right for taxi owners.

Now, the City of Seattle is in the process of making decisions on medallions

regarding:

- Lease caps
- Insurance requirements
- Fees

If you have input on any of these issues, please contact Dawn at (206)-441-4860, ext. 1254 or Adam at (206)-441-4860 ext. 1267.

YOUR INPUT NEEDED ON THESE ISSUES:

- Lease caps
- Insurance requirements
- Fees

Contact Dawn or Adam with your ideas. **Thanks!**



Seattle City Councilmember Kshama Sawant together with the Western Washington Taxicab Association Leadership Council.

Sawant Supports Taxis!

Seattle Councilmember Kshama Sawant visits the WWTCOA Leadership Council meeting

At our April WWTCOA Leadership Council meeting, we were joined by **Seattle City Councilmember Kshama Sawant** to hear our top legislative priorities.

At the meeting, we highlighted the need for better enforcement in Seattle, bargaining rights for taxi operators (similar to Ontario, Canada), and insurance with the city.

City Councilmember Sawant is currently running for re-election, and continuing to fight for workers' rights in Seattle.

She has been endorsed by Teamsters Local 117 for her campaign. **Please consider supporting her!**

Be sure to visit www.TeamsterTaxi.org

App-based drivers get organized



App-based drivers form new association on May 3.

Town car and app-based drivers came together for their founding **App-Based Drivers Association (ABDA)** meeting on May 3.

The drivers' goals are to get higher, minimum rates per mile so they can make a living wage, and adequate commercial insurance.

The drivers worked hard, alongside taxi drivers, for the positive changes that were made to Senate Bill 5550.

These issues affect all drivers in Seattle. Let's support our brothers and sisters in ABDA!