

1 **Ordinance to Amend and Reenact the City Code of the City of Hampton, Virginia by**
2 **Amending Chapter 38, Vehicles for Hire, Article II, Division 1, Entitled, “Generally,”**
3 **Sec. 38-19 and Sec. 38-20, and to Article II, Division 5, Entitled Article II Entitled**
4 **“Fares,” Sec. 38-127, to update the requirements for taxicabs and the fares that**
5 **may be charged to riders of taxicabs.**

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7 **BE IT ORDAINED** by the City Council of the City of Hampton, Virginia, that Sections 38-
8 19 and 38-20 of Division 1, Article II, and Section 38-127 of Division 5, Article II, Chapter
9 38 of the City Code of the City of Hampton, Virginia be adopted to read as follows:

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11 **Chapter 38 – VEHICLES FOR HIRE**

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15 **ARTICLE II. – TAXICABS**

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19 **DIVISION 1. GENERALLY**

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21 . . .

22 **Sec. 38-19. - General vehicle requirements.**

23 (a) Every taxicab for which a certificate is issued under this article shall be of the
24 enclosed or sedan type, with four (4) doors, at least two (2) seats and of not less than
25 five (5) passenger capacity.

26 (b) Every taxicab for which a certificate is issued ~~subsequent to July 1, 2010~~ under
27 this article shall be no more than ~~seven (7)~~ **ten (10)** model years of age.

28 (c) No taxicab shall be placed in operation as a public vehicle, unless and until the
29 same is found by the chief of police or designee, as he may deem necessary to make
30 or cause to be made, to be in proper physical condition to render safe, adequate and
31 proper public service and so as not to be a menace to the safety of the patrons or the
32 general public.

33 (d) All public vehicles shall at all times be kept in proper physical condition to the
34 satisfaction of the chief of police or designee, so as to render safe, adequate and
35 proper public service and so as not to be a menace to the safety of the patrons or the
36 general public.

37 (e) Every public vehicle in service within the city shall be equipped with a standard
38 speedometer properly installed, maintained in good working order and exposed to

39 view. No taxicab shall be operated in taxicab service while the speedometer is out of
40 repair or disconnected.

41 (f) All public vehicles operated in the city shall be equipped with a taximeter.
42 Whenever any public vehicle is engaged, there shall be conspicuously displayed an
43 identification light connected to the taximeter, which shall show light when the
44 taximeter is in operation. All taximeters shall be kept accurate and in proper condition
45 and repair and sufficiently lighted so that the figures thereon shall be plainly visible to
46 the passengers.

47 ~~(g) Owners of public vehicles for which certificates of public convenience and~~
48 ~~necessity were issued prior to July 1, 2010 shall have until July 1, 2011 to comply with~~
49 ~~the provisions of this section, excluding subsection (b).~~

50 . . .

51. **Sec. 38-20. - Identification of vehicles, limitations on advertising.**

52 (a) Every public vehicle shall bear, on the outside and on at least two (2) sides
53 thereof, the name of the owner, in painted characters not less than two (2) inches high
54 and plainly visible at a distance of one hundred (100) feet. On two (2) sides and the
55 back of the vehicle, the owner's cab number shall be painted in characters three (3)
56 inches high and plainly visible at a distance of one hundred (100) feet.

57 (b) No person shall use the term "taxi" or "taxicab" in any advertising or hold
58 himself out as a taxicab or public vehicle, or represent himself to be such by means of
59 advertisements, signs, trade names or otherwise, unless he has previously thereto
60 complied with the conditions, regulations and restrictions prescribed by this chapter.

61 ~~(c) The color scheme of the vehicle(s) of a holder of a certificate of public~~
62 ~~convenience and necessity issued under this chapter shall not be substantially similar~~
63 ~~to the color scheme of a different certificate holder and all such color schemes shall be~~
64 ~~approved by the chief of police.~~

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66 **DIVISION 5. - FARES**

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68 **Sec. 38-127. - General rates prescribed; charging different rates, discounts.**

69 (a) ~~The schedule of rates set out in this section shall be charged and collected for~~
70 ~~the transportation of passengers by a taxicab operating under a certificate granted~~

71 pursuant to this article. No different rate shall at any time be charged or collected for
72 such services except *as further provided in this section or* for such discounts as are
73 granted to certain qualifying elderly or handicapped citizens and Medicaid recipients
74 by certificate holders who have applied for and received approval from the chief of
75 police to charge a specified discounted rate to such individuals or groups.

76 (b) The rates to be charged and collected for services by taxicabs within the
77 corporate limits of the city shall be as follows:

78 (1) For the first one-seventh (1/7) mile, *no more than \$5.00*~~\$2.75~~

79 (2) For each additional one-seventh (1/7) mile or fraction thereof~~\$0.30~~⁵

80 *(c) Notwithstanding the above provisions of this section, a certificate holder may*
81 *enter into written contracts with organizations and companies to provide service on a*
82 *negotiated basis upon a fare schedule agreed upon in the contract. All such contracts*
83 *must be kept and preserved and shall be subject to inspection at the certificate*
84 *holder's business address within the city. The rates to be charged for services under*
85 *a written contract may differ from the rates set forth in this section. Taximeters shall*
86 *be in operation at all times during the transportation of passengers, however, the*
87 *charge for such services shall be governed by the written contract, not the taximeter.*

88 ...