CITY MANAGER'S OFFICE

## Manager's Update

raleighnc.gov



Issue 2024-01 January 5, 2024

## IN THIS ISSUE

GoRaleigh Access Taxi Update Weekly Digest of Special Events

Council Follow Up Items

**None This Week** 

#### Work Session - Tuesday, January 9 - 4:00 P.M.

Reminder that Council will meet next Tuesday in a scheduled work session at 4:00 P.M.

The agenda for the work session was posted to the electronic agenda management system Thursday.

Please note there will be a **Closed Session** immediately following the afternoon work session.

#### Public Comment Session - Tuesday, January 9 - 7:00 P.M.

In addition, Council will also meet Tuesday for the scheduled public comment session at 7:00 P.M.

The agenda was posted to the electronic agenda management system also on Thursday.

### **INFORMATION:**

## **GoRaleigh Access Taxi Update**

Staff Resource: David Walker, Transportation-Transit, 996-3942, david.walker@raleighnc.gov

Taxi companies operating in the City jurisdiction are required annually to provide documentation to renew or update a taxi license, individual driver documentation files, and ensure each taxi vehicle is in compliance with the City's taxi code. A link to the Taxi Inspections Program can be found below.

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The GoRaleigh Access paratransit program normally has access to 200 individual taxi vehicles to provide services. Prior to the new year, the Access Program was notified by the taxi inspector's office, a division of the Police department, that only 118 of the 200 taxis have completed all required documentation to be in compliance to operate in the City for calendar year 2024. Additional taxis continue to be approved as



**Taxi Inspection Event** 

owners provide the documentation, but at a slower rate than expected. This is resulting in a lack of available vehicles to provide transportation services to program participants. The reduction in available taxis has not currently resulted in missed trips; however, it has created operational challenges for the program.

The Taxi Inspections Program, administered by RPD, is scheduled to present a proposed taxi rate increase to City Council in February or March of this year. In preparation for the rate adjustment proposal, the Taxi Inspections Program will be holding meetings with all taxi companies to receive comments on the proposed rate structure. Two meetings are currently scheduled, as follows:

- Jan 9 10am-12pm at Marsh Creek Community Center, 3050 New Hope Road
- Jan 11 6-8pm at RPD Southwest District, 601 Hutton Street

To mitigate the existing taxi shortage the GoRaleigh Access contractor, RATP Dev, has worked with taxis that are in compliance to perform additional trips. Program participant trips have also been reallocated to the GoRaleigh Access van service. The Access Program has historically allowed clients the opportunity to identify a preferred provider; however, due to the reduced availability of taxis some clients have had to be assigned to different taxi companies or to a GoRaleigh Access van. Some clients have chosen to cancel trips or have chosen alternate forms of transit service rather than be picked up by an alternate company or a GoRaleigh Access van.

Staff continues to work closely with the taxi companies to ensure all trips are covered and reliability remains consistent. Transit staff coordinates daily with the taxi inspector's office and continue to add taxis as the taxi companies complete the required documentation and become renewed to operate in the City.

#### **Taxi Inspections**

https://raleighnc.gov/safety/taxi-inspections

(No attachment)

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## **Weekly Digest of Special Events**

Staff Resource: Sarah Heinsohn, Office of Special Events, 996-2200, <a href="mailto:sarah.heinsohn@raleighnc.gov">sarah.heinsohn@raleighnc.gov</a>. Included with the *Update* materials is the special events digest for the upcoming week. (Attachment)

## **Weekly Events Digest**

Friday, January 5 - Thursday, January 11

City of Raleigh Office of Special Events specialevents@raleighnc.gov | 919-996-2200 | raleighnc.gov/special-events-office

#### **Permitted Special Events**

#### **Illuminate Art Walk**

Locations throughout Downtown Through Friday, January 5

Event Time: 4:45pm - 11:00pm daily

Associated Road Closures: No roads will be closed for the event. Market Plaza, Exchange Plaza, and the off-street portions of City Plaza will be used until 8:00pm on 1-10-24.

## **Other Upcoming Events**

#### First Friday Raleigh

Friday, January 5 Downtown Raleigh

#### **Emancipation Day Trolley Tours**

Friday, January 5 & Saturday, January 6 John P "Top" Greene Park

#### **Animate! Raleigh**

Friday, January 5 – Sunday, January 7 Raleigh Convention Center

#### Mozart's Magnificent Voyage - NC Symphony

Saturday, January 6 Meymandi Concert Hall

#### **Slavery to Freedom**

Saturday, January 6 John P "Top" Greene Park

#### Virginia vs. NC State

Saturday, January 6 PNC Arena

#### St. Louis Blues vs. Carolina Hurricanes

Saturday, January 6 PNC Arena

#### **Environmental Lecture Series – Purple Martins in North Carolina**

Monday, January 8 Virtual

#### North Carolina vs. NC State

Wednesday, January 10 PNC Arena

#### Find Your Dream Job with Raleigh Parks!

Thursday, January 11 John Chavis Memorial Park

# <u>Anaheim Ducks vs. Carolina Hurricanes</u> Thursday, January 11

PNC Arena

#### THE RINK presented by UNC Health

Through Monday, January 15 Red Hat Amphitheater

#### **Public Resources**

Event Feedback Form: Tell us what you think about Raleigh events! We welcome feedback and encourage you to provide comments or concerns about any events regulated by the Office of Special Events. We will use this helpful information in future planning.

Road Closure and Road Race Map: A resource providing current information on street closures in Raleigh.

Online Events Calendar: View all currently scheduled events that impact city streets, public plazas, and Dorothea Dix Park.