

MINUTES

Darwin Commercial Passenger Vehicles Forum

Date: Thursday 16 May 2013
Time: 2:30 pm to 4 pm
Venue: 2nd Floor Conference Room, 18-20 Cavenagh Street, Darwin

1.1 Present/Apologies

Present: Motor Omnibus (Route Service) Industry (Stand-In Chair)
Private Hire Car and Limousine Industry Representative
City of Darwin (CoD) Representative
Australian Hotels Association NT Representative
Department of Transport (DoT) Representative

Apologies: Motor Omnibus Industry Representative
City of Darwin City Representative
City Radio Taxis Representative
Australian Hotels Association NT Representative
Tourism Top End Representative
Taxi Industry Representative

2 General Business

2.1 Confirm Minutes from previous meeting

Minutes from the previous meeting were confirmed as a true and correct record.

2.2 CPV Community Educational Project

A discussion was held about whether it would be beneficial to include a page in the Darwin Public Transport Bus Guide on options for the travelling public on all commercial passenger vehicles (CPVs). The members agreed this would be a positive step forward to educate the community.

ACTION: DoT to seek approval to include further CPV options in the Bus Guide.

2.3 Cavenagh Street Upgrade

CoD confirmed the Cavenagh Street upgrade has been finalised and was completed on time with no issues. The taxi rank currently remains on Smith Street although the future location is under review. The bus stop will remain on Cavenagh Street.

2.4 Taxi In-Service Maintenance Standards Review

DoT advised the review has been finalised for approval by the Director. The Marketing and Communications Branch will then be consulted in relation to the final appearance of the document prior to distribution.

2.5 Cavenagh Street Bus Stop Trees

Buslink advised that mirrors continue to be taken off buses by the trees at the Cavenagh Street bus stop. Sectors of the industry believe this is an ongoing issue as the trees are too close to the gutter. Council's policy is that they are not in a position to remove the trees, however offered that with the recent relocation of the taxi rank, the buses had more available space in which to negotiate the positioning of the trees.

2.6 Marking and Signage of Bus Stops

Buslink raised an issue that bus stops need to be painted with a yellow line to make it clear to the public they must not park within 20 metres before and 10 metres after a bus stop to comply with the Australian Road Rules.

ACTION: *Proposal to be put forward to the General Manager of Infrastructure (CoD), and a proposal to be put forward to the Public Transport Branch, and both outcomes to be discussed at the next meeting.*

2.7 Additional Transport Inspectors

An issue was raised about taxis and private hire cars clogging up hotels and touting for passengers. Suggestion that networks need to be informed so they can remind the drivers this is illegal activity to help reduce the problem. DoT currently has two Transport Inspectors and unfortunately there is no funding to obtain anymore.

ACTION: *Educational material to be included in the next Network Advisory Notice.*

2.8 Additional Private Hire Car Ranking in Darwin

The only private hire car ranking in Darwin is at the Airport and Skycity Casino. A request was made for more ranking in Darwin for private hires. The *Commercial Passenger (Road) Transport Act* approves ranking at functions or events only. After further discussion, it was decided it wouldn't be a rank as such, it would be classed as a sub-base. The dedicated area is to be approved by the hotel.

ACTION: *PH Operators to make arrangement with hotels and put forward a proposal to DoT.*

2.9 Other Business

An update was requested on the secure rank on Mitchell Street. DoT explained there had been no issues and would collate the statistics for the next meeting.

ACTION: *DoT to provide statistics on the Mitchell Street secure rank at next meeting.*

3. Next Meeting

The next meeting will be scheduled for Thursday, 15 August 2013.