

Mobility Permit Harmonization

Municipal Transportation Agency Board November 5, 2019 Kate Toran, Director of Taxis and Accessible Services Darton Ito, Office of Innovation

What is Permit Harmonization?

Phase I: Plan to require all new mobility service operators under SFMTA's jurisdiction to have authorization before starting operations AND to streamline the authorization process

Phase II: Unify and streamline the range of mobility permit programs within SFMTA's jurisdiction





Permit Harmonization Goals



- Shift from reactive to proactive regulatory approach
- Allow innovation through a clear path for new mobility services
- Standardize processes and tools to administer, monitor and enforce
- Coordinate data reporting to understand impacts on transportation network
- Efficient use of staff resources
 - Partner with the proposed
 Office of Emerging Technology



Why Regulate?

- Public Safety
- Consumer Protection
- **SFMTA Charter** Mandate
- Align with City's **Policy Framework:**
 - Guiding Principles
 - Disabled Access
 - Parking Requirements





Regulated Mobility Programs

- Taxis
- > Bikeshare
- Powered Scooter Share
- Private Transit Vehicles
- Commuter Shuttle
- On-Street Vehicle Share
- Shared Electric Mopeds











Phase 1: Transportation Code Division I Amendments

- Request Board of Supervisors:
 - 1. Create a violation for operating a mobility service without a permit or authorization
 - 2. Expand parking restrictions previously applicable to bike share and scooter share to apply to broader category of mobility device





Phase 1: Transportation Code Division II Amendments

- Defines a Shared Mobility Device Service
 - Mobility device or devices, capable of carrying 10 or more people, separately or together
- Establishes a Proof of Concept Authorization (POCA)
- Provides basic substantive requirements
 - Application
 - Testing Plan
 - Application and Administration Fees
 - Fines and authorization to terminate

Phase 1: Proof of Concept Authorization (POCA)

- Provide a path for new mobility device and non-standard vehicle service providers to test or deploy on a limited basis
- Goal is to collect information, including to inform potential pilot or permit programs
- Prevents unregulated launches, and provides SFMTA opportunity to establish appropriate rules
- Authorized by the Director of Transportation
- Limited duration, scale, and geography





Phase 1: Proof of Concept Authorization (POCA) Process Framework

A Policy Directive issued by the Director of Transportation will be developed to guide the implementation of the POCA program including:

- Application requirements
- Process and criteria for reviewing applications
- Public engagement
- Criteria for establishing the POCA terms
- Criteria for terminating a POCA



Public Outreach and Engagement

On-going to Key Stakeholders

- Advocacy groups, non-profits, industry organizations
- SFMTA's Mobility Permit Harmonization project site

Committees/Advisory Bodies

- SFMTA Board, Policy and Governance Committee
- Pedestrian Safety Advisory Committee
- Multimodal Accessibility Advisory Committee
- Bicycle Advisory Committee
- Transportation Authority, Citizens Advisory Committee
- Paratransit Coordinating Council
- Mayor's Disability Council
- SFMTA Citizens Advisory Committee
- City Departments & other Governmental Agencies
- Community Forum: industry + community groups



Feedback Heard

Key Concerns

- Pedestrian safety
- Rider/service user accountability
- Complaint reporting process
- On-going community engagement
- Infrastructure needs

Response

- Incorporate provisions into POCA Policy Directive
- Continue to engage community
- Work with 311



SFMTA Mobility Permit Harmonization

LEGISLATIVE APPROVAL TIMELINE



Division II: Municipal Transportation Agency Board (MTAB) Approval

Updated: 10-21-2019 15:31



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Next Steps

Phase 2: Existing Elements

- Restructure Division II of the Transportation Code so that existing regulated mobility permit programs are under one umbrella
- Ensure that the regulatory framework allows the addition of new permit programs as they arise without having to recreate basic elements (e.g. appeals process)
- Phase 3: Movement of Goods



Ongoing Efforts

Mobility Data Harmonization

- Currently, data sharing requirements tailored to the needs and key metrics of individual permit programs
- Moving to monitor and evaluate programs using a consistent set of metrics framed by the Guiding Principles
- To the extent that programs operate in a similar manner, standardize data sharing requirements

Needs Improvement

Not Meeting Target

Meeting Target

No Target

Organizational Structure

- By harmonizing and standardizing the permit programs, SFMTA will efficiently regulate new and future programs
- Sustainable Streets Division: Office of Innovation is the lead for managing POCA program and Pilots
- Taxis and Accessible Services Division is the operational division that takes the lead in regulating and managing on-going regulated programs



Staff Recommendation

Requesting that the Board of Directors amend Division II of the Transportation Code to:

- Establish a definition of Shared Mobility Device Service that encompasses existing shared mobility device services (bikeshare and e-scooter share),
- Delegate authority to the Director of Transportation to authorize the temporary operation of a Shared Mobility Device Service or Non-Standard Vehicle service under a Proof of Concept Authorization, if there is not an existing permit program,
- Establish fees and administrative penalties for violations, and
- Recommend that the Board of Supervisors approve an amendment to Division I of the Transportation Code to prohibit the operation of Shared Mobility Device Service without the applicable permit or authorization.





