



Business Impact Estimate

This form should be included in the "set for public hearing" agenda item for ordinances, and must be posted on the County's website by the time notice of the proposed ordinance is published.

Ordinance title/reference:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF BROWARD COUNTY, FLORIDA, PERTAINING TO MOTOR CARRIERS; REPEALING ARTICLE II OF CHAPTER 3½ AND AMENDING CHAPTERS 8½ AND 22½ OF THE BROWARD COUNTY CODE OF ORDINANCES ("CODE"); UPDATING DEFINITIONS, MINIMUM VEHICLE REQUIREMENTS, TAXICAB FARE PAYMENT METHODS, AND PENALTIES; AND PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY, INCLUSION IN THE CODE, AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

(Sponsored by the Board of County Commissioners)

If any of the following exceptions to the Business Impact Estimate requirement apply, check the applicable box and leave the remainder of the form blank.

- ☐ The ordinance is required for compliance with federal or state law or regulation;
- ☐ The ordinance relates to the issuance or refinancing of debt;
- ☐ The ordinance relates to the adoption of budgets or budget amendments, including revenue sources necessary to fund the budget;
- ☐ The ordinance is required to implement a contract or an agreement, including, but not limited to, any federal, state, local, or private grant, or other financial assistance accepted by the County;
- ☐ The ordinance is an emergency ordinance;
- ☐ The ordinance relates to procurement; or
- ☐ The ordinance is enacted to implement the following:
 - a. Development orders and development permits, as defined in Section 163.3164, and development agreements authorized under the Florida Local Government Development Agreement Act;
 - b. Comprehensive plan amendments and land development regulation amendments initiated by application by a non-municipal private party;
 - c. Sections 190.005 and 190.046, regarding community development districts;
 - d. Section 553.73, relating to the Florida Building Code; or
 - e. Section 633.202, relating to the Florida Fire Prevention Code.

1. Summary of the proposed ordinance (must include statement of the public purpose, such as serving the public health, safety, morals, and welfare):

This Ordinance amends Chapter 8½, Code Enforcement, Chapter 22½, Motor Carriers, and repeals Article II of Chapter 3½, Nonemergency Medical Transportation, of the Broward County Code of Ordinances (the “Code”).

The proposed Ordinance updates methods of payment to require taxi chauffeurs to accept credit cards and provides procedures for handling inoperative credit card processing systems. It also prohibits the operation of a motor vehicle with inoperative or illuminated dashboard warning lights and requires taxicabs to utilize software-based taximeters instead of mechanically operated taximeters.

The Ordinance establishes reciprocity of vehicle-for-hire licensees to operate in Broward County in accordance with Section 320.0603, Florida Statutes. It also eliminates the lottery drawing for luxury sedan certificates, transfers hearing responsibilities for violation of the Ordinance from a hearing panel of the Consumer Protection Board to a hearing officer under the standard code enforcement processes, and revises standards of conduct for certificate, license, registration, and permit holders.

Nonemergency medical transportation regulations have been moved from Article II of Chapter 3½ to Article II of Chapter 22½ without substantive changes. The Ordinance also updates the schedule of civil penalties in Chapter 8½ of the Code.

2. Estimate of direct economic impact of the proposed ordinance on private, for-profit businesses in Broward County, including, if applicable:

a. Estimate of direct compliance costs that businesses may reasonably incur;

It is estimated that approximately 10% of taxicab operators may be impacted by the proposed ordinance change requiring the taximeter to be a smartphone, tablet, or similar electronic device. The estimated cost for those taxicabs not already compliant with this proposed requirement is estimated between \$300 and \$500 annually.

b. Any new charge or fee imposed by the proposed ordinance; and

There are no new fees proposed.

c. Estimate of the County’s regulatory costs, including estimated revenues from any new charges or fees to cover such costs.

The estimated regulatory costs to the County is minimal, estimated at less than \$5,000 annually, as a result of the proposed ordinance requirement for hearings to be heard by a hearing officer instead of a hearing panel. The proposed ordinance eliminates the lottery process for luxury sedans, therefore, there would no longer be a limit on the number of luxury sedans that can operate in Broward County. The revenue impact as a result of this proposed change is indeterminate.

3. Estimate of the number of businesses likely to be impacted by the proposed ordinance:
It is estimated that less than 10% of taxicab operators may be impacted by the proposed ordinance change requiring the taximeter to be a smartphone, tablet, or similar electronic device.

4. Additional information (if any):