

Council Member Farrell, on behalf of the Committee on Law, Buildings, and Code Enforcement, introduced the following, which was approved:

ORDINANCE 2.21.24

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ARTICLE I (TAXICABS) OF CHAPTER 353 (VEHICLES FOR HIRE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY

The City of Albany, in Common Council convened, does hereby ordain and enact:

Section 1. Article I (Taxicabs) of Chapter 353 (Vehicles for Hire) of Part II (General Legislation) of the Code of the City of Albany is hereby repealed in its entirety and replaced by the following:

Article I (Reserved)

§ 353-1 through § 353-13. (Reserved)

Section 2. This ordinance shall take effect immediately.

**APPROVED AS TO FORM THIS
25TH DAY OF JANUARY, 2024**

Corporation Counsel

To: Shaniqua Jackson, City Clerk

From: Brett Williams, Senior Assistant Corporation Counsel

Re: Common Council Legislation
Supporting Memorandum

Date: January 22, 2024

Sponsor: Council Member Farrell, on behalf of the Law Committee

ORDINANCE 2.21.24

TITLE

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING ARTICLE I (TAXICABS) OF CHAPTER 353 (VEHICLES FOR HIRE) OF THE CODE OF THE CITY OF ALBANY

GENERAL PURPOSE OF LEGISLATION

The arrival of rideshare services such as Uber in Lyft in the area occasioned great change in the local taxicab industry. First, many of the taxi operators moved their operations out of the City of Albany. It thus became difficult for local law enforcement to track which cabs were subject to the City’s licensing requirements. Moreover, there has been a marked decrease in applications for hack licenses. Based on the combination of these factors, together with limited City resources to enforce the licensing scheme the City stopped issuing and requiring licenses or medallions toward the end of 2020.

This ordinance repeals legislation which has become unworkable and unnecessary.

NECESSITY FOR LEGISLATION AND ANY CHANGE TO EXISTING LAW

This ordinance repeals the “Taxicabs” article of the City Code, which contained a requirement for taxicab operators within the City to obtain medallions, and laid out the conditions for obtaining such licenses. The article is being repealed because the scheme has become unworkable and unnecessary.

FISCAL IMPACT

None, as the City has neither charged nor collected the fees and penalties described in this Article since 2020.

Passed by the following vote of all the Council Members elected voting in favor thereof:

Affirmative – Adams, Anane, Balarin, Farrell, Flynn, Frederick, Hoey, Johnson, Keegan, Love, Robinson, Romero, Zamer

Affirmative: 13 | Negative: 0 | Abstain: 0

Clerk of the Common Council

President of the Common Council

Mayor

Date

I, Shaniqua Jackson, City Clerk and Clerk of the Common Council, do hereby certify that Ordinance 2.21.24 was passed at a meeting of the Albany Common Council on May 6, 2024.

In affirmation thereof, I hereto set my hand and affix The Seal of the City of Albany this 29th day of May, 2024.

Shaniqua Jackson, Clerk of the Common Council