



City of Gardner - *Executive Department*

Mayor Michael J. Nicholson

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GARDNER, MA

October 20, 2022

Hon. Elizabeth J. Kazinskas, Council President
And City Councilors
Gardner City Hall, Rm 121
95 Pleasant St
Gardner, MA 01440

RE: An Ordinance to Amend Chapter 423 of the Code of the City of Gardner

Dear Madam President and Councilors,

Attached, please find a proposed ordinance amendment regarding Chapter 423 of the Code of the City of Gardner, entitled Hackney and other Carriages.

This chapter of the City Code governs the processes by which taxi cabs and livery vehicles must register with the Police Department and how they must operate within the City.

However, recently, there has been some confusion regarding drivers who wish to operate ride share options – such as Uber or Lyft – and whether or not those programs fall under the provisions of this ordinance.

Since 2019, ride share services have been governed in the Commonwealth under Chapter 159A ½ of the General Laws. (See attached).

I am requesting that the City Council vote to adopt the attached proposed language to make it clear that this section of the City Code does not relate to the operations of ride share services in order to make it easier for people to engage in this market.

As a reminder, the City does receive a financial benefit from ride share services initiated in the City through the aforementioned chapter of the General Laws. I have attached the disbursement records for how much the City has received from ride share services in 2020 and 2021 from the Department of Public Utilities.

Respectfully Submitted,

Michael J. Nicholson
Mayor, City of Gardner