

Taxi Fare Review 2016 – Metropolitan Zone

Release of draft report – 3 May 2016

The Commission has released a draft report on its 2016 review of maximum taxi fares that can be charged in the Melbourne metropolitan taxi zone (metropolitan zone) and the urban and large regional taxi zone (urban zone).

The draft report consists of two volumes: Volume 1 is a summary of our draft decision; Volume 2 provides the detailed analysis underpinning our draft decision. The report can be found at <http://www.esc.vic.gov.au/Taxis/Taxi-Fare-Review-2016>.

This fact sheet summarises our decisions for the metropolitan zone.

Draft decisions for maximum fares in the metropolitan taxi zone

1. No change to the current level of maximum fares outside peak tariff periods.
2. Peak tariff rates would apply as maximum fares from 7pm on Friday and Saturday nights until 4am the following mornings (instead of from 10pm to 4am currently).
3. Peak tariff rates would apply as maximum fares from 7pm **on the evenings prior to** all public holidays until 4am on the following mornings.
4. Peak tariff rates would continue to apply as maximum fares all day Christmas Day and Boxing Day, from 6pm on New Year's Eve and all day New Year's Day (but not after 4am on other public holidays).
5. There would be no change to current maximum charges for existing peak tariff fare components (flagfall, distance rate, waiting time rate, booking fee or other extras).
6. A new 'peak booking charge', capped at a maximum of \$10, could be charged subject to the following conditions:
 - a. only for booked taxi trips commencing during times when peak tariff rates apply as maximum fares
 - b. at the time of booking, passengers must be informed of a peak booking charge, given the choice to accept or withdraw the booking, and given confirmation of any charge accepted.

FACT SHEET – Taxi Fare Review 2016 - Draft Report – Metropolitan taxi fares

Maximum Peak Booking Charge subject to submissions

We seek comment from taxi service providers on the interest in a maximum peak booking charge and how it may be applied in practice. Before proceeding with this charge we will need to be satisfied from submissions that there is interest in the ability to apply a ‘peak booking charge’, and that it has the potential to improve outcomes for taxi passengers.

Draft maximum taxi fares for the metropolitan zone

	Tariff 1 ‘Day’ (9am–5pm)	Tariff 2 ‘Overnight’ (5pm–9am, excluding peak)	Tariff 3 ‘Peak’ (Fri & Sat nights 7pm–4am)
Standard fare components	Maximum charge up to		
Flagfall (\$)	4.20	5.20	6.20
Distance rate (\$/km) (applies when speed is above 21 km/hr)	1.622	1.804	1.986
Waiting time (\$/min) (applies when speed is below 21 km/hr)	0.568	0.631	0.695
Other fare components (applicable to tariffs 1, 2 and 3)			Maximum charge up to
High occupancy fee	For trips with 5-11 passengers or when high occupancy vehicle specifically requested Not applicable for wheelchair passenger trips		\$14.00
Booking fee	For booked trips		\$2.00
Premium service charge	For booked trips where vehicle is participating in a ‘premium service scheme’		\$11.00
Airport booking fee	For trips booked for pick up from Melbourne Airport		\$3.00
Airport rank fee	For trips from the Melbourne Airport rank		\$2.70
Holiday rate	For trips commencing between 7pm <u>on evenings prior to</u> all public holidays, through to 4am the following mornings. For trips commencing on Christmas Day, Boxing Day, New Year’s Day and from 6pm on New Year’s Eve		Tariff 3 rates
Maximum peak booking charge	For booked trips when Tariff 3 applies		\$10.00

Invitation for submissions

The Commission invites submissions in response to its draft decision and report.

Submissions close on 23 May 2016.

Submissions should be emailed to taxifares@esc.vic.gov.au

Alternatively, submissions may be sent via fax to 03 9032 1303, or by mail, marked:

Submission to the Taxi Fare Review

Essential Services Commission

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