

Agenda Date: August 29, 2013
Item Number: B1

Docket: TC-131269
Company Name: Shuttle Express, Inc.,
dba Shuttle Express, Go Shuttle Express, Limos by Shuttle Express, and
Downtown Airporter

Staff: Mike Young, Regulatory Analyst
Roger Kouchi, Consumer Protection Staff

Recommendation

Issue a Complaint and Order Suspending the Tariff Revisions filed by Shuttle Express, Inc., on July 5, 2013.

Discussion

On July 5, 2013, Shuttle Express, Inc., dba Shuttle Express, Go Shuttle Express, Limos by Shuttle Express, and Downtown Airporter (Shuttle Express or company) filed tariff revisions with the Utilities and Transportation Commission (commission) that would generate approximately \$190,000 (2.0 percent) additional annual revenue. The company also proposes to discontinue scheduled service to and from the Monroe Park and Ride location, and standardize the fare for additional adult passengers travelling in a group for all locations served by door-to-door service. The company provides passenger transportation to approximately 400,000 customers annually to and from Sea-Tac International Airport from points in Pierce, King, Snohomish, Jefferson, and Island Counties.

The company proposes to replace its current zone-based pricing schedule with a zip code-based pricing schedule for door-to-door service. Under the proposed pricing schedule, certain zip codes' fares for one-way service to and from Sea-Tac International Airport would increase between \$1.00 and \$4.00 while others would remain the same or decrease between \$1.00 and \$5.00. Fares for additional passengers in a group travelling to and from the Everett Train Station would increase from \$12.00 to \$29.00 one-way. The company's last rate increase became effective on February 1, 2013.

Staff has not completed its review of the companies supporting books and records and staff does not agree with the company's proposed fare design. Therefore, the company has not yet demonstrated it requires additional revenue or the proposed fares are fair, just and reasonable.

Rate Comparison

Sample One-Way Door-to-Door Fares To Sea-Tac From:	Current Fare	Proposed Fare	Increase	Percent Increase
98003-Federal Way, First Passenger In Group	\$37.00	\$40.00	\$3.00	8.1%
98003-Federal Way, Second Passenger In Group	\$ 2.00	\$ 6.00	\$4.00	200.0%
98020-Edmonds, First Passenger In Group	\$45.00	\$46.00	\$1.00	2.3%
98020-Edmonds, Second Passenger In Group	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00	\$0.00	0%
98027-Issaquah, First Passenger In Group	\$45.00	\$47.00	\$2.00	4.5%

Sample One-Way Door-to-Door Fares To Sea-Tac From:	Current Fare	Proposed Fare	Increase	Percent Increase
98027-Issaquah, Second Passenger In Group	\$ 6.00	\$ 6.00	\$0.00	0%
98105-Seattle, First Passenger In Group	\$38.00	\$38.00	\$0.00	0%
98105-Seattle, Second Passenger In Group	\$ 8.00	\$ 6.00	<\$2.00>	<25.0%>
98126-West Seattle, First Passenger In Group	\$37.00	\$40.00	\$3.00	8.1%
98126-West Seattle, Second Passenger In Group	\$ 2.00	\$ 6.00	\$4.00	200.0%
98371-Puyallup, First Passenger In Group	\$50.00	\$53.00	\$3.00	6.0%
98371-Puyallup, Second Passenger In Group	\$11.00	\$ 6.00	<\$5.00>	<45.5%>

Customer Comments

On July 8, 2013, the company notified its customers of a proposed rate increase. To date, no comments regarding the proposed rate increase have been received.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the commission issue a Complaint and Order Suspending the Tariff Revisions filed by Shuttle Express, Inc., on July 5, 2013.