

AN ORDINANCE

repealing Section 2-3, Transportation plan for low income persons; in Article I, In General, of Chapter 2, Administration, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Joplin and enacting in lieu thereof a new Section 2-3, Transportation plan for low income persons, in Article I, in General, of Chapter 2, Administration, of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Joplin to implement a certain allowance increase; and setting a date when this Ordinance shall become effective.

WHEREAS, the City has not increased the limitation on the purchase of cab coupons since 1997, and,

WHEREAS, the Council of the City of Joplin desires to increase the limitation on the purchase of cab coupons due to the increase in the cost of this type of transportation mode.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED by the Council of the City of Joplin, Missouri, as follows:

Section 1. That Section 2-3, Transportation plan for low income persons, of Article I, In General, of Chapter 2, Administration, be enacted in lieu thereof to read as follows:

CHAPTER 2 ADMINISTRATION

ARTICLE I. IN GENERAL

Sec. 2-3. Transportation plan for low income persons.

(a) Purchase of taxicab coupons by city. The city shall purchase coupons from any party that has a permit to operate a taxicab business as defined in chapter 126, at their face value, the coupons being sold by the city to elderly low income, disabled low income and temporary low income citizens of the city, as provided in this section, from funds budgeted from the transportation sales tax funds.

(b) Sale of coupons by city. The city shall sell to eligible low income persons, as defined in this section, coupons for use for taxicab services in the number enumerated in this section for the price of \$0.40 for \$1.00 value of coupons.

(c) Administration; eligibility. The low income transportation plan shall be administered by the department of finance of the city upon the following conditions:

- (1) Income guidelines. No person shall be eligible to purchase coupons whose total annual family income, as defined in this section, exceeds the following, based on their family size:

Family Size	Income
1	\$11,300.00
2	11,900.00
3	12,500.00

(adding \$600.00 for each additional member in the household), and no person shall be eligible to purchase coupons unless further entitled to benefit by being classified as elderly, low income or disabled, as defined in this section. Each disabled member of every household is entitled to an additional \$2,500.00 annual income, but in no case to exceed \$17,000.00 for any household. The director of finance of the city may extend benefits for persons who exceed the income guidelines set out in this subsection in hardship cases, not to exceed a total amount expended by the city of \$200.00 per month.

- (2) "Elderly low income" defined. As used in this section, the term "elderly low income" shall mean those persons whose income shall be less than the amounts based on the size of their family set forth in subsection (1) of this subsection, and who are 60 years of age.
- (3) "Disabled" defined. As used in this section, the term "disabled" shall mean persons whose income shall be less than the amounts based on the size of their family as set forth in subsection (1) of this subsection, and who are partially blind or legally blind, have a severe case of emphysema, crippling arthritis or a bad heart, require assistance of walker or cane, are mentally handicapped, require routine dialysis treatment, or are receiving disability payments from any source.
- (4) "Low income" defined. As used in this section, the term "low income" shall mean those persons whose income shall be less than the amounts based on the size of the family set forth in subsection (1) of this subsection, and who are 21 years of age but less than 60 years of age.
- (5) Limitations on purchase of coupons. No family shall be eligible to purchase more than \$160.00 in face value coupons per month, except in extenuating circumstances in which additional coupons may be purchased upon approval by the director of finance of the city as set forth in subsection (1) above. Low income persons shall be allowed to purchase coupons for a maximum of 120 days, or, until 30 days after employment is obtained, whichever occurs first.
- (6) "Income" defined. As used in this section, the term "income" shall mean all income received by the applicant and all other adult members of his household from all sources, and shall include but not be limited to nontaxable income, income from investments, social security benefits, old age assistance, interest income, wages, rentals, annuities and royalties. For the purpose of this definition, the term "self-employment" shall mean the net income from self-employment.

- (7) Use of coupons; sale or transfer by purchaser prohibited. Coupons issued pursuant to this section shall remain in the coupon book until removed by the taxicab operator. It shall be unlawful for any purchaser of coupons to sell, convey or give away the coupons. Any person convicted of violating the provisions of this subsection shall be punished pursuant to the provisions of section 1-5, and his privilege to purchase additional coupons may be denied for a period of time as determined by the director of finance, not to exceed one year.

Section 2. That this ordinance shall become effective on December 1, 2008.

PASSED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF JOPLIN, MISSOURI, this 3rd day of November, 2008.

Gary L. Shaw, Mayor

ATTEST: Barbara L. Hogelin, City Clerk

APPROVED AS TO FORM: Brian W. Head, City Attorney