TDLR Seeks Comments on Transportation Network Company Rules

The Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation (TDLR) recently proposed rules regarding transportation network companies, such as Uber and Lyft. The proposed rules implement House Bill 100, passed during the 2017 regular legislative session, which establishes Chapter 2402 of the Texas Occupations Code.

While House Bill 100 transfers the power to regulate Transportation Network Companies (TNCs) almost exclusively to the State of Texas, it does leave some regulatory authority with airport owners/operators and governmental entities with jurisdiction over cruise ship terminals.

Thus, cities with airports and cruise ship terminals should take a particularly close look at the proposed rules, including the sections regarding:

1. the fee that may be imposed on TNCs operating at an airport or cruise ship terminal;
2. the time in which a TNC permit holder must notify a city that it is operating at an airport or cruise ship terminal; and
3. TDLR’s ability to impose administrative sanctions in relation to a city’s airport or cruise ship terminal regulations.

Comments on the proposed rules are due by October 15, 2017, and may be submitted: (1) by mail to Pauline Easley, Legal Assistant, General Counsel’s Office, Texas Department of Licensing and Regulation, P.O. Box 12157, Austin, Texas 78711; (2) by facsimile to (512) 475-3032; or (3) electronically to erule.comments@tdlr.texas.gov.
Extension of Budget and Tax Deadlines Possible

Recently Governor Abbott honored a request by the City of Corpus Christi to extend its tax rate setting deadline from September 30, 2017, to October 27, 2017. TML has requested that the Governor extend the deadline for all cities affected by Hurricane Harvey. However, we have not received a response to that request at this time.

If your city has been affected by the recent storm and you need additional time to set your tax rate, we urge you to make a similar request to the Governor on behalf of your individual city.