Decision No. R24-0902-I

BEFORE THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

PROCEEDING NO. 24A-0401BP

IN THE MATTER OF THE APPLICATION OF MEDRIDE, LLC FOR A PERMIT TO OPERATE AS A CONTRACT CARRIER BY MOTOR VEHICLE FOR HIRE.

INTERIM DECISION SCHEDULING HEARING AND ESTABLISHING PROCEDURES AND DEADLINES

Issued Date: December 11, 2024

I. <u>STATEMENT, SUMMARY AND PROCEDURAL HISTORY</u>

A. Statement and Summary

1. This Decision schedules a fully remote evidentiary hearing for March 31 and April

1, 2025 and establishes procedures and deadlines relating to that hearing.

B. Procedural History¹

2. On September 20, 2024, MedRide, LLC ("MedRide" or "Applicant") initiated this

Proceeding by filing the above-captioned Application ("original Application").

3. On September 27, 2024, MedRide filed an Application amending the original Application ("Amended Application").

4. On October 8, 2024, the Public Utilities Commission ("Commission") provided public notice of the Amended Application, among other matters.²

5. On November 6, 2024, Tazco, Inc., doing business as Sunshine Taxi ("Tazco") filed a Notice of Intervention by Right, Alternative Motion for Intervention, Entry of Appearance and Request for Hearing ("Intervention").

¹ Only the procedural history necessary to understand this Decision is included.

² Notice of Applications Filed October 8, 2024.

6. On November 13, 2024, the Commission deemed the Amended Application complete and referred this matter by minute entry to an administrative law judge ("ALJ") for disposition.

7. On November 19, 2024, the ALJ granted Tazco's Intervention and scheduled this matter for a remote prehearing conference for December 10, 2024 at 1:00 p.m., among other things.³

8. The ALJ held the December 10, 2024 remote prehearing conference as noticed. All parties appeared. This Decision memorializes the rulings made during the prehearing conference and establishes procedures for the evidentiary hearing.

II. <u>FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS</u>

A. Procedural Schedule

9. During the prehearing conference held on December 10, 2024, the parties agreed to the hearing dates and procedural schedule outlined in the ordering paragraphs below. The parties also agreed that the hearing should be fully remote, with all parties and witnesses appearing from remote locations.

10. The hearing will be held using the web-hosted service, Zoom. Attachment A hereto includes important technical information and requirements to facilitate remote hearing participation. All those participating in the hearing must carefully review and follow all requirements in this Decision and Attachment A.

11. Because the hearing will accommodate remote participation, all documentary evidence must be presented electronically. Attachment B includes vital information and requirements relating to presenting evidence electronically at the hearing, and thus, it is extremely

³ Decision No. R24-0841-I (issued November 19, 2024)

important that all parties review and follow Attachment B's requirements.

B. Advisements

12. *Applicant is on notice* that failure to appear at the evidentiary hearing may result in dismissal of the Amended Application for failing to pursue or prosecute it.

13. Similarly, *Intervener is on notice* that the ALJ will deem its failure to appear at the evidentiary hearing as abandoning or withdrawing its Intervention and opposition to the Amended Application and may result in granting the Amended Application without an evidentiary hearing.

14. Because the hearing will accommodate remote participation, parties will receive an email with information needed to join the hearing at the email addresses on file with the Commission for this Proceeding. As such, all parties must ensure that the Commission has the correct email address for them.

15. At the hearing, Applicant bears the burden of proof by a preponderance of the evidence to show that it has met the legal requirements to be granted the requested authority.⁴

16. All parties must be familiar with and follow the Commission's Rules of Practice and Procedure, 4 CCR 723-1, and the Commission's Rules Regulating Transportation by Motor Vehicle, 4 CCR 723-6, as applicable. The parties may obtain a copy of these rules on the Commission's website at <u>https://www.colorado.gov/pacific/dora/pucrules</u>.

⁴ §§ 24-4-105(7); 13-25-127(1), C.R.S.; Rule 1500, 4 Code of Colorado Regulations ("CCR") 723-1.

III. ORDER

A. It is Ordered That:

1. A fully remote evidentiary hearing in this Proceeding is scheduled as follows:

DATE:	March 31 and April 1, 2025
TIME:	9:00 a.m. each day
PLACE:	Join by videoconference using Zoom

2. To minimize the potential that the hearing may be disrupted by non-participants, the link and meeting ID or access code to attend the hearing will be provided to the parties by email before the hearing, and participants in the hearing are prohibited from distributing that information to anyone not participating in the hearing.

3. Participants may not appear in person at the Commission for the above-scheduled hearing. Instead, they must participate in the hearing from remote locations, consistent with the requirements of this Decision.

4. **Hearing Procedures.** Because the hearing will accommodate remote participation by videoconference, all evidence must be presented electronically. This means that all parties must prepare any documentary evidence (exhibits) for electronic presentation. In addition to the below requirements, all participants in the hearing must comply with the requirements in Attachments A and B, which are incorporated herein as if fully set forth. Those Attachments include critical information and requirements relating to participating in the hearing and preparing electronic evidence for introduction at the hearing.

5. **Deadlines to File Exhibits, Exhibit Lists and Witness Lists.** All parties must file and serve exhibits they intend to offer into evidence at the hearing, exhibit lists, and witness lists

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on or by the close of business on **March 3, 2025.** Witness lists must include a brief description of the witnesses' anticipated testimony and the witnesses' contact information. Exhibit lists must identify the hearing exhibit number, the full substantive title of each hearing exhibit, and include a brief description of each hearing exhibit the party intends to offer into evidence. Describing an exhibit solely by identifying the exhibit number **does not meet** this requirement (*e.g.*, describing it as "Hearing Exhibit 100" without information as to substantive nature or content of the exhibit). Any party may offer any exhibit sponsored by another party and is not required to include such an exhibit on their own exhibit list. The parties are only required to prefile and serve exhibits they intend to offer into evidence during the hearing. Nothing in this Decision requires the parties to prefile exhibits that may be used *solely* to impeach a witness's testimony, to refresh a witness's recollection, or on rebuttal.⁵

6. The parties may amend their exhibit and witness lists to add exhibits and witnesses not included in their prior exhibit and witness list. Any party wishing to do so must file and serve such additional exhibits and amended exhibit and witness lists on or by the close of business on March 17, 2025. Amended exhibit and witness lists **must list all the exhibits** that the filing party intends to offer and **all witnesses** who may testify at hearing. Amended exhibit and witness lists **will substitute** the filing party's initial exhibit and witness lists, and as such, may not be filed as a supplement to prior exhibit and witness list filings.

7. **Deadline to File Statements of Position**. Any party wishing to file a Statement of Position must do so on or by the close of business on **April 15, 2025.**

8. **Hearing Exhibit Number Block Assignments.** To efficiently organize exhibits that will be presented during the evidentiary hearing, all parties must use a unified numbering

⁵ Only the Applicant may present rebuttal evidence.

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system for all hearing exhibits, marked consistent with Attachment B, using hearing exhibit numbers within their assigned exhibit number blocks. The parties are assigned the hearing exhibit number blocks set forth below.

Party	Assigned Hearing Exhibit Numbers
MedRide, LLC ("Applicant")	100 to 199
Tazco, Inc., doing business as Sunshine Taxi ("Tazco")	200 to 299

9. Any party requiring more exhibit numbers than assigned may use the same numerical sequence of exhibit numbers assigned to them, but in the 1000 range (*e.g.*, Applicant will use hearing exhibit numbers 1100-1199 and Tazco will use hearing exhibit numbers 1200-1299, *etc.*).

10. This Decision is effective immediately.



THE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION OF THE STATE OF COLORADO

MELODY MIRBABA

Administrative Law Judge

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

ebecca

Rebecca E. White, Director