

Talking Points: No cuts, Uber can afford it, Save our schools

I'm on board, uber can afford it, save our schools

Background: Mayor Parker's proposed a \$1 per ride fee on Uber and Lyft trips that would save 340 Philadelphia school district positions. These positions were funded with federal funds that are no longer available. I'm testifying in support of Cell Phone Tower bill 26025 and Ride Share Tax bill 260208

Do: Share Your Story and add some of these talking points

- **The ride share fee is an investment in Philadelphia's 198,000 public school students.** The \$1 per ride fee will generate \$48 million a year and SAVE 340 school-based positions. Without this funding, students will lose teachers, counselors, support staff, and be forced into larger class sizes.
- **Save 340 school-based positions.** These positions were critical to boosting student attendance, graduation, and achievement. Thus, cutting these 340 positions will mean larger class sizes, less support for struggling students and schools where the risk of violence will go up.
- **Rideshare companies have the option to absorb the \$1/ride cost.** Rideshare companies can choose to pay the fee themselves instead of passing it on to working Philadelphians. Uber and Lyft are collectively valued at over 65 BILLION dollars — they can afford to pay.
- **Philadelphia is asking less than any comparable major city.** NYC charges \$2.75. Chicago charges \$1.13. DC charges 6%. Philadelphia's \$1 proposed fee is a reasonable, modest ask in-line with other cities.
- **The revenue is legally designated for the School District.** The funds raised from the fee will go *directly* to Philly public schools — not the general fund.
- **Philly students are counting on City Council.** If City Council fails to pass this measure, 340 school staff will lose their jobs and Philly students will lose out on critical educational resources.
- **Ending Ask of City Council.** I urge you to oppose any reductions to school funding and support new revenue solutions, including the proposed rideshare fee, to ensure schools have the resources they need.
 - Philadelphia leaders have both the responsibility and the opportunity to step up. Investing in our schools is an investment in the city's future: safer communities, a stronger workforce, and greater economic stability.
 - Our students deserve safe, supportive, and well-resourced learning environments. Please act now to protect Philadelphia's schools.