

**NEW YORK CITY**  
**TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION**

**Minutes of Commission Meeting**

**February 12, 2009**

Present:

Matthew W. Daus, *Commissioner/Chair*  
Elias Arout, *Commissioner*  
Harry Giannoulis, *Commissioner*  
Edward Gonzales, *Commissioner*  
Jeffrey Kay, *Commissioner*  
Lauvienska Polanco, *Commissioner*  
Iris Weinshall, *Commissioner*  
Charles Fraser, *General Counsel*

1. The Chair called the meeting to order and reported the following:
  - The Chair reported that Mayor Bloomberg announced the reappointments of Commissioner Arout and Commissioner Polanco. They will each be serving seven-year terms expiring on January 31, 2015. The Chair thanked both Commissioner Arout and Commissioner Polanco for their commitment to the Commission and all the good work they do. (Tr. pp. 3, 7)
  - The Chair reported that on January 15, in Mayor Bloomberg's State of the City Address, he requested the TLC look into allowing group rides and ways to enhance outer borough livery service. The Commission is looking into ideas for implementing group ride service similar to the plan implemented following the transit strike in 2005. This plan may include zone service and upgrading meters to accept multiple fares. The Commission is also investigating opportunities for liveries in the outer boroughs to be able to work from stands. The Chair expects that these innovations will be tested as a pilot program presented to the Commission before any permanent changes are made. (Tr. pp. 4-5)
  - The Chair reported on proposed legislation by the City Council. Bill 880-A creates a livery bill of rights, similar to the taxi riders bill of rights that has been in place since 1995. Charles Fraser, General Counsel, testified at the City Council on this bill. Yesterday, the bill was approved by the City Council. The Chair anticipates that Mayor Bloomberg will sign this bill since the Mayor's Office and the TLC have worked closely with the Council on this legislation. It is expected that the regulations implementing this bill will be

included in the upcoming FHV rule changes, which are expected to be considered in April. (Tr. pp. 5-7)

- The Chair reported on the Accessible Dispatch Program. There are 237 accessible taxicabs on the road. As of today, 1017 calls have been dispatched. There are 440 drivers trained. 218 drivers and vehicles have been equipped with Blackberries. We have seen an increase in monthly average drivers logged on to the system, approximately 30 at any given time. The Chair reported that the usage of this program has been lower than expected but the TLC is aggressively beginning a public outreach campaign. The Chair hopes that the Commission will be doing a public service announcement soon. (Tr. pp. 7-8)
- The Chair reported that the TLC is revisiting the pilot program that gave accessible cabs priority in line at the airport. The TLC has received a lot of complaints from drivers about the program and is revisiting the issue to evaluate whether there is another way to give an incentive to drivers to take out accessible cars and also be able to reasonably cut the line at the airport. More information will be forthcoming. (Tr. pp. 8-9)
- The Chair reported on the problem of illegal activity at hotels. This problem seems to be worsening, but the TLC recently did a very effective operation at the Waldorf Astoria and the Four Seasons Hotel in Midtown. Deputy Commissioner Mullings sent inspectors to those locations and a total of 37 summonses were issued, two vehicles were seized, and one diamond was confiscated. The TLC is reaching out to the hotel association and other people to try and improve policing of the area. The TLC's undercover operation will continue. (Tr. pp. 9-10)
- The Chair reported on recent TLC programs that allow for teleconferencing for hearings. To date, no one has taken advantage of the teleconferencing option for respondents to testify from Staten Island if they waive any identity issues. The TLC is exploring the possibility of videoconferencing from Staten Island. The Chair wants to make sure that the industry is aware of this program. (Tr. pp. 10-11)
- The Chair announced that the TLC will hold a public hearing on proposed revisions to the rules governing agents and generic TLC matters on February 20, 2009 at 2:30 pm. (Tr. pp. 12-13)
- The Chair announced that the next Commission meeting is scheduled for March 26, 2009. At that meeting, the Chair hopes to have a public hearing for the proposed leasing disincentive rules and on the Clean Air Vehicle Retirement Extension Inspection. At the April Commission meeting, the Chair hopes to present livery reform rules, including the bill of rights mentioned earlier. (Tr. pp. 12-13)

2. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to adopt the minutes of the December 18, 2008 and January 8, 2009 Commission meetings. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Weinshall, and it passed unanimously. (Tr. p. 13)
  
3. Georgia Steele-Radway, Base Licensing Supervisor, presented the following base station license applications for consideration:

**The following bases are recommended for approval (37):**

**RENEWALS (28):**

510 Car Service Corp.	B00948
Active Express Car & Limo. Service Inc.	B01552
Alpha Car & Limo. Inc.	B01638
Bay Express Corp.	B01336
C & D Car Service Inc.	B01951
Catch Ah Ride Limo. Inc.	B02045
Church Avenue Car Service, Inc.	B01146
Cinval Car & Limousine Service, Inc. D/b/a Imperial Car Service	B01640
Commack Inc. D/b/a Barona's Car Service	B01328
Dominican Car Service, Inc.	B00302
Empire Transportation Service, Inc.	B01821
Five Star Car & Limousine	B01466
Freedom Limo & Car Service	B01454
Glory Car & Limo. Service, Inc.	B02032
Grand Limo. & Car Service, Inc.	B01848
International Car Service, Inc.	B01118
Ivoire Car Service, Inc.	B01811
La Nueva Quisqueya Car Service, Inc.	B01626
Masada Car & Limo. Service Inc.	B00952
Mega Car Service Corp.	B01498
Mega Mex Inc.	B02163
Mex Service, Inc. D/b/a Mex Express Car Service	B02058
Natasha's Group Car Corp.	B00932
New Superior Radio Group Corp.	B01768
RND Transportation, Inc. D/b/a Malones Car Service	B01306
Skyway Car Service Express	B01332
Uniworld Bros. Entp. Inc.	B01478
Verrazano Car & Limo. Service, Inc.	B01422

**RENEWAL & OWNERSHIP CHANGE (4):**

Coney Island Car & Limo. Inc.	B01930
Mega Radio Dispatcher, Inc.	B01468
New Mazel Corp.	B01160
Unicar Company, Inc.	B01340

**RELOCATION (2):**

Champion Car & Limo. Service, Inc. B00350  
Promenade Car Lease, Inc. B00859

**RELOCATION & OWNERSHIP CHANGE (1):**

Family San Juan Radio Disp. B01538

**RELOCATION, OWNERSHIP CHANGE & NAME CHANGE (1):**

One Call Car & Limo. Service (to be changed to Colonial II Car Service) B02089

**NAME CHANGE (1):**

Malcolm Radio Group, Inc. B01380

**The following bases are being recommended for denial (5):**

Accord Car & Limo. Service, Inc. B01514  
Adams Car & Limousine Service B01934  
AD Private Car Service, Inc. D/b/a Always Dependable Car Service B01598  
Cornel Car & Limo. Service B02079  
Mariachis New Star Car Service, Corp. B02146

4. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to approve all of the base station license applications that were recommended for approval. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Polanco and it passed unanimously. (Tr. pp. 13-15)
5. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to deny the base station license applications that were recommended for denial if they do not comply with requirements within thirty days. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Polanco and it passed unanimously. (Tr. p. 15)
6. Item 4 on the agenda; TATC rules revision for Commission Action was presented to the Commission. David Klahr, Chief of Staff to the First Deputy Commissioner, gave a presentation on the process of passing the revised rules chapters. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to conditionally approve proposed rules chapters 14 (Taximeter Businesses), 15 (Medallion Auctions), and 19 (Industry Representatives), pending a future vote approving the entire rulebook and repealing the existing rulebook at the same time. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Gonzales and it passed unanimously. (Tr. pp. 15 - 27)
7. Item 5 on the agenda, Proposed Rules for Public Hearing and Commission Action—Deferral of implementation of the minimum fuel efficiency and vehicle retirement rules for black cars was presented to the Commission. A public hearing was held on these rules and Berj Haroutunian of the Black Car Assistance Corp. testified. A motion was made by Commissioner Arout to approve the rules. This motion was seconded by Commissioner Weinshall and it passed unanimously. (Tr. pp. 27-33)
8. Item 6 on the agenda, Pilot Program Proposal for Commission Action—Propane fuel taxicab, was presented to the Commission. Chairman Daus recommended

denial of the pilot program proposal. David Klahr explained that the basis for the denial of the proposal was that the program would be difficult to implement because propane fueling stations are not permitted in New York City. Commissioner Arout made a motion to deny the pilot program. Commissioner Weinshall seconded the motion and it passed unanimously. (Tr. pp. 33-35)

9. Chairman Daus made a motion to close the meeting. Commissioner Arout seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10:20 a.m.

Minutes as approved by the Taxi & Limousine Commission on  
March 26, 2009

  
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Deputy Commissioner for Legal Affairs / General Counsel

March 31, 2009  
Date