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NEW YORK CITY TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

**The Nissan LEAF and Driving an Electric
Vehicle as a Taxi**

Interested in the Nissan LEAF Electric Taxi Pilot Program but want to know more? Read on to learn more about the LEAF and what it's like to drive an all-electric vehicle.

If you haven't already, check out TLC industry notice # 11-26 (available at www.nyc.gov/taxi) to learn about how the pilot program will work, eligibility requirements, and how to apply to participate.

What will pilot participants be driving? The Nissan LEAF.



(Picture is only a representation of Nissan LEAF as NYC Taxi – actual vehicle may vary.)

Driving an electric vehicle - charging:

The Nissan LEAF is an all-electric vehicle, meaning that you won't have to make any trips to the gas station during your shift. However, the battery will need to be charged. The distance you can drive on a single charge (the range) depends on many different factors, including weather, peripheral accessories and features, and driving habits, and ranges from 62 to 138 miles. This may mean that you will need to stop mid-shift to recharge the battery, and depending on the charging station this can take anywhere from fifteen minutes to several hours. Currently, there are very few charging stations in New York City, and while this program includes installation of new stations, availability for charging will still be limited. New charging stations will be installed at fleet garages and owner-drivers' homes. Locations for additional chargers at airport holding lots and other locations in the city are under discussion. For more information about the Nissan LEAF, check out <http://www.nissanusa.com/leaf>

Driving an electric vehicle as a taxi – a new experience:

If you participate in this pilot program, you will be one of the first electric-taxi operators in New York. This program is a real test with unknown results. We have worked to plan for the "what ifs," but there most likely will be bumps in the road. We want this program to be successful and hope that it will help lead to broader electric-vehicle applications in the taxi industry, but we will need your patience and assistance to get there. Nissan will provide a dedicated service team to best deal with any problems during the trial.

The LEAF was not designed as a commercial vehicle for taxi service, which makes it different from the taxi-specific design Nissan is developing for the NV200 (the "Taxi of Tomorrow"). Because of the limited passenger space and overall size of the vehicles, LEAF taxis (whether operated by owner-drivers or fleets) will not have partitions installed. Instead, a camera-recording system will be installed for driver protection.

All vehicles used by owner-drivers will be single-shifted.

Each fleet-operator participant will receive two Nissan LEAF vehicles to use with one taxicab medallion. Each LEAF will only be single-shifted, so while one vehicle is in service using the medallion, the other LEAF that "shares" this medallion (a specially-designated standby vehicle) will be charging at the fleet – helping fleets maintain operating time.

This program will help us answer a lot of questions about all-electric taxis, and both Nissan and TLC will need to closely examine your experience throughout the program. While there may be many unknowns heading into



this project, we are excited to find results and solutions and hope you are excited to help us!

Questions?

1. One way to learn more is to attend one of our **information sessions**:

- November 9th at 2:00 PM
33 Beaver St., 19th Floor, New York, NY 10004
- November 9th at 6:00 PM
24-55 BQE West, Woodside, NY 11377

2. You can get answers to your **questions about the Nissan LEAF pilot program** by contacting:

Michael DeBene, NYC Taxi & Limousine Commission
Phone: 212.676.1196
Email: delbenem@tlc.nyc.gov

3. You can get If you have any additional **questions about the Nissan LEAF vehicle**, please contact:

Ken Srebnik, Nissan North America, Inc.
Email: NissanLEAFTaxiDriver@nissan-usa.com

Interested? Here's how to apply:

- Check TLC Industry Notice 22-26 (on nyc.gov/taxi) to see if you're eligible.
- Go to <http://bit.ly/qlzE39> to apply online.
- Submit your completed online application by 5:00pm on Wednesday, November 30, 2011.
- If you're a finalist, you may be asked to do an in-person interview. The interviews will take place in New York City.
- Participants will be selected by January 2012, and all selected participants will be required to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the TLC. Drivers will also sign Participation and Lease Agreements with Nissan.
- The pilot is scheduled to start in early 2012.