



Accessible Medallion Taxicabs

Current Experiences and City Council FY 2006 Appropriations

Office of the First Deputy Commissioner
July 26, 2005

City Council Budget Appropriation



- FY 2006 Budget includes \$1.302 million in the TLC Budget for accessible cabs

“This funding would subsidize the cost of converting current medallions for disabled taxicabs by providing a cash grant to current medallion holders or reducing the medallion cost during auction.”

-City Council Finance Division Report on the FY 2006 Budget

Current Accessible Medallion Taxis



- Fall 2004 Medallion Sale
 - 27 Accessible Medallions were offered with a reduced minimum bid price
 - 255 bids - all 27 accessible medallions were sold
 - All Ford Freestar Minivans
 - Modified in compliance TLC requirements (based on ADA's Wheelchair Accessibility Guidelines for Vehicles)
 - Entered into service early this year

Current Accessible Medallion Taxes



Estimated Cost Comparisons for Crown Victoria Stretch and Wheelchair Accessible Ford Freestar		
	Crown Victoria Stretch	Wheelchair Accessible Ford Freestar
Vehicle	\$ 23,000	\$ 30,000
Wheelchair Accessibility Modifications	NONE	\$ 10,000
Lowering Vehicle floor		
Installing ramp		
Specialized seatbelts		
Additional equipment		
Taxi Hackup Requirements	\$ 800	\$ 800
Rooflight		
Trouble Light Kit		
Partition		
Additional equipment		
REBATES	NONE	\$ 1,000
TOTAL ESTIMATED COSTS	\$ 23,800	\$ 39,800
ESTIMATED DIFFERENCE	\$ 16,000	

Current Accessible Medallion Taxis



Field Demo with TLC Disability Advisory Board

- Vehicle modifications could be improved, additional amenities possible for wheelchair users
- Loading/Unloading of wheelchair passengers



TLC Experience with Grant Programs



- FY 2001 - Partition/In-Vehicle Camera Program
 - \$5 million
 - Reimbursement Program - \$325 per vehicle
 - Joint TLC-EDC administration
- FY 2001 - 2002 - Accessible Vehicle Modifications
 - \$1 million
 - Reimbursement Program - \$7500 per FHV, \$5000 per medallion taxicab
 - TLC administration

City Council Budget Appropriation



- Possible Uses of \$1.3 Million
 - RFP for Accessible Modifiers
 - Leveraging entire budget allocation to get the best price
 - More control over modification design
 - Several months to establish
 - Grant/Reimbursement program
 - Relatively straightforward setup and administration
 - No control over modification prices or design

Next Steps



- Working with the Council
 - Meeting with C/M Lopez and the Mayor's Office for People with Disabilities
- TLC Actions
 - Research legal questions and programmatic alternatives
 - Report back to the Commission later this Fall



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