



Taxi Stands in Times Square and the Theater District, 2001

Overview:



The Midtown Manhattan Pedestrian Network Development Phase One report, published in June 2000, recommended that the effectiveness of underutilized taxi stands in Times Square and the Theater District be investigated and improved as a tool to reduce congestion and improve safety.

Taxi stands offer a viable alternative to current practice by providing an identifiable, orderly, efficient, and quick means to secure a taxi that benefits both drivers and passengers. Given that taxis comprise up to fifty percent of all traffic in the Times Square Bow-Tie, even a slight reduction in street hails would improve traffic operations.

This technical memorandum identifies 32 existing taxi stands from Sixth Avenue to Eighth Avenue, West 38th Street to West 53rd Street: 28 taxi waiting line stands and four relief stands. The study examines how well taxi stands are used and recommends four actions to improve their visibility and use:


- rationalizing the network of taxi waiting line and relief stands by removing underutilized stands, redesignating stands, and establishing new or expanded stands;
- installing simplified, pedestrian-oriented signs;
- using distinctive lamp posts and globes to mark taxi waiting stands; and
- investigating more taxi dispatch stands.

A number of recommendations can be seen throughout the city. Distinctive lamp posts throughout Times Square announce taxi stands from blocks away, and the new signage scheme continues to replace older taxi stand signs.

Report:

The report is available as one [complete document](#) (📄 1.5 MB).

Related Notes

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