

NEW YORK CITY TAXI AND LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

Notice of Opportunity to Participate in a Pilot Program To Test Modified Wheelchair Accessible 2008 Toyota Sienna Vehicles for Use as Accessible Medallion Taxicabs

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (“TLC”) invites interested parties to submit a request to participate in a pilot program to test Toyota Siennas that are compliant with the Americans With Disabilities Act (“ADA”), are rear entry, and have been modified after being factory-assembled by the original vehicle manufacturer, and meet all relevant Federal, State and local safety and emissions standards.

The purpose of the pilot program is to explore ways in which vehicles can be altered post-factory in order that they may be ADA-compliant taxicabs. It is anticipated that participation in the pilot program may take up to thirteen months; after six months a formal evaluation will be conducted by the Chairperson. Participation in a TLC pilot program in no way guarantees Commission approval for the proposer’s equipment for use on a wider scale, or after conclusion of the pilot program.

On February 14, 2008, the Commission voted to approve this particular pilot program without limit to the number of participants. Each participant will test their equipment using two to four vehicles. The Commission approved Freedom Motors as a participant, and Freedom Motors’ modification of a Toyota Sienna. The terms of that approval are available on the TLC’s website (http://nyc.gov/html/tlc/html/news/public_main.shtml). In order for your proposal to be considered for participation in this pilot program, you must include the following in your proposal:

- (a) A detailed description of the modifications made to the vehicle, including, as appropriate, diagrams, blueprints or images;
- (b) Information regarding the use of the proposed equipment in other jurisdictions;
- (c) Estimates of any cost and revenue impact of the proposed innovation on affected licensee groups such as drivers and vehicle owners, on the Commission and the City, and on the public;
- (d) Specification of each respect in which the proposed equipment would depart from otherwise applicable requirements;
- (e) Documentation of all relevant Federal, State and local safety and emissions compliance;
- (f) Description of any effect the pilot program would have on the safety of operations involved in the pilot program; and
- (g) Criteria by which the value of the innovation can be measured after implementation of the pilot program, such as owner, driver and customer satisfaction; impacts on transportation and traffic; accrued benefits; and safety.

Participation proposals will be reviewed in accordance with the standards of review and approval stated in TLC Rule 14-04 (see http://nyc.gov/html/tlc/downloads/pdf/rules_pilot_program_approved.pdf). If approved, you will be required to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the TLC specifying the terms of the pilot project by August 14, 2008 in order to participate.

Pilot program proposals, suggestions or ideas should be submitted by March 28, 2008 to:

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