



**Taxi & Limousine
Commission**

David Do
Commissioner/Chair
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**33 Beaver Street
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New York City Taxi & Limousine Commission

Proposed Rules – COVID-19 Livery Vehicle Recovery Act Rule Implementation

Public Hearing Comments

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COVID-19 Livery Vehicle Recovery Act Rule Implementation

 rules.cityofnewyork.us/rule/covid-19-livery-vehicle-recovery-act-rule-implementation/



Rule status: Proposed

Agency: TLC

Comment by date: March 12, 2025

[Rule Full Text](#)

Livery-Vehicle-Rule-Certified.pdf

The Taxi and Limousine Commission is proposing to amend its rules to reflect changes to state law following the passage of the COVID-19 Livery Vehicle Recovery Act.

Attendees who need reasonable accommodation for a disability such as a sign language translation should contact the agency by calling 1 (212) 676-1135 or emailing by **March 11, 2025**

Send comments by

Public Hearings

Zoom - Wwww.Nyc.Gov/Tlc Public Hearing

Date

March 12, 2025

10:00am - 1:00pm EDT

Location

Zoom - Wwww.Nyc.Gov/Tlc

Connect Virtually

Disability Accommodation

- Closed Captioning
- Communication Access Real-Time Translation

Comments are now closed.

Online comments: 0

TLC Hearing – March 12, 2025
Re: COVID-19 Livery Vehicle Recovery Act
Carmel Testimony – by Dr. Avik Kabessa

Good day commissioners:

My name is Avik Kabessa, I am the CEO of Carmel, a board member of the Livery Roundtable, and the chairman of the New York State Livery Workers Compensation Fund.

Carmel supports the proposed rule but is asking for an important amendment.

But first, how did we get here?

Prior to the arrival of Commissioner Do, back in 2022, we pleaded with the city to allow Livery that lost their FHV license during Covid-19, to renew their license once the market recovery started, we didn't ask for a penny and still couldn't get the city to help.

On the other hand, in the past 3 years, since 2022, the City helped the yellow taxi, to the tune of HALF A BILLION dollars in financial help, which we applauded – you should help them.

It took going to Albany before we could get the help we need, and that is sad.

Having said that, it's better late than never. To that effect, I would like to thank Commissioner Do. First, for not fighting the passage of the law in Albany. And second, for everything you have done once the ball finally started rolling.

But, if I may, allow me to ask, why did we get here?

What is the fascination with always only helping the yellows? I would like to remind the commissioners that the livery sector started because the yellows didn't serve upper Manhattan or the outer boroughs - it was the livery who did what no taxi was willing to do – so, for the future, all we ask is that you recognize us for what we have done and continue doing for the last 45 years.

With that in mind, we respectfully ask that you amend the proposed rule to prohibit transferring the affiliation to **any** non-livery base, not only to high volume bases.

Albany passed the Livery Recovery Act because the Livery sector suffered more than any other sector. Higher Livery insurance, by about \$2,000, when compared to Black Car, caused a larger percentage of livery vehicle owners to forfeit their vehicle license during Covid. The Livery sector is now the smallest sector amongst the For-hire sectors.

That is why Albany passed the law, and we believe the proposed rule should reflect it.

Thank you for listening to me, and we urge you to please accept the amendment we requested, which is what the state law asks of you to do, and vote in favor of the proposed rule.

I am ready to answer any question you have on this issue.



The Livery Round Table

43-33 35th Street
Long Island City, NY 11101

TLC Hearing – March 12, 2025

Re: COVID-19 Livery Vehicle Recovery Act

Livery Roundtable Testimony – by Steven J. Shanker, Esq.

Dear Commissioners of the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission

I am the Executive Director the Livery Round Table (“LRT”). The LRT strongly supports the proposed Livery Recovery Act with two important amendments.

The livery sector of the FHV industry in NYC was hit hard over the past few years. There used to be over 20,000 livery vehicles in NYC. Today, there are less than 3,000. COVID-19 also hit the livery industry very hard.

The COVID-19 Livery Vehicle Recovery Act, Chapter 382 of the Laws of 2024 permits the owners of certain vehicles, formerly licensed as livery vehicles, to renew their licenses on certain conditions.

The state law passed for the Livery sector, not high-volume, or luxury limousine, and not black car. As you may or may not know, the Livery sector is now the smallest among the For-hire sector. Due to higher insurance and other ill effects of COVID, the Livery sector suffered more than any other For-hire sector. And that is why Albany passed the law, to help the Livery sector recover. We are asking the commission to do the following:

1. amend the proposed rule prohibiting the transfer to any non-livery base, not only to high volume bases.
2. amend the commencement date to as soon as possible date.

Every day is crucial for the livery sector. We urge you to amend the rules as we requested and vote in favor of the rule as soon as possible.

Thank you.

Steven J. Shanker
Steven J. Shanker, Esq.

From: [melvin perez](#)
To: [tlcrules \(TLC\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]
Date: Monday, March 10, 2025 9:17:33 AM

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Hello, I would like to inform you that we taxi drivers are being abused with so many restrictions that affect us mentally and physically. I do not understand how far they want to go with us with so much mistreatment. It is enough with so much abuse and money on all sides when those of us who work to live day to day, those of us who spend are not enough to pay so much. This is extreme.

From: [amadou kaa](#)
To: [tlcrules \(TLC\)](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Standing for drivers against New TLc rules
Date: Sunday, March 9, 2025 10:50:22 PM

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I will not be able to call during the hearing but this email is my voice to stand With drivers against the TLC up coming regulations. Drivers are already going into deep hardship since COVID 19 and new regulations will only add insult to the injury