

David Yassky Commissioner

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SHHHHHH!

TLC TO DRIVERS – HORN HONKING IS FOR EMERGENCIES ONLY!

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) is sending a message to all its licensed drivers that horn honking for any reason other than warning of imminent danger is a violation of City law, and that they risk a fine of \$350. Messages will begin to appear on all taxicab Driver Information Monitors starting today.

"Horn honking is a form of pollution, and it is simply unacceptable for our professional licensees to abuse their ability to create it," said TLC Commissioner David Yassky. "We are urging our drivers to be better neighbors, and to use their horns exclusively to warn of danger."

The messages will read as follows: "Drivers – remember that honking is against the law except when warning of imminent danger! Be a good neighbor and save yourself a \$350 summons – honk ONLY in an emergency!"

The TLC is likewise encouraging passengers to let drivers know that they do not want them to honk their horns, and if their driver does not comply, to call 311 to alert the TLC of the violation. While an NYPD-issued moving violation summons citing the Vehicle and Traffic Law carries a \$350 penalty if convicted, if the driver is found guilty of TLC Drivers Rule 54-13(a)(2), a driver faces a \$200 penalty if they plead guilty, or a \$300 penalty if found guilty at a hearing.

"We understand and appreciate that drivers want to be responsive when passengers are in a hurry to get to their destinations," said Commissioner Yassky, "but horn abuse isn't the way to accomplish that goal."

The TLC recently announced that the City's chosen "Taxi of Tomorrow" – the Nissan NV 200 – will incorporate a "low annoyance horn" into its design. The first NV 200s are expected to begin serving the public in November 2013.