

David Yassky Commissioner

Office of Public Affairs 40 Rector Street, 5th Floor New York, NY 10006

+1 212 676 1013 tel +1 212 676 1101 fax Press Release For Immediate Release September 15, 2010

TLC, DOT, EDC LAUNCH DEDICATED LIVERY STAND AT STATEN ISLAND'S ST. GEORGE FERRY TERMINAL

New Stand Offers Safer, More Convenient Transportation for Staten Island Ferry Riders

New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) Commissioner David Yassky, NYC Department of Transportation Commissioner Janette Sadik-Khan, and New York City Economic Development Corporation (NYCEDC) Executive Vice President Madelyn Wils (representing EDC President Seth W. Pinsky) today launched a dedicated livery stand to provide exclusive transportation services to passengers at the DOT's St. George Ferry Terminal in Staten Island. The Staten Island Ferry serves over 21 million riders per year, with 110 trips per day ferrying approximately 65,000 passengers per average weekday between Staten Island and Lower Manhattan.

The livery stand's existence represents a new and innovative approach to providing transportation at a location where the significant demand for livery service is sometimes met by illegal operators, which had put passengers at risk and poached business from legitimate operators. The successful proposer, who responded to a Request For Proposals (RFP), has created a system that features live 24-hour on-site dispatch, allowing passengers to receive expeditious service delivered by TLC-licenses bases, TLC-licensed and inspected vehicles, driven by TLClicensed drivers. The NYCEDC prepared and managed the RFP on the TLC's behalf.

"Aside from offering ferry commuters a safe and convenient transportation option, this new stand serves to combat the illegal predators that had preyed on passengers for far too long at the St. George Terminal," said TLC Commissioner/Chair Yassky. "Now, safe, legitimate livery service is either waiting, or just a quick dispatch call away, and the operational reality finally matches the demand for service."

"For many Staten Islanders, the daily commute means making two or even three transfers, so we need to do more to connect the dots at the borough's premier transportation hub," said DOT Commissioner Sadik-Khan. "This new dispatching stand offers ferry commuters smoother connections as construction continues to bring even more world-class transit access to St. George."

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"This dedicated stand at the St. George Ferry Terminal will make it easier and safer to use livery service – a vital transportation option for the more than 21 million ferry passengers each year," said NYCEDC President Seth W. Pinsky. "The opening of this stand is an important part of our recent efforts to improve the Ferry Terminal by adding amenities for riders, including interactive information kiosks, a tourism booth and new dining options."

HOW IT WORKS

- Official livery vehicles at the stand will be marked "United Cars." "United Cars" is the winning proposer, and the only company authorized to provide service within the St. George Ferry Terminal.
- Ferry Pick-ups/Drop-offs will take place in the North Municipal Lot at the foot of the Grand Staircase. Conveniently-located wayfinding signs will help people find the stand from strategic locations throughout the terminal area.
- At various peak-demand times, "United Cars" vehicles will be queued up for immediate service. If no vehicles are queued, vehicles must be dispatched within five (5) minutes during peak weekday hours, and within 10 minutes at all other times.
- All fares, which will be filed with the TLC, must be clearly displayed at the livery stand.
- Drivers must provide detailed receipts to passengers for rides, which will include the *base* name, the *date, time, location,* and *destination* of the ride, the *fare*, the *vehicle/license* number, and *TLC/311* consumer contact information.
 - NOTE: Drivers for other car services/livery bases may drop-off passengers at the "Kiss and Ride" lot, and passengers are free to pre-arrange livery pick-ups with the licensed base of their choice on Richmond Terrace.

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) was created in 1971, and is the agency responsible for the regulation and licensing of almost 200,000 yellow medallion taxicabs and for-hire vehicles, their drivers, and the businesses that operate and support their industries. It is recognized as the largest and most active taxi and limousine regulatory body in the United States.

To find out more about the TLC, or to review its rules, regulations and procedures, we encourage you to visit our official Web site at <u>WWW.NYC.GOV/TAXI</u> or call 311 in New York City, or 212-NEW-YORK from outside of New York City.