



NEW YORK CITY TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

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TLC NEWS | PRESS RELEASES

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Press Release #01-03

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TLC ANNOUNCES BIGGER, BETTER TAXICABS FOR NEW YORK CITY

TLC Commissioner unveils new "stretch" Crown Victoria, and announces test authorization of a new minivan taxicab to enhance passenger comfort

New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) Commissioner/Chair Matthew W. Daus today joined taxicab industry leaders in unveiling the newly-authorized "stretch" Ford Crown Victoria, a purpose-built yellow taxicab that will offer passengers an additional six inches of legroom. Joining Commissioner Daus was Ronald Sherman, president of the Metropolitan Taxicab Board of Trade, and Bob Kelly, national account manager, Ford Motor Company. The event was held in the parking lot of City Hall to accommodate a prototype of the new vehicle, as well as a new version of the Honda Odyssey minivan taxicab.

Said Commissioner Daus, "I am especially grateful that the Ford Motor Company has been so responsive to our requests for a bigger, more consumer-friendly taxicab. These taxicabs are bigger and better, and will offer the riding public more value for their premium fare, and that's always been a goal of the TLC and the Giuliani Administration."

The first "stretch" Crown Victoria will be placed in service within the next week, with others joining it as older models are cycled into retirement and must be replaced by new vehicles. The new Honda Odyssey minivan taxicab has been approved for limited testing. According to TLC rules, fleet-operated taxicabs have a maximum of three years in service before mandatory retirement. Individual owner/drivers must retire their vehicles every five years.