Regulatory Agenda Of the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission

Fiscal Year Ending June 30, 2015

Pursuant to Section 1042 of the Charter of the City of New York, the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission ("TLC") hereby publishes a Regulatory Agenda for the Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2015. This Regulatory Agenda describes briefly the subject areas in which it is anticipated that rules may be promulgated during the fiscal year.

The legal basis for each proposed rule is the authority conferred to the TLC pursuant to chapter 65 of the City Charter and Title 19, Chapter 5 of the Administrative Code of the City of New York, which confer upon the Commission the authority to promulgate rules relating to public safety, comfort and convenience, standards and conditions of service, the issuance, suspension and revocation of licenses, and the development of a transportation policy relating to for-hire vehicles and taxicabs.

The individuals and entities likely to be subject to the proposed rules are the owners and drivers of licensed medallion taxicabs, for-hire vehicles, commuter vans and paratransit services vehicles; the owners of bases dispatching for-hire vehicles, paratransit services vehicles and commuter vans; taxicab brokers; taxicab agents; and taximeter businesses.

An agency official knowledgeable about the subject area of each proposal is:

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1. <u>Streamline Process for Licensees Who Submit Late Drug Test Results</u>

The Commission expects to propose rules revising the procedure for imposing fines on taxi and for-hire vehicle drivers who fail to take their drug tests on time. We seek to streamline the process and impose a penalty when the suspension is first placed on the license. The Commission expects to consider this proposal in the Fall of 2014.

2. <u>Stickers and Decals</u>

To reduce confusion at inspection and to aid in field enforcement, the Commission expects to propose rules requiring that expired license stickers and decals must be removed from a vehicle. In addition, the Commission expects to propose rules for side decals on paratransit vehicles and commuter vans. The Commission expects to consider these proposals in the Winter of 2014-2015.

3. <u>Base and Vehicle Affiliation</u>

The Commission expects to propose rules governing affiliation of commuter vans with commuter van services and paratransit vehicles with paratransit bases to mirror the requirements of existing rules governing affiliation of for-hire vehicles with for-hire vehicle bases. Furthermore, the Commission intends to propose rules for revocation of commuter van or paratransit base licenses when certain offenses accumulate. The Commission expects to consider these proposals in the Winter of 2014-15.

4. <u>Vehicle Owner Appointments to be set By the Base</u>

The Commission expects to propose rules formalizing the practice by which bases conduct transactions for vehicle owners so that a for-hire vehicle base is responsible for making appointments for vehicle license applications and inspections. The Commission expects to consider these proposals in the Winter of 2014-15.

5. Include Commuter Van and Paratransit Drivers in Persistent Violator Rules.

Persistent violator rules are currently in place for taxicab and for-hire vehicle drivers. To be consistent across all license types, the Commission expects to propose similar rules for commuter van and paratransit vehicle drivers. The Commission expects to consider these proposals in the Spring of 2015.

6. Paratransit Electronic Trip Records

Electronic trip records for paratransit bases do not have specific information linking outbound and inbound trips. The Commission expects to propose rules expanding and standardizing the requirements for submission of electronic trip records by paratransit bases. The Commission expects to consider these proposals in the Spring of 2015.

7. For-Hire Vehicle Industries Integration of Smartphone Apps

The Commission expects to propose rules regulating the use of smartphone apps for forhire vehicle industries. The new rules would make smartphone app requirements more transparent for base owners, drivers, and the riding public. The Commission expects to consider this proposal in the Spring of 2015.

8. <u>Staten Island Inspection Facility</u>

The Commission approved a pilot program to allow vehicles affiliated with Staten Island bases to have DMV and visual inspections take place at a new TLC facility in Staten Island instead of travelling to Woodside for inspection. The Commission will evaluate the pilot program and will likely consider rules in the Spring of 2015.

9. Modify Persistent Violator and Critical Driver Programs

As identified in the Vision Zero Action Plan and further defined through Intro No 272 of 2014, the Commission expects to conduct rulemaking contemplated by that legislation regarding the Persistent Violator and Critical Driver programs. The Commission expects to consider this proposal in the Fall of 2014.

10. Accessibility Rules

The Commission passed rules in April 2014 to convert 50 percent of the taxi fleet to operate with wheelchair accessible vehicles. A second rules package will more fully describe the funding process anticipated by the April, 2014 rules and provide a similar framework for street hail liveries. The Commission expects to consider the second set of rules in the Summer of 2014.

11. TPEP Rules Update

To stay up to date with new technologies and incorporate lessons learned over the duration of the program, the Commission will update the TPEP authorized provider rules. The rules package will include improvements to passenger and driver functions and

reporting, and will further align the LPEP rules with TPEP rules. The Commission expects to consider these rules in the Winter of 2014-2015.

12. <u>E Hail App Rules for Medallion Taxicabs</u>

Last year the Commission approved a pilot program to test smartphone apps for the purpose of hailing a yellow taxi. While the pilot program is underway, TLC staff is required to submit quarterly reports to the Commission. The Commission will use these reports, and feedback from the public and the industry, to evaluate the program and develop rules. The Commission expects to consider rules in the Spring of 2015.

13. <u>Update Yellow Paint Specification for Taxis</u>

The Commission expects to update the paint specs for yellow taxis. Some of the paint colors listed in the current rules are no longer produced or available. The Commission expects to review this proposal in the Summer of 2014.

14. Email Address Rules

The Commission is moving toward making much of the licensing process available online and using email as the main form of communication. As such, the Commission would propose rules governing the use of email for licensing matters. The Commission expects to consider these rules in the Fall of 2014.

15. <u>Street Hail Livery Transfers</u>

The Commission will refine the rules for transferring a Street hail livery permit to a new owner, which would provide guidelines on the length of time permit holders must retain the permit before it can be transferred to a new owner. The Commission expects to consider these rules in the Fall of 2014.