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Statement of Substantial Need for Earlier Implementation

I hereby find, pursuant to Section 1043(f)(1)(c) of the New York City Charter, that there is a substantial need for the implementation of the rule governing the cap on cruising by for-hire vehicles dispatched by high-volume for-hire vehicle services and the continued cap on for-hire vehicle license issuance immediately upon publication of the promulgated rule in the City Record.

Local Law 147 of 2018, which took effect on August 14, 2018, among other things, froze the issuance of for-hire vehicle (FHV) licenses for a one-year period and instructed the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission ("TLC") and the New York City Department of Transportation ("DOT") to conduct a study of the impact of the FHV sector on traffic congestion. Specifically, Local Law 147 of 2018 enacted section 19-550 of the New York City Administrative Code, which authorizes the TLC to establish vehicle utilization standards, or as they are referred to in the proposed rules "caps on cruising," for FHVs dispatched by the High-Volume For-Hire Services (HVs) and mandates that the TLC periodically review the number of FHV licenses. Further, based on such review, Local Law 147 authorizes the TLC to regulate the number of FHV licenses it issues. Having completed the study, the TLC has proposed this rule.

By this rule, the TLC will:

- Require that HVs decrease the percentage of time that FHVs dispatched by such services spend cruising (driving or waiting without a passenger) in Manhattan south of 96th Street by capping it at 31% of the driver's total on-duty time during the most congested times of day, and
- Review and determine, every six months beginning one year after the effective date of the rules, the total number of new FHV licenses the TLC will issue.

The freeze on FHV license issuance imposed by Local Law 147 expires on August 13, 2019. Immediate implementation of this rule is necessary to prevent the uncapped issuance of FHV licenses after August 13, 2019 and to begin to ameliorate the conditions described in the study required by Local Law 147.

Bill Heinzen, Acting Commissioner New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission

Approved: Bill de Blasio, Mayor

Date: 08/08/19