

In Re Commission Meeting NYC - Taxi & Limousine Commission
January 25, 2023

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NEW YORK CITY
TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION
PUBLIC MEETING
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January 25, 2023
10:04 A.M.
Held Remotely
via Live Stream

B E F O R E:
SHERRYL ELUTO, General Counsel

Board of Commissioners:
CHAIR DAVID DO
KENNETH MITCHELL
THOMAS SORRENTINO
JACQUES JIHA
ELISA VELAZQUEZ
BILL AGUADO, (appearing remote)

Makeda Edwards
Court Reporter

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MR. DO: Good morning, everyone.
I'm calling this meeting to order at
10:04. I am David Do, the
Commissioner and Chair of the Taxi and
Limousine Commission. I'm here,
joined by Commissioners Mitchell,
Sorrentino, Jiha and Velazquez. I
want to thank you all for being here
today and, of course, supporting the
work of the Commission. Thank you.

I also want to thank our team
for putting together this hearing
today, especially on this meeting to
vote because we have Commissioner
Aguado here virtually. So thank you
also, Commissioner Aguado, for being
here. I know that it was a little bit
difficult to do all this, but we made
it work and I am so happy to be here
today.

First, I want to announce
successes of the Taxi and Limousine
Commission on the MRP Plus Program.
We have now reached \$350 million in

1 debt relief. This is a historic
2 effort by the TLC and our partners;
3 and so I'm very excited by that. But
4 if you have not yet signed up to the
5 Owner/Driver Resource Center, I
6 encourage you to sign up soon because
7 the deadline to apply is on
8 January 31st. E-mail
9 driversupport@tlc.nyc.gov or by
10 calling (718)391-5511. So again, you
11 only have one week left to enroll.

12 I also want to advise everyone
13 in the community about the February
14 1st minimum high volume for-hire
15 driver pay increases. That will be
16 increased according to the 2022 annual
17 average increase on the consumer price
18 index for urban wage earners. We have
19 notified Uber and Lyft and sent out
20 industry notice and those rates are
21 posted on our website.

22 The increase should not be
23 confused with the minimum pay increase
24 based on rising operating costs that
25 we have recently been fighting in

1 court. We are still pursuing all of
2 our options in that case and we'll be
3 letting the community know our next
4 steps in the near future.

5 Now, on to today's votes. Today
6 we're voting on a set of rules that
7 we've heard over two public hearings
8 and we have received comments on. And
9 your comments have really advised us
10 on some of the changes that will be
11 reflected today.

12 First, the Medallion Relief
13 Program Rules will be included with
14 language that qualifying loans can be
15 restructured at less than 25 years, so
16 long as they're for 10 years, and that
17 the monthly payments are no more than
18 \$1,235.

19 For the Rules Clean-Up Package,
20 we further clarify the lease
21 cancellation language, and made it
22 clear that TSP and E-Hail providers
23 are responsible for collecting and
24 forwarding on both the TIF, the Taxi
25 Improvement Fund, and the SHLIF

1 payments directly to the TLC.

2 We are also voting on vehicle
3 specifications to allow for the use of
4 battery electric vehicles and finally,
5 we will be voting on the rules to
6 release 1,000 battery electric
7 vehicles for the for-hire vehicle
8 industry.

9 So with that, I'll turn it over
10 to our general counsel, Sherryl Eluto.
11 Thank you, Sherryl.

12 MS. ELUTO: Commissioners, the
13 first item before you are the minutes
14 of the November 15, 2022 Commission
15 Meeting. I will now call a vote to
16 adopt the minutes.

17 All in favor of adopting minutes
18 from November 15th, please raise your
19 hands.

20 (Commissioners raised their
21 hands.)

22 Commissioner Aguado raised his
23 hand, so the minutes are adopted
24 unanimously.

25 I will now call on Director of

1 Base and Business Services, Fabian
2 Cancel, to present the base license
3 applications.

4 MR. CANCEL: Good morning,
5 Commissioner and attendees. My name
6 is Fabian Cancel. I'm the director of
7 the TLC Base and Business Unit.
8 Eleven bases have been submitted for
9 your review and we will await your
10 approval and your determination.

11 MS. ELUTO: Commissioners, can
12 we have a vote to adopt the base
13 license recommendations?

14 (Commissioners raised their
15 hands.)

16 Unanimous -- and Commissioner
17 Aguado, yes. The vote is in favor
18 unanimously. Thank you.

19 MR. CANCEL: Thank you very
20 much.

21 MS. ELUTO: Commissioners, we
22 will now turn to Item 5 of the agenda,
23 the Amendment to Medallion Relief
24 Rules. This rule is published in the
25 City record on December 9, 2022, for

1 public comment. A public hearing was
2 held virtually by the TLC on
3 January 11th. On January 20th, the
4 final version of the proposed rule was
5 post on our website, circulated to
6 Commissioners, along with the hearing
7 transcript and all written comments
8 that were received.

9 Commissioners, may we move for a
10 vote? All in favor of adopting the
11 rule, please raise your hand.

12 (Commissioners raised their
13 hands.)

14 Commissioner Aguado? All right,
15 yes. So the rule's adopted
16 unanimously.

17 We're also going to vote on the
18 need for immediate implementation of
19 the rule that we've just adopted, this
20 way we can process the applications
21 for the MRP program sooner.

22 So all those in favor of
23 adopting the motion, please raise your
24 hand.

25 (Commissioners raised their

1 hands.)

2 Commissioner Aguado, thank you.

3 The motion's adopted unanimously.

4 We now turn to Item 6 on the
5 agenda, the changes to the Taxi Cab
6 Vehicle Specifications to allow for
7 electric vehicles. Again, the rule
8 was published in the City record on
9 November 18th. A public hearing was
10 held virtually by the TLC on
11 December 21st. On January 20th, the
12 final version of proposed rule was
13 posted on our website, circulated to
14 the Commissioners.

15 Commissioners, may we move for a
16 vote. All those in favor, please
17 raise your hand.

18 (Commissioners raised their
19 hands.)

20 Commissioner Aguado, thank you.
21 The vote is adopted unanimously -- the
22 rule's adopted unanimously.

23 Commissioners, we'll now turn to
24 Item 7 on the agenda, the FHV Electric
25 Vehicle Restricted License Rules. The

1 rule was published in the City record
2 on December 12th for public comment.
3 A public hearing was held virtually by
4 the TLC on January 11th. On January
5 20th, a final version of proposed
6 rules were posted on the website,
7 circulated to the Commissioners.
8 After that was posted, we decided to
9 make a change.

10 The rule provides that 600
11 licenses will be reserved for drivers
12 to own one license, and then the 400
13 licenses will be for anyone,
14 individual or corporation, and
15 applicants can apply for multiple
16 licenses.

17 I'm asking, at this time, that
18 the Commissioners consider an updated
19 version of the rule proposal that was
20 circulated yesterday. In response to
21 public comments received, we would
22 like to have the rule provide for a
23 limit on 400 EVFHV licenses, that at
24 this time you can apply for a maximum
25 of 25 licenses per social security or

1 EIN number. After the application
2 process is underway, if there are
3 still available licenses, the Chair
4 may announce additional availability.

5 We can adopt this version of the
6 rule in accordance to the City
7 Administrative Procedure Act, so long
8 as the Commission vote is unanimous.

9 Commissioners, do we have a
10 vote?

11 (Commissioners raised their
12 hands.)

13 And Commissioner Aguado, yes.

14 Great. The rule's adopted
15 unanimously.

16 And we have one more item, Item
17 8, the Regulatory Review Package.
18 This rule is published in the City
19 record on November 18th for public
20 comment. A public hearing was held
21 virtually on December 21st. On
22 January 20th, the final version of
23 proposed rule are posted on our
24 website and circulated to the
25 Commissioners.

1 Commissioners, may we move for a
2 vote on the rule?

3 (Commissioners raised their
4 hands.)

5 Commissioner Aguado?

6 Commissioner Aguado says, yes.

7 The rule's adopted unanimously,
8 great.

9 Now, I turn back to the Chair.

10 MR. DO: Great. Thank you all
11 for being here today. That moves
12 towards our conclusion of this meeting
13 today, but I want to remind drivers,
14 right, do not buy an electric vehicle
15 yet. New and more information will be
16 coming out in the next few weeks.
17 Specifically for the 600 licenses for
18 drivers, a Statement of Interest will
19 be available online around mid-March.
20 Shortly after, all others can apply
21 for the 400 licenses through a
22 Statement of Interest form online.
23 Again, we continue to advise people to
24 wait to know about the process before
25 purchasing an EV.

1 We appreciate everyone's
2 patience on this and we're committing
3 to issuing a very transparent process
4 and fair process for our community.

5 Again, I want to thank our
6 Commissioners for being here today and
7 that will conclude our meeting today
8 at 10:13.

9 (Time noted 10:13 a.m.)

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C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)
 : SS.:
COUNTY OF QUEENS)

I, MAKEDA EDWARDS, a Notary Public for
and within the State of New York, do hereby
certify:

That the witness whose examination is
hereinbefore set forth was duly sworn and that
such examination is a true record of the testimony
given by that witness.

I further certify that I am not related
to any of the parties to this action by blood or
by marriage and that I am in no way interested in
the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this 25th day of January 2023.

Makeda Edwards

MAKEDA EDWARDS

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