



# **COMMUTER VAN PILOT**

**A PROGRAM TO AUTHORIZE OFFICIAL UNIFORM MARKINGS**



# COMMUTER VAN 101

- **Small, But Important:** 48 Commuter Van services, 489 TLC-licensed Commuter Vans.
- **Essential Service:** safe, reliable, and affordable transportation in areas with limited access to traditional public transportation.
- **Simple Ride-Sharing:** passengers who are headed in the same direction pay a few dollars to share the van to their destination.
- **Safe Vehicles, Safe Drivers:** Commuter Vans must meet safety inspections, and drivers must be licensed by the TLC.
- **Passenger Protection:** Commuter Vans must carry minimum insurance to cover property damage and passenger injury.



# BUSY COMMUTER VAN ROUTES

## ■ Queens:

- Jamaica Avenue between Parsons Boulevard and Springfield Boulevard.
- Merrick Boulevard between Jamaica and the Hook Creek Boulevard/Valley Stream Mall
- Flushing along Main Street between Northern Boulevard and 41<sup>st</sup> street
- Guy R. Brewer Boulevard and 147<sup>th</sup> Avenue, 181<sup>st</sup> Street, and 145<sup>th</sup> Drive.
- Rockaways on Mott Avenue, Beach Channel Drive, and Bayview Boulevard

## ■ Brooklyn:

- Sunset Park along 8th Avenue between 50<sup>th</sup> Street and 62<sup>nd</sup> Street
- Flatbush Avenue between Atlantic and Nostrand Avenues
- Eastern Parkway between Utica Avenue and Kingston Avenue
- Livingston Street and Schermerhorn Street

## ■ Manhattan:

- Lower Manhattan (China Town)
- York Avenue

## ■ Bronx:

- Along East 241<sup>st</sup> Street in Northern Bronx



# CURRENT REQUIREMENTS

## ■ Must display the following:

- Name and address of operator
- Owner's exact name
- Vehicle license number



## ■ TLC decals:

- Lower right corner of the front windshield
- Center of the rear window
- Left rear side windows
- Right rear side windows



# CHALLENGES



- **Small businesses**
- **Public lacks information about the industry**
- **Differences between legal and illegal vans is not always obvious**



# SAFETY CONCERNS

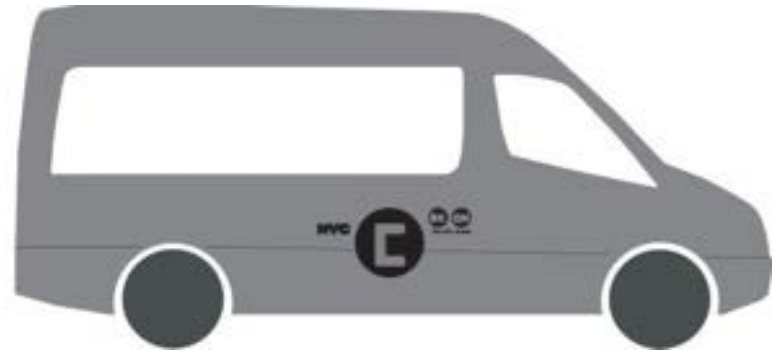
- **Illegal vans pose a threat to passengers, other drivers, and pedestrians**
  - **No safety inspections**
  - **Not properly insured**
  - **Dangerous Driving**
- **VISION ZERO  ** : the TLC must take steps to make the public aware of the dangers of illegal vans, and how to identify and utilize licensed Commuter Vans.

# **TLC'S APPROACH**

- **Enforcement against unlicensed vans**
  - **Partnership with NYPD**
- **Licensing**
  - **Identify ways to make more operators become licensed.**
- **Public outreach**
  - **TLC pilot program**

# PILOT PROGRAM DETAILS

- **Authorizes Commuter Van operators to display distinctive TLC decals**
- **Open to any Commuter Van operator**
- **Approximately \$50 per Commuter Van**
- **Decals will be placed on the Commuter Vans exclusively by licensed paint shops upon presenting a letter from the TLC authorizing the decal**







# GOALS AND EVALUATION

- **Public will recognize and choose to use only licensed Commuter Vans.**
- **Licensed Commuter Vans will attract new customers**
- **Participants will report:**
  - **Any changes in passenger volume and profits**
  - **Observations of commuter van drivers with regard to passenger satisfaction**
  - **The overall experience of commuter van drivers and operators**
- **TLC will evaluate:**
  - **Number of commuter van services and the number of commuter van vehicles**
  - **Number of applications for service authorizations and vehicle licenses**
  - **Public feedback about the Pilot Program**

# QUESTIONS?

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