

For Immediate Release

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TLC LAUNCHES NEW GROUP RIDE STAND AT PORT AUTHORITY BUS TERMINAL

New Service is Part of Mayor Bloomberg's Plan To Enhance Transit Options in New York City

Following a brief pre-launch testing period, the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) today inaugurated a new group ride service stand at the Port Authority Bus Terminal.

The new yellow taxi group ride stand at West 42nd Street and 8th Avenue will serve passengers between the hours of 6 and 10 a.m. on weekdays. The new service would allow two or more passengers to pay a flat fare of \$3.00 for taxicab rides from the group ride stand location to a drop-off point at 59th Street and Avenue of the Americas (6th Avenue). While passengers will have the ability to "hop off" anywhere along the driver's chosen route, drivers will not be able to pick up additional passengers along the way. As with all yellow taxicab rides, passengers will have the ability to pay their group ride fare by either cash or credit/debit card.

"As we had hoped, the service is already proving popular with passengers, with an average of at least 10 rides per day taking place during a pre-launch test period," said TLC Commissioner David Yassky. "We hope to explore many such opportunities to enhance transportation options for riders, while allowing drivers to earn more in the months ahead, and we are gratified that this particular one is paying early dividends."

Further information on the Group Ride Stand is available on the TLC's web site at www.nyc.gov/taxi.