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[nyc.gov/consumers](http://nyc.gov/consumers)

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Mr. [REDACTED] VIA EMAIL ([REDACTED])

Re: Legal Interpretation – Licensing of Quadricycles

Dear Mr. [REDACTED]:

The New York City Department of Consumer Affairs issues this letter in response to your inquiry whether you may obtain a license to operate a quadricycle that seats approximately ten people to provide sightseeing tours in New York City. The short answer is no.

A quadricycle cannot be licensed as a pedicab in New York City. Section 20-249(c) of the NYC Administrative Code defines a pedicab, in pertinent part, as “a bicycle as defined in the vehicle and traffic law.” Section 102 of the New York Vehicle and Traffic Law defines a bicycle as “[e]very **two or three wheeled** device upon which a person or persons may ride, propelled by human power through a belt, a chain or gears, with such wheels in a tandem or tricycle[.]” (emphasis added). A four wheeled vehicle is not a bicycle as defined in State law and therefore may not be licensed as a pedicab.

In addition, local law prohibits operation of a quadricycle on the streets of New York City. In particular, section 19-171.1(b) of the Administrative Code states that “[i]t shall be unlawful to operate, or cause to be operated, any motorized pedicab or **multi-passenger wheeled device**, other than a tandem bicycle, on any street, sidewalk, highway, bridge, tunnel or park within New York City.” Administrative Code § 19-171.1(b) (emphasis added). Administrative Code § 19-171.1(a)(2) defines “multi-passenger wheeled device” as “a wheeled device with three or more wheels that is designed and constructed to permit seating by more than two people, that is propelled by human power, and that is designed to permit propulsion by more than two individuals simultaneously.”

More information about New York City’s licensing laws can be found at [www.nyc.gov/consumers](http://www.nyc.gov/consumers).

Very truly yours,

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]