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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Industry Notice #01-15
June, 2001

(UPDATING INDUSTRY NOTICES #01-06 & #01-12) ACCESSIBLE VEHICLE REIMBURSEMENT FUNDS ROLLED OVER INTO FISCAL YEAR 2002

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) is pleased to announce that the $1 million budgeted by Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani and the City Council for a reimbursement program to facilitate the purchase or retrofit of wheelchair-accessible vehicles for-hire, will continue to be available through Fiscal Year 2002. While these funds had been budgeted for Fiscal Year 2001, which runs from July 1, 2000 to June 30, 2001, the unused monies will be rolled over into Fiscal Year 2002, which begins on July 1, 2001.

The funds were initially announced on February 14, 2001 following the passage of a TLC rule, to become effective October 31, 2001, requiring all licensed for-hire vehicle bases to provide wheelchair-accessible service upon request. This may be accomplished by dispatching the base’s own vehicle, or by contracting with a provider of wheelchair-accessible service. While medallion owners are not required at this time to provide wheelchair-accessible service, monies have been earmarked for their participation as well.

Seventy-five percent (or $750,000) of the budgeted funds will be allocated to the for-hire vehicle industry, of which ten percent will be sub-allocated to the Black Car segment. Twenty-five percent (or $250,000) of the funds are designated for medallion taxicabs. Reimbursement will be granted on a first-come, first-served basis, with up to $7,500 per for-hire-vehicle and up to $5,000 per medallion taxicab.

Reimbursement recipients will be required to provide to the TLC, on a regular basis, detailed trip and mileage data, passenger survey results, vehicle maintenance records and advertising revenue data. The TLC will review and analyze this data to gauge the success of the program.

Application packages are available from certified dealers and retrofitters, a listing of whom may be viewed at the TLC’s web site at www.NYC.gov/taxi. Applications will also be available at the reception desks of TLC’s Licensing Division in Long Island City, Queens (32-02 Queens Boulevard, 718-391-5500), the TLC’s Safety and Emissions inspection facility in Woodside, Queens (24-55 B.Q.E. West Service Road, 718-267-4500), or the TLC’s Manhattan headquarters (40 Rector Street, 212-676-1000).