



Industry Notice #10-29
For Immediate Release

December 16, 2010

Request for Information Regarding An Accessible Dispatch Program

David Yassky
Commissioner

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Given the lessons learned from the New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission's (TLC) recently-concluded Accessible Dispatch Pilot Program and the challenges around TLC Rule 6-07(f), the TLC is pursuing an improved, centralized, citywide dispatch system for the five boroughs of New York City through the release and distribution of a Request For Information ("RFI"), available on the TLC's web site at www.nyc.gov/taxi.

This Request for Information ("RFI") seeks:

Information from interested parties, passengers, drivers and advocates on how to address the needs of persons with disabilities who seek better transportation options, through a dispatch system. The TLC also hopes to gather more specific knowledge on evolving technologies, costs associated and the true demand throughout the system.

- Note: Responses should include estimated costs for the creation and sustenance of such a system. The TLC understands that costs are estimated and not final, and are subject to change.

What is the size of the disabled community and the number of wheelchair accessible vehicles in NYC?

There are approximately 60,000 New Yorkers who use wheelchairs. The TLC currently licenses and regulates 232 wheelchair accessible medallion taxicabs and approximately six for-hire accessible vehicles.

What should responders focus on for this RFI?

Responders should focus on how best to implement an equivalent accessible dispatch system in order to utilize the existing number of wheelchair accessible vehicles to greater effect, and increasing compliance between the industry and TLC's specifications and requirements. Responders may also submit ideas that improve upon TLC's specifications and requirements.

TLC invites interested parties to submit:

1. Responses and suggestions on the best way to create and implement an equivalent, accessible dispatch system.

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AND/OR

2. Suggestions or alternatives that improve upon TLC's current regulations as they pertain to an equivalent accessible dispatch system.

All responses, suggestions or alternatives should be submitted by January 31st, 2011 to:

Seth Melnick

AccessibleDispatchRFI@tlc.nyc.gov

TLC staff is available to meet with interested parties to further explore responses submitted, or to discuss response ideas prior to submission. Please contact Seth Melnick at AccessibleDispatchRFI@tlc.nyc.gov

Disclaimer

It should be understood that this RFI does not represent a commitment on the part of the City to enter into any type of agreement with the companies, groups, or individuals that choose to respond. The information provided by respondents will not be used by the City to pre-qualify respondents or in any other way determine eligibility for the purposes of any program that may be undertaken in the future.

Respondents should note that no contract will be awarded pursuant to this RFI. Likewise, submission of a response to this RFI will not enhance any Respondent's chances to be included in any preferred vendor's list.

No responses to this RFI will be confidential, proprietary, or non-disclosable pursuant to the New York State Freedom of Information Law, Public Officers Law Article 6 Sections 84-90.