NEW SHORT RETURN (SHORTIE) POLICY AT JFK AND LAGUARDIA AIRPORTS

The New York City Taxi and Limousine Commission (TLC) is pleased to announce that the Port Authority of New York and New Jersey recently made changes to its Short Return Program at John F. Kennedy International (JFK) and LaGuardia (LGA) airports in order to provide more fare opportunities for taxi drivers. The Short Return Program permits taxis that are dispatched from either airport to defined areas to return and queue on expedited lines in the taxi holds (“Shortie Trips”). The Short Return time has been expanded from 90 minutes to two hours at both airports. However, taxis must continue to return to the airport that issued the Short Return ticket.

The Short Return Area for LGA includes all of the Borough of Queens and destinations in the Clason Point, Hunts Point, Parkchester, Port Morris, Schuylerville, Soundview, Throgs Neck, Union Port, Westchester, and West Farms communities of the Bronx. In addition, the Brooklyn area was expanded from the communities of Williamsburg and Greenpoint to include the entire borough of Brooklyn.

The Short Return Area for JFK remains the same and includes all of Queens and Brooklyn, and the Five Towns of Long Island (Lawrence, Cedarhurst, Woodmere, Inwood, and Hewlett).

Drivers are reminded that they must use Rate Code 2 when picking-up or dropping-off passengers on trips between Manhattan and JFK airports, and not at any other time.

For Shortie Trips, we recommend that drivers display their off-duty light if they intend to return directly to the airport and not pick up passengers along the way. Drivers who pick up passengers are required to take them to their destination; otherwise it will be considered a service refusal, subjecting them to possible enforcement action.