NEW YORK CITY TAXI & LIMOUSINE COMMISSION

PUBLIC MEETING

Held on Tuesday, June 22, 2010

40 Rector Street

New York, New York.

Time: 9:00 a.m.
APPEARANCES:

DAVID YASSKY, Chairman
HARRY GIANNOULIS, Commissioner
ED GONZALES, Commissioner
IRIS WEINSHALL, Commissioner
ELIAS AROUT, Commissioner
CHARLES FRASER, General Counsel
MR. YASSKY: Good morning. Thank you very much. I want to just first thank the commissioners very much for being very flexible with your schedules, and not just scheduling this meeting on short notice but the time change as well. For members of the public in the industry who are here, I appreciate your bearing with us.

We are going to make this as brief of a meeting as we can because that is what we promised, and we have a full meeting coming up in July. So, I will skip a lengthy chairman's report and move directly to adoption of the minutes. Is there a motion?

MR. AROUT: Motion.

MR. GONZALES: Second it.

MR. YASSKY: All in favor?

THE COMMISSION: (In unison) Aye.

MR. YASSKY: A unanimous vote, the minutes of the May 20, 2010 Commission meeting are adopted.

We have a series of base applications for approval. Can we do all of these together, the new renewals, not the denials,
but all the acceptances together?

MR. AROUT: Right.

MR. YASSKY: So, I want to remove from

the list, there is one renewal and relocation

application for Bliss 48, Inc., that's

B01103. I know that there were not materials

for that included in the materials circulated

to the commissioners, so we will withdraw

that from consideration today and defer that
to the next meeting, but for the remainder of

the approvals, the new and renewals indicated

in the materials, is there a motion to

approve those?

MR. AROUT: Motion to approve.

MR. GONZALES: Second.

MS. STEELE-RADWAY: All 26?

MR. YASSKY: All 26. So, there is a

motion. All in favor?

THE COMMISSION: (In unison) Aye.

MR. YASSKY: So, by unanimous vote,

there are 26 new and renewal base

applications approved.

There are also two being recommended for
denial.
MS. STEELE-RADWAY: Thirty days in addition so that they can submit the outstanding items.

MR. YASSKY: So, are we recommending --

MS. STEELE-RADWAY: We are recommending for denial another additional thirty days.

MR. YASSKY: Is there a motion to accept that recommendation and deny those applications?

MR. AROUT: So move.

MR. GONZALES: Second.

MR. YASSKY: All in favor?

THE COMMISSION: (In unison) Aye.

MR. YASSKY: A unanimous vote. Thank you, Georgia. Those applications are denied.

Now, the main item of business today is a proposal for a group ride stand for medallion taxicabs on York Avenue on Manhattan. The presentation for that proposal will be by Emily Gallo.

MS. GALLI: Good morning. Beginning on June 27th, the MTA is going to discontinue the X90 express bus service that travels between the Upper East Side and the Financial
District. The X90 serves approximately 400 passengers each morning and makes stops every few blocks along York Avenue from 92nd Street to East 67th Street, as you can see on this map. The price is approximately 4.50 to 5.50 per passenger depending on the type of fair media that they purchase.

To offer an alternative to offer to passengers who are affected by this service cut, we are proposing to pilot a taxi group ride stand in the area. In choosing the location, we had several criteria. We wanted the stand to be placed in an area that would reach the most passengers of the X90 without being too close to the existing taxi stand at East 79th Street and York Avenue.

We also wanted the stand to be conveniently located near an entry to the FDR Drive South, so that the drivers could take the most express route to lower Manhattan.

And lastly, we wanted to find a location that we could use without inconveniencing neighbors by eliminating a minimal number of parking spaces.
So, TLC's staff traveled on the X90 for two mornings to count the number of passengers who boarded at each stop. Our counts showed that the highest number of pickups were located at East 79th Street where a current taxi stand is located, followed by East 82nd, East 74th, East 72nd, and East 67th. Based on these observations, we went to scout for a site located in the upper 60s or lower 70s.

The location that we believe is ideal for this group ride stand is located on the northbound side of York Avenue located mid-block between East 70th and East 71st Street. This location is convenient for an estimated 100-plus X90 passengers and could appeal to those as far south as East 67th Street. It's a location of an existing taxi stand that is five parking spots in length, which means that we do not need to eliminate one parking spot, we could just add the option to group ride from this location.

And finally, this area provides very easy access to the FDR Drive South allowing
drivers to make a simple right turn on East 73rd Street.

So, the stand will offer both group ride and standard rides. For the group ride, the fare will be $6 per person, which is the same fare as the 79th Street taxi stand. The taxis will be expected to enter the FDR Drive by the 73rd Street entrance, and drop-offs can begin in Lower Manhattan along Pearl Street, Water Street, and as far as the World Financial Center.

As you can see from this map, we have suggested a route for the drivers, but depending on the unique destinations of their passengers, they can make drop-offs as they see fit. For example, if a driver were to pick up three passengers who were all heading to the World Financial Center, we would expect them to travel along the FDR Drive straight to the World Financial Center.

So, pending your approval, outreach will begin immediately for the new group ride stand. We have created flyers for both passengers and drivers to tell them about the
stand, both the new stand and the current 79th Street stand, and the flyers explain how the group rides work. We are planning to distribute these flyers to X90 passengers later this week and distribute flyers to drivers at the airports, to our facilities, and to the fleets and garages to tell them about this opportunity.

Does anyone have any questions?

MS. WEINSHALL: I don't have a question, I just have an observation. As I discussed with the Chairman, I travel to work that route every morning, something to be aware of, and I think you are going to have to work with the police department, there is a lot of trucks that double-park because of the hospitals, and they also park in the taxi lane. So, the only thing that I would say is that, it's already very difficult for a car to drive, and you just may want to monitor where the trucks are double-parking or parking in the taxi lane so that cabs can actually pull in and pull in passengers there.
MR. YASSKY: Understood, and we certainly will work with the precinct and our own enforcement edition. The hospital, I looked up the location myself, and as you say, you know, the presence of a hospital there means that there's a lot of traffic, and sometimes people are coming out from the curb. So, yes, that's something to be aware of.

MS. WEINSHALL: And it's the worse time for this type of stand, because it's early in the morning that they're making the deliveries to the hospital. So, you just sort of have to be aware of that.

MR. AROUT: Emily, I just want to say thank you very much for emailing. This was great. You did a great job, it wasn't easy putting together, but thank you very much. I can understand it.

MS. GALLO: Thank you.

MR. YASSKY: Any further questions? (No response)

MR. YASSKY: On that note, before we vote, I'll say that I want to thank the TLC
staff, Ms. Gallo, and the entire staff who worked on this. They did a terrific job very speedily. You know, to deal with this loss of service, we wanted to react with appropriate quickness, and the staff went above and beyond to do that and I just want to thank them for that and for the quality of the product. I'm very optimistic about this being of use to some of the affected commuters.

We are going to be calling on the staff to do that even more in the coming weeks and I suppose months, with everything on the agenda, but in particular as a kind of follow-up to this.

The Mayor, later this morning, will be making an announcement -- and I don't want to -- indeed, I could not preempt that, but I noticed it is described on his public schedule as "Announces new group ride van service for commuters affected by MTA bus cuts," an announcement at 10:30 for anyone who wants to join at Melbourne Avenue and 150th Street in the Borough of Queens.
You know, what the Mayor will do is ask us commissioners to do what we have done here in responding to the need for service to help some of the commuters affected by MTA cuts elsewhere in the City. It is kind of easiest in Manhattan because our rules fit well with the type of service needed in Manhattan. Outside, it is a little more difficult and will require some work because we have to of course respect our fundamental policy commitment that street service is provided by 13,237 medallion taxis, and that has worked very well to ensure a high level, a consistently high level of service to New Yorkers and visitors. So, we have to use our creativity and our energy to make sure that we do what we need to do and should do to help get people to work and around a little bit faster where the MTA is unfortunately being forced to cut back, and yet but working within our framework.

So, that's the challenge for us. We've been asked to do this, we will be asked to do this in a really expedited time frame. So,
the staff here will be working very hard.

Commissioners, I will be communicating with you as these ideas evolve. But certainly the expectation is that we will bring you a presentation at the next Commission meeting for some type of service outside of Manhattan to deal with this. So, I just want you to be on alert for that, and again, I will communicate with each of you and work with you as the thoughts evolve.

So, with that, is there a motion to approve the York Avenue Taxi Group Ride Stand?

MR. AROUT: Move.

MR. GONZALES: Second.

MR. AROUT: Mr. Chairman, do you have the date for July?

MR. YASSKY: I believe it is July 15th. Feel free to correct me. Yes, I see one head nodding.

MS. WEINSHALL: Is that a Friday?

MR. YASSKY: I would be surprised. I'm guessing that's a Thursday. Yes, I see another head nodding. So, I believe that's a
Thursday, the 15th.

MR. AROUT: Thank you.

MR. YASSKY: Again we'll confirm with each of your offices. I believe we sent that date out earlier, but we'll confirm with each of your offices.

The motion has been made. It's been seconded, but the kind of tension is building appropriately, I was just waiting for the drum roll but I see our musical accompaniment is on leave. So, all in favor, say aye.

THE COMMISSION: (In unison) Aye.

MR. YASSKY: Opposed?

(No response)

MR. YASSKY: Without objection, the motion is approved. I will now entertain a motion to adjourn.

MS. WEINSHALL: So move.

MR. YASSKY: Can I second that?

MR. FRASER: You can.

MR. YASSKY: Seconded.

All in favor?

THE COMMISSION: (In unison) Aye.

Without objection, the meeting is
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adjourned at an impressive 22 minutes. Thank you commissioners.
CERTIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK )

COUNTY OF NEW YORK )

SS.

I, CASEY MARTIN, a Stenotype Reporter and Notary Public for the State of New York, do hereby certify:

THAT this is a true and accurate transcription of the New York City Taxi & Limousine public meeting held on June 22, 2010.

I further certify that I am not related either by blood or marriage to any of the parties in this matter; and

I am not in any way interested in the outcome of this matter.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand this 22nd day of June 2010.

CASEY MARTIN