Taxicab Advisory Group
Meeting Minutes of October 23, 2012
140 West Flagler Street, Suite 908
Miami, Florida 33130

Members Present:	**Industry Representation:**
Dr. William Samek, Chairperson	Consumer
Dawood Akhtar	Chauffeur
Monica Beltran	MIA Representative
Heidi Johnson-Wright	Office of ADA Coordination
Les Eisenberg	Passenger Service Company Principal
Diego Feliciano	License Holder
Rolando Aedo	Visitor Industry Representative
Robert Singer	Consumer
Anson Jean Pierre	Chauffeur

Members Absent:	
Fred Wong	Port of Miami Representative
Jerry Moskowitz	Passenger Service Company Principal

Staff Present:	
Joe Mora	Division Director, For-Hire Transp.
Steve Bobes	Administrative Officer, For-Hire Trans
Ivan Cotayo	Taxi Cab Coordinator, For-Hire Trans
Nancy Perez	Senior Executive Secretary, RER
Bridgette Newsome	Secretary, For-Hire Transportation

Mr. Mora informed the Chair, a quorum was reached and, members Fred Wong and Jerry Moskowitz notified staff, they would not be in attendance at today's meeting.

Dr. Samek commenced the meeting setting the agenda and welcomed TAG members.

Approval of the July 24, 2012 Minutes:
Dr. Samek requested review and approval of the July 24, 2012 meeting minutes. Mr. Dawood offered a motion to approve the July 24, 2012 TAG minutes, seconded by Ms. Beltran, with unanimous approval.

Chauffeur of the 3rd Quarter:
Ms. Beltran nominated driver 3-1 as the recipient for Chauffeur of the 3rd Quarter award. Mr. Aedo seconded that nomination. There being no discussion, TAG members unanimously approved Ms. Beltran's nomination and voted to accept driver 3-1 as Chauffeur of the 3rd Quarter.

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Taxicab Stand Updates:

The below is provided as a quarterly update on our taxicab stand accomplishments from the prior quarter TAG meeting held July 24, 2012.

As a result of our request; the following taxicab stands have been established, Re-established and/or increased.

- Established a two (2) car stand at the Dadeland Marriott Hotel 9075 South Dadeland Boulevard.
- Increased the one (1) car stand to a two (2) car stand in front of Bayside Market Place.
- Coordinated re-establishment of the three (3) car stand (Central Cab Call Point) at 95th Street & Harding Avenue.

In partnership with the City of Miami Beach Parking Department temporary taxicab stands were established at the Miami Beach Convention Center, in an effort to provide additional transportation services for the following events:

- HD Boutique Show held September 11-12, 2012.
- Association for Financial Professionals (AFP) held October 14-17, 2012.
- Transcatheter Cardiovascular Therapeutics Conference (TCT 2012) held October 22-26, 2012.

Coordinated the activation of temporary taxicab stands at Sun Life Stadium - Gate 4 for the following football games:

- Miami Dolphins events: August 10th , September 16th and October 14, 2012
- University of Miami event (UM) October 13, 2012

For a list of all taxicab stand locations, please visit the Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources website at: http://www.miamidade.gov/business/library/forms/taxi-stand-locations.pdf

Underserved & South Miami Dade Area Updates:
Mr. Mora informed members, a workshop was held to review Code amendments for Underserved Area (UA) and SMART taxicab license holders. The workshop covered implementation and procedural details for license conversion and the handling of existing medallions into hybrid medallions. Mr. Mora stated although operators were afforded a 12- month timeslot in which to comply with the required conversion fee payment, drivers were given the immediate opportunity to start operating these shifts on odd and even days. To date, several drivers have submitted their completed application form together with the appropriate conversion fee payment.

Lease Receipts:
The proposed ordinance, if adopted, would amend the requirement relating to chauffeur agreements with for-hire license holders and passenger service companies requiring these license holders to submit itemized receipts to all chauffeurs. All receipts must be itemized: amount of compensation attributable to the lease, insurance cost, dispatch cost, deposits and any other charge or costs associated to leasing vehicle must be placed on the receipt. Also, it would be unlawful for a for-hire license holder to require that a chauffeur purchase a taxicab, lease taxicab, or finance the purchase of a taxicab, as a condition of entering into a chauffeur's agreement.

Credit Card Models:
Mr. Aedo discussed the Board's directive to the division to develop one or more processes that would encourage drivers to accept credit cards without having to pay the out-of-pocket processing fee and wouldn't violate State law regarding additional charges to passengers for use of credit cards. Mr. Mora stated staff continue research on various credit card models, laws, companies, different credit card processing mythologies, product capabilities and other areas that will divert drivers from paying additional credit card processing fees.

Mr. Mora informed, consideration for mandating credit card models in all vehicles countywide is under consideration by the County. Mr. Eisenberg offered a motion to establish a sub- committee to meet regarding use of credit cards. Mr. Singer seconded that motion, with unanimous member approval.

Members continued to discuss recommendation for credit card models that would be suitable for drivers and passengers.

Taxi Growth Formula:
The growth formula basically establishes a formula for future taxi medallion growth. Formula information is derived in part from utilization of electronic data files from

passenger service companies (PSC), percentage growth in taxi trips dispatched by the Airport and Seaport, percentage growth in countywide hotel occupancy levels and the general population of Miami-Dade County. Annual Medallion Taxi Permits issue 25% trips provided, plus 25% Airport and Seaport and 25% Hotel occupancy and 25% in population, where the symbol greater refers to growth in.

Mr. Mora advised members he will reach out to the regulators in Washington D.C. to obtain information and possible ideas on their growth formula that might assist the department.

Vacancies:

Mr. Mora advised the division is currently seeking to add an additional seat to the TAG Committee. The seat would be held by a taxi driver without interest. Mr. Eisenberg remarked revisions to the TAG by-laws would have to be considered if adding an additional member. Dr. Samek requested copies of the TAG by-laws be distributed to members at their next TAG meeting. Members in the audience volunteered their services to TAG. Mr. Mora explained if revisions are made to TAG's by-laws, the newly vacant seat would be advertised to the general public and interested parties. Interested parties seeking membership in TAG would be required to submit an application to the division. A decision would then be rendered by division staff and committee members.

Adjournment:

There being no further business before the Committee, Dr. Samek moved for adjournment, with unanimously approval.