



SUMMARY OF PROPOSED PEDICAB LICENSING RULES

On April 23, 2007, the New York City Council enacted Local Law 19, over Mayor Bloomberg's veto, requiring pedicabs operating on City streets to be licensed. Local Law 19 restricts the total number of pedicab plates that can be distributed citywide to 325, and, in addition, restricts the number of plates that can be assigned to each individual to a maximum of 30. The number of licenses that can be issued to pedicab drivers is unlimited.

The New York City Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) is charged with administering the licensing process for pedicabs. DCA published its proposed rules for administering pedicab licenses in the City Record on July 3, 2007. A public hearing is scheduled for August 3, 2007 at 10:00 a.m., to be held at 125 Worth Street, 2nd Floor Auditorium, New York, N.Y. 10013. Written comment may be submitted by email to pedicabs@dca.nyc.gov, or mail (Attn: Andrew Eiler, Office of the Commissioner, NYC Department of Consumer Affairs, 42 Broadway, 8th floor, New York, NY 10004) on or before August 3, 2007. For a full copy of the proposed rules, please visit DCA's web site at www.nyc.gov/consumers.

Q&A

1. How would businesses be eligible for pedicab plates?

To be eligible for pedicab plates, individuals would be required to file an application with DCA and would be able to request the number of plates they wish to apply for, with the law limiting the number to 30 per individual. The proposal calls for a limited time in which to apply, with additional time included for a licensing orientation by DCA.

2. How would DCA distribute the limited number of pedicab plates?

Pedicab owners who can prove they have been operating prior to April 23, 2007 would have the first chance to obtain available plates through an established business applicant pool for registration plates. Verifying documents of proof may include government-issued certificates (Corporation/Business ID), insurance, etc. Any individual that fails to verify that they are established would be included in the new business applicant pool for registration plates.

3. How would the established business applicant pool for registration plates work?

The proposal calls for plates to be distributed to applicants in "rounds," one plate at a time, until the maximum number of plates is exhausted or until all requests have been satisfied. If during any round there are more applicants remaining than there are available plates, DCA would conduct a random computer drawing to select which of these applicants receive the available plates. Applicants still with an outstanding number of requested plates would be put on the wait list.

4. How would the new business applicant pool for registration plates work?

The proposal calls for this registration pool, which includes new businesses, to operate like the first. However, the number of plates available will depend on how many are left once all requests from the first pool have been satisfied. Any applicants from this pool with an outstanding number of requested plates would also be put on the wait list.

5. How would the wait list work?

Any applicant from both pools with outstanding plate requests - and anyone who applied after the stated deadline but before the wait list was created - would be put on an initial wait list. Placement order would be determined through computerized random selection. Working from the top of the list, DCA would issue one plate per individual as plates become available. Once an individual has been offered a plate, they would be removed from the wait list - however, if requested, they could go back on the bottom of the list to wait for another opportunity. After the wait list is initially created, any individual that requests a plate would be placed at the bottom of the list in the order that requests are received.