

## Agenda Item: 2

Staff Report and Commissioner Announcements [INFORMATION]



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JORDANNA THIGPEN, ACTING EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

**TO: Honorable Commissioners**  
**FROM: Jordanna Thigpen**  
**RE: Staff Report 06.02.08**  
**Date: June 4, 2008**

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### Administration/Policy

- **Meter Increase to Assist Drivers:** There are two parts to reporting to the Commission on the state of the meter and flag drop charges in the City. Part I is the Controller's Report. Since the Controller's Report will not be finished in time for the July 8 hearing, I will be providing the Commission with Part II, a historical analysis of San Francisco rates and comparison of our rates to those of other jurisdictions, in July 2008.
- **Clean Air Taxi Program:** All companies were supposed to submit their plans by 5 PM on June 2, 2008. Several companies did not and have been assessed fines of \$250. In addition, those companies will not be recommended for inclusion in the June 2008 grant application to BAAQMD. The Commission cannot justify the inclusion of companies that fail to comply with the Commission's rules in an important grant application, where failure to comply with rules could jeopardize funding for the entire City. I have also made contact with Toyota San Francisco and intend to meet with the Fleet Manager and Vice President there to update them on the new legislation so they can plan their inventory purchases accordingly.
- **Budget:** The department's budget was unanimously recommended at the Board of Supervisors' Budget Committee. The Budget Committee added another investigator so by the end of the calendar year we will have three investigators.
- **Annual Inspections:** These have begun at GTU. We are hearing reports of very problematic vehicles, including filthy interiors. This has been confirmed by complaints from the public.
- **311 Report:** Some Commissioners have asked for a report on the types of complaints and the numbers of complaints that we receive at 311. Currently, 311's reporting structure does not allow for complaints to be sorted and reported in a type by type manner. However, 311 is upgrading itself to a better version (version 7.0) and prospectively we will be able to obtain those figures. We aim to close out the 2007 taxi-related service requests by June 30, 2008 and we will track the number of complaints on various categories of offenses as we do so, in order to provide a report in July.
- **Camera Program:** Official notice of the new specifications will come from the office in July 2008. All Raywood cameras must be replaced so companies with Raywood cameras need to start thinking about a plan for replacement now.
- **Outreach:** Tamara has put together an email survey regarding taxi service and is in the process of administering it. If you would like to distribute it please contact our office. I held Open Forum on Friday, May 30, 2008 and another forum will occur this Friday, June 13, 2008.
- **March 2007 Grant Funding:** We still have 6 grants at \$4,000 remaining for CNG vehicles.

- **June 2007 Grant Funding:** The June 2007 grant agreement is signed, so the Commission is in the process of signing contracts with each of the four companies affected by that particular grant cycle. There is funding for 51 hybrids in that particular grant. Once again we must reiterate that those companies receiving funds for that grant need to get their purchase orders and other documents ready and make sure they have sufficient inventory so that they can actually utilize the grant funding and do not jeopardize future funding.
- **Annual Filings (MPC §§ 1095, 1147.4):** Three have still not filed and revocation complaints were issued against each individual. They are scheduled for July 8, 2008. All incomplete filers have been placed on tonight's agenda under the Notice section. There are still two companies that did not file worker's compensation statements as required by MPC § 1147.4: Central and Lucky. These companies are also non-participants in the City's paratransit program and have been suspended by the paratransit broker since 2006. There are also several other problems with regards to these two companies. Complaints for revocation as to both companies are being drafted and will shortly issue. They will also appear on the July 8, 2008 calendar.
- **Rules & Regulations Subcommittee:** The next meeting will occur June 10, 2008 and at the June 10, 2008 Commission meeting, we will announce the next date.
- **Charter Reform Working Group:** The Group will meet on June 6, 2008.
- **Taxi Commission:** The June 24, 2008 meeting is CANCELLED for now.

### Enforcement/Regulation

- **2006 Proposition K Audit:** The 2008 Proposition K Audit report will issue on **July 8, 2008** with the Color Scheme Audit. The report will outline the results of the 2006 Prop K Audit and provide an update on overall discipline and enforcement with regards to the driving requirement on non-disabled Post-K medallion holders.
- **Summary Suspensions:** a summary suspension was issued against Hakim Ikariouen and a formal complaint is forthcoming. Yakub Mahmudoglu also remains on summary suspension. Two more summary suspensions will be filed by June 11, 2008 for two different incidents.
- **Special Event Taxi Service and Illegal Limousine Enforcement:**
  - The new plan to ensure proper service at AT&T Park involves additional officers at the taxi stand location. SFMTA will not be providing additional PCOs to the area. In fact, SFMTA pulled all existing PCOs from deployment without notice to this department or SFPD.
  - The Taxi Commission continues to fund enforcement teams on a weekly basis to combat illegal limousines and conduct general street enforcement on out of town taxicabs.
- **Administrative hearings:** There are currently none scheduled. We are awaiting a decision on Taxi Commission v. Rahimi.
- **Board of Appeals:** We have several upcoming cases, including Robert Friedman, Grasshopper, and others. I am happy to report a settlement was reached in the KSJ matter and it is anticipated that the Settlement Agreement will be formally adopted by the Board of Appeals on June 11, 2008.
- **Sunshine Task Force:** I will appear on July 2, 2008 to defend the Commission's position in the recently filed Barry Taranto v. Taxi Commission, a Sunshine Task Force complaint.



WELCOME TO THE TAXI DRIVERS OF  
SAN FRANCISCO!

**Second Annual Taxi Driver Appreciation Day at The Westin St. Francis**  
**June 12, 2007**  
**From 7-10am**  
**Stop by for Free Coffee and Donuts**  
**Enter Drawing to win two night stay**

June 1, 2007

Dear Taxi Commission:

On behalf of The Westin St. Francis Hotel we would like to invite you and your drivers to the **second annual taxi cab driver appreciation day** on June 12<sup>th</sup>. We hope you will announce this event at your next commission meeting on Tuesday (June 11<sup>th</sup>). As we did last year, we would like to draw the winner of the 2 night stay at the following commission meeting.

The Westin St. Francis, located on Union Square at 335 Powell Street, will be giving the drivers Starbucks coffee and donuts between the hours of 7 and 10am.

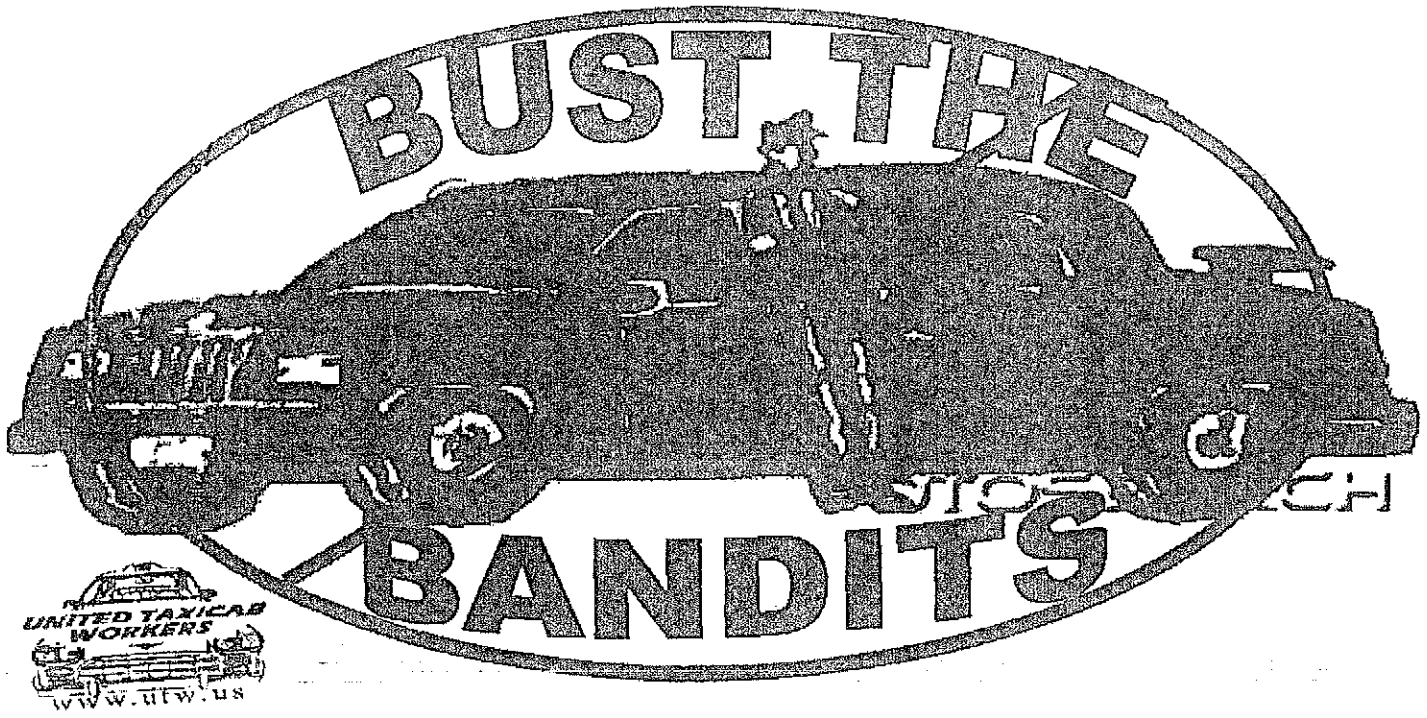
Please let your drivers know about the event and encourage them to stop by and enjoy! If you have any questions regarding this event please contact: Laiko Bahrs at (415) 781-7766 or [Laiko@andrewfreemanandco.com](mailto:Laiko@andrewfreemanandco.com).

**Thank you and we hope to see your drivers on June 11<sup>th</sup>!**

Sincerely,

Laiko Bahrs  
Andrew Freeman & Co.

UNITED TAXICAB WORKERS



# ILLEGAL LIMO & CAB CONFERENCE

Speakers:

Sgt. Ron Reynolds, Taxi Detail

Jordanna Thigpen, Acting Exec. Dir., Taxi Commission

Off. Stuart Molver, SFO Ground Transportation Unit

THURS. JUNE 12, 2008  
2940 16th St @ 50th Ave

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