REQUEST FOR INFORMATION  
March 23, 2009

To Whom It May Concern:

The San Francisco Municipal Transportation Agency (SFMTA) is issuing this Request for Information (RFI) to solicit information from the public and from the taxi industry as regarding the potential reform of Proposition K, the full text of which is set forth in San Francisco Administrative Code, Appendix 6. (See also, http://www.municode.com/Resources/gateway.asp?pid=14131&sid=5)

Deadline for receipt of information is May 1, 2009.

Proposition K prohibits transfer of any taxi permit (“medallion”), and required the holder of a medallion to declare their intention to “actively and personally to engage as permittee driver under any permit issued to him or her for at least four hours during any 24 hour period on at least 75 percent of the business days during the calendar year.” It also prohibits a person from holding more than one permit, and prohibits the issuance of a medallion to a corporation.

Some cities in the United States have converted their taxi medallion system to one that allows transfer of medallions between permit holders. Some have proposed that San Francisco adopt such a model of medallion transferability. The SFMTA has received information from different sources about the perceived risks and benefits of taxi medallion transferability. Some of those proposals offer models of medallion transfer systems that differ in the details, and others offer alternatives to a “transferability” model. Several sources have proposed that Proposition K not be changed at all.

The purpose of this RFI is to solicit any and all information from the public and from the taxi industry regarding options for Proposition K reform for consideration by the SFMTA Board of Directors. Information received will be made available to the public, including posting on the internet, with a notation as to the source of the information. When all proposals have been received, the SFMTA will circulate the compiled materials for discussion and analysis. The SFMTA will continue to host public meetings [link to town hall meeting page] to discuss the information received and share analysis of the proposals.

Proposals submitted should include discussion of the proposal’s effects on:
1. Taxi service to the public
2. Retirement options for career taxi drivers
3. People on the waiting list for a medallion
4. Elderly and disabled medallion holders who can no longer meet their fulltime driving requirement
5. The economic viability of all elements of the San Francisco taxi industry

Proposals that have already been received are posted at [insert URL of location of downloadable prop k reform proposals]. Any materials that are posted on that site have been received for the purposes of this RFI and need not be re-submitted.

The results of this discussion and analysis will be shared with the SFMTA Board of Directors.

Please direct any information that you would like to submit to:

christiane.hayashi@sfmta.com

or by U.S. Mail to:

Christiane Hayashi  
Director, Taxis and Accessible Services  
1 South Van Ness 7th Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94103

All materials must be received no later than May 1, 2009.