



CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

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**RINA CUTLER**  
Deputy Mayor for Transportation and Utilities

2885

August 8, 2011

Silvan B. Lutkewitte, III  
Chairman  
Independent Regulatory Review Commission  
14th Floor  
333 Market Street  
Harrisburg, PA 17101

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Dear Chairman Lutkewitte:

I write to support the passage of the Final Form Taxicab and Limousine Regulations from the Philadelphia Parking Authority.

As Philadelphia's Deputy Mayor for Transportation and Utilities, I advise Mayor Michael A. Nutter on the operations of taxicabs and limousines servicing Philadelphia. The City would like to see improvements made to the condition of the taxicab fleet and the introduction of a considerable number of wheelchair accessible taxicabs. The Authority initially incorporated the City's concerns in this regard into its proposed taxicab and limousine regulations and is responsive to the City's needs on a day to day basis.

I understand now, however, that a number of the requirements to improve taxicab and limousine service were cut from the final form regulations in order to expedite passage of the reformatted rules. I believe proceeding in this fashion is a prudent course to take in order to allow enforcement against the segment of the regulated industry that refuses to comply with existing law. PHL customers would benefit from wheelchair accessible, alternative fuel and newer vehicles. It is my expectation that lower age and mileage requirements, wheelchair accessibility requirements and alternative fuel incentives will be handled in future rulemaking.

I respectfully request that you approve the Authority's final form taxicab and limousine regulations at your meeting on August 25th.

Sincerely,

Rina Cutler  
Deputy Mayor  
Transportation and Utilities

RC/dd