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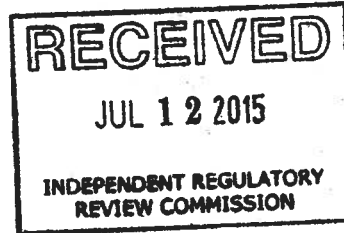
Kathy Cooper

From: Ian Smith <ismith@alum.mit.edu>
Sent: Sunday, July 12, 2015 11:45 PM
To: IRRC; dweldon@philapark.org; jney@philapark.org
Subject: Philadelphia Parking Authority's Proposed Rulemaking Order 126-11

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I support the Philadelphia Parking Authority's Proposed Rulemaking Order 126-11, which would require all vehicles proposed for taxicab service after a designated date to be wheelchair accessible. A fully-accessible cab system is the only way to ensure equal access to cab transit for wheelchair users - as we've seen in every major city in the US. Having a small number of accessible cabs leads to, at best, lengthy wait times; and at worst, a system that can't be relied on to get home. Transitioning to a fully-accessible system also has the potential to save the city millions currently spent maintaining paratransit - paratransit which is pre-arranged rather than on-demand, and thus not equivalent access for its users.

While not a Philadelphian, I have visited Philadelphia in the past, and would love to visit again in the future. It'd be great if my next visit to the City of Brotherly Love included the beginnings of a fully-accessible transit system, taxis included.

Thank you,

Ian Smith

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