

MOTION

SEP 29 2006


In Los Angeles, taxicabs are an important transportation mode for tourists and visitors. They shuttle local and visiting people to and from airports, hotels, studios, and homes and provide a vital service to elderly, and disabled individuals. Taxi service is essential to the region and its quality and safety is paramount.

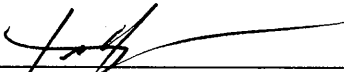
A recently released study by UCLA Professors Gary Blasi and Jacqueline Leavitt indicate that there are a number of issues in the Los Angeles taxi industry that the City should be concerned by. One of these is "bandit" or illegally operating taxicabs, towncars, and limousines. These vehicles may be operated by unlicensed drivers, or drivers with dangerous criminal records. Furthermore, the vehicles may be un-inspected or under-insured. Clearly, "bandit" cabs are a danger to rider and pedestrian safety.

The City has already recognized the dangers of "bandit" cabs and is currently implementing a fare increase to subsidize the work of Los Angeles Police Officers to increase enforcement. While this effort is a move in the right direction, we need to be sure that we are addressing this issue at thoroughly as possible.

I THEREFORE MOVE that the City Council instruct the Department of Transportation and the Los Angeles Police Department to report back in 30 days on the progress of on-going enforcement as well as additional methods that can be used to curtail this dangerous practice.

PRESENTED BY:


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