


BOARD REPORT
CITY OF LOS ANGELES
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

Date: August 8, 2024 P7X

To: Board of Transportation Commissioners

From: Laura Rubio-Cornejo, General Manager 

Subject: **RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE APPLICATION OF M. TRANS, INC. FOR THREE UNRESTRICTED NON-AMBULATORY PASSENGER VEHICLE PERMITS**

RECOMMENDATIONS

That the Board:

- a. **Find** that M. Trans, Inc. based upon evidence of patients in need of transportation; public convenience and necessity, requires the operation of three unrestricted non-ambulatory passenger vehicles.
- b. **Grant** three unrestricted non-ambulatory passenger vehicle permits to M. Trans, Inc. contingent upon:
 1. The applicant filing with the Department in such form as the Department requires and thereafter, keeping in full force and effect a policy of automobile liability insurance acceptable to the City Attorney and the City Risk Manager;
 2. The drivers and attendants obtaining the required permits;
 3. The applicant obtaining commercial or exempt registration for the vehicles;
 4. The vehicles passing Department inspection;
 5. The applicant complying with all Board rules and regulations and City ordinances pertaining to the operation of non-ambulatory passenger vehicles;
 6. The applicant charging only those rates for non-ambulatory passenger vehicle service as set forth in Board Order No. 608 (Ordinance No. 187587) and successor regulations; and
 7. The vehicles must be placed into service within 120 days after the Board of Transportation Commissioners' (Board) approval, or such authority shall become invalid. Upon written request and for good cause, the Department in its discretion, may grant an extension of time beyond the initial 120-day period after Board approval. Any request for an extension beyond the initial deadline date must be received prior to the 120-day deadline. Furthermore, if an extension is granted, only one extension may be allowed per application.

INITIATED BY

On July 23, 2024, the Department received an application from Mirian Vartapetyan, Owner of M. Trans, Inc., 16933 Parthenia Street, Suite 111, Northridge, California 91343, requesting three unrestricted non-ambulatory passenger vehicle permits for wheelchair vans service (Attachment 1). On July 23, 2024, the Department received complete documents needed to proceed with the application process.

DISCUSSION

M. Trans, Inc. is not currently authorized by the Board to operate any vehicles for hire in the City of Los Angeles.

The history of M. Trans, Inc.'s business is as follows: On August 22, 2012, the Articles of Incorporation under the General Corporation Law were filed with the California Secretary of State establishing M. Trans, Inc. (Attachment 2). On June 16, 2024, the Statement of Information was filed with the California Secretary of State naming Mirian Vartapetyan as the Chief Executive Officer, Chief Financial Officer, and Secretary of the company (Attachment 3). Mirian Vartapetyan is the sole shareholder of the company.

Public Convenience and Necessity

The application of M. Trans, Inc. was evaluated against Section 2 of the Guidelines for Establishing Public Convenience and Necessity as established by the Board on August 11, 2005, for applicants with no unrestricted non-ambulatory passenger vehicle permits (Attachment 4).

- a. Experience – The applicant submitted the resume of General Manager Anahit Harutyunyan. The applicant states that Ms. Harutyunyan was the General Manager for M. Trans, Inc. from August 2012 to May 2019. Her resume states that she was responsible for hiring and training new employees, and managing a team of drivers and dispatchers with a fleet of thirty vehicles.
- b. Background Check – The background checks were conducted on the owner and operations manager of M. Trans, Inc. and no disqualifying criminal history were found as listed in Board Order No. 600.
- c. Financial Capability – The applicant submitted financial documentation showing that the company demonstrates sufficient liquid assets to support the request for three unrestricted non-ambulatory passenger vehicle permits.
- d. Hours of Operation – The regular hours of operation for transportation service are Monday through Friday from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m., Saturday from 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., and closed on Sunday.

There is no documented evidence of illegal operation by M. Trans, Inc. in the City of Los Angeles in the past 12 months.

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Attachments