



# NEWS RELEASE

## COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM MARTI EMERALD

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**For Immediate Release**

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### **SAN DIEGO TAXICAB PERMITS:** **RESULT FROM MTS VOTE**

*San Diego, CA – February 12, 2015* – The San Diego Metropolitan Transit System (MTS) Board voted 12-3 to change their current ordinance to comply with new policies adopted by City of San Diego regarding Taxicab Permits. Under the current agreement between the City and MTS, the City sets policy regarding taxicabs and MTS administers the program. Today’s vote finalizes the policy changes made by the City of San Diego in November 2014. The changes include:

- Removing the cap on the number of City of San Diego Taxicab Permits
- Limiting the age of taxicab vehicles in operation to 10 years
- Prohibiting vehicles with a “salvage” title from operating as taxicabs
- Mandating all new vehicles be Zero or Low Emission Vehicles

MTS will begin accepting letters of intent from those who are qualified and interested in applying for a permit. Applications will be available in April, with priority given to those who have filed letters of intent.

Council President Pro Tem Marti Emerald championed the changes, stating “these policies will improve working conditions and opportunities for San Diego’s drivers, many of whom have been waiting for decades for the chance to apply for a permit. MTS, drivers, permit holders and policy makers can now all move forward and work together as team to rebuild and re-energize our taxicab industry.”

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