



NEWS RELEASE

COUNCIL PRESIDENT PRO TEM MARTI EMERALD

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For Immediate Release

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FIRST TAXI PERMIT APPLICATION COMPLETED,
FIRST VEHICLE TO BE INSPECTED AND
FIRST PERMIT TO BE ISSUED

San Diego, CA – July 13, 2015 – Council President Pro Tem Marti Emerald and the Metropolitan Transit System will be inspecting the first taxicab vehicle and, if it passes inspection, will be issuing the first taxicab permit since the San Diego City Council voted to amend Council Policy 500-02 in November of 2014. In attendance will be the first applicant to have completed an application for a taxi permit with his vehicle, the first vehicle to be inspected since Emerald and hundreds of drivers from the taxi industry helped revise a 30 year old policy that previously limited and capped the number of taxicab permits in San Diego. Media is invited to observe the inspection process. Emerald will be joined by others following the inspection for comments and, if the vehicle passes inspection, a ceremonious presentation of the permit.

Who: Marti Emerald, City of San Diego Council President Pro Tem
Scott Sherman, City of San Diego Councilmember
Jan Goldsmith, City Attorney
Bill Kellerman, MTS Taxi Administration Manager

What: Vehicle inspection and presentation of permit
Where: 1601 Newton Ave. (See map)
When: Tuesday, July 14, 2015
7:30 am – Vehicle inspection
7:50 am – Permit presentation

Emerald championed the changes, stating “today marks a new day for hundreds of families. For too long taxi drivers have had no other option but to lease vehicles at exorbitant rates with no chance of ever applying for a permit in hopes of owning their own cab and starting their own small business. We voted in November to change that. The first permit that we are issuing today is symbolic of those changes - changes that will improve working conditions and opportunities for San Diego’s drivers who have been waiting for decades for the chance to apply for a permit.”

*Due to space limitations at the site, media planning on attending is encouraged to contact Ralph Dimarucut at (619)764-8926

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