



**ADMINISTRATIVE ISSUANCE:
WAIVER FOR VEHICLE RETIREMENT AGE
Series/Number: AI-2019-01
Replaces AI-2016-004
Approved April 1, 2019**

Effective April 1, 2019

I. BACKGROUND AND PURPOSE

The Department of For-Hire Vehicles (“Department”) is charged with the continuance, development, and improvement of the District’s public vehicle-for-hire industry, and with the overall regulation of for-hire vehicles. *See* D.C. OFFICIAL CODE §§ 50-301.07 and 50-301.13. The Department is committed to increasing competition in the for-hire vehicle industry and addressing concerns raised by stakeholders across the vehicle for-hire spectrum. Recently, concerns have been raised regarding the taxicab vehicle retirement age, which is eight (8) model years. To address those concerns, the Department had to strike a balance between relaxed vehicle age guidelines and its mandate to ensure that environmental and safety protections are met. In order to allow taxicabs that are older than eight (8) model years but less than ten (10) model years to continue operating, the Department is submitting this Administrative Issuance (“AI”) to allow taxicab operators to submit a waiver to extend the service life of a vehicle pursuant to 31 DCMR § 609.7 as long as certain conditions are met (*see* “Procedures” section below). This AI provides guidance to taxicab operators on how to apply for the waiver to the taxicab vehicle retirement age.

II. AUTHORITY

District of Columbia Taxicab Commission Establishment Act of 1985, effective March 25, 1986; D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 47-2829, *et seq.*; D.C. OFFICIAL CODE § 50-301, *et seq.*; 31 DCMR § 609.

III. PROCEDURES

Taxicab operators who have vehicles that are older than eight (8) model years or but less than ten (10) model years may complete an application to waive the eight-year vehicle retirement age under 31 DCMR § 609.3 for one calendar year. To qualify for the waiver, the operator must show proof that the vehicle has been driven no more than 175,000 miles and has passed a 152-point inspection by an independent ASE certified mechanic. No taxicab company or association may self-certify the 152-point ASE inspection. The charge for the waiver application is \$100.00, including the license renewal fee.

Other eligibility criteria for the waiver are as follows:

The vehicle shall:

1. Have passed its two (2) most recent required DMV inspections;
2. Be in excellent mechanical condition, as evidenced by proof of passage of a 152-point

- inspection administered by an independent third party Automotive Service Excellence (ASE) certified inspection service, any fleet, company, or association may not self certify;
3. Be in excellent condition in appearance, including having no body damage on its exterior;
 4. Not be a salvaged vehicle or declared a total loss; and
 5. Not have been driven more than one hundred seventy-five thousand (175,000) miles at the time the waiver application is filed.

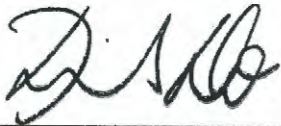
All other public vehicle-for-hire requirements under Title 31 of the DCMR are still applicable.

To apply for the waiver, please go to <https://dfhv.dc.gov/page/vehicle-age-waiver-inspection-request>.

SO ORDERED:

DEPARTMENT OF FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

By: _____



DAVID DO
Acting Director