

# MARIN GENERAL SERVICES AUTHORITY

555 Northgate Drive, Suite 230, San Rafael, CA

PHONE: (415) 448-0359

www.maringsa.org

## MEMORANDUM

**DATE:** September 13, 2012

**TO:** MGSA Board of Directors

**FROM:** Paul Berlant, Executive Officer

**SUBJECT:** AGENDA ITEM: E: Taxicab Regulation Program Update

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Recommendation Accept this update regarding the Marin County Taxi Regulation Program. No action is requested.

Inventory Update There are currently 22 permitted companies using 24 brand names. This is an increase of two new companies since the last report in July. Additionally, there are two new companies which have paid for a business permit and intend to start new companies. On the flip side, one of the currently permitted companies is not active and the owner has orally informed Jeff Rawles that he intends to discontinue business. The current count of permitted vehicles is 98, which is an increase of three vehicles since July. Permitted drivers now total 181 which is an increase of nine since July.

The summer tourist season has particularly increased taxi business in Sausalito where the Police Department has been very diligent enforcing our regulations and city code. The Sausalito Police have issued several citations which have gotten the attention of drivers and companies that have tried to avoid our permit process. Mr. Rawles has received urgent requests for permits from companies and drivers who either lost their permits or were their initial applications and had not yet received a permit. (The board may have seen correspondence from one of the companies.) There were no instances of unknown pirate companies which had no association with MGSA.

We have found that permitted cab companies and drivers do inform the police if they spot competition that has not gone through the MGSA permit process. Thus, when law enforcement makes MCTRP permits a priority, the entire fleet is pulled into line.

The permitting process has kept Mr. Rawles busy as added companies and drivers require added permits. In addition, the drug/alcohol testing protocol has resulted in permit rejection and the first case of driver permit revocation. Overall program is getting compliance has been improving.