

**MARIN GENERAL SERVICES AUTHORITY**  
371 Bel Marin Keys Blvd., Suite 100, Novato, CA 94949  
PHONE: (415) 883-9100 FAX: (415) 883-9155

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** May 8, 2008  
**TO:** MGSA Board of Directors  
**FROM:** Paul Berlant, Executive Officer  
**SUBJECT:** AGENDA ITEM C: UPDATE ON TAXICAB REGULATION PROGRAM

---

Recommendation: Accept this update report.

Background:

In April, staff conducted four enrollment sessions with taxicab drivers at San Rafael's City Hall. Following each session, a mobile lab was set up at Gness Field at which the drivers were administered their first drug/alcohol screening tests per MGSA Regulations. Under our program, during the next year, each driver will be subject to another random drug or alcohol test. To date, over 100 drivers have applied. This figure is approximately one-half the number of the drivers we were told by company owners to expect. One company has not sent any of its six drivers for enrollment, is arguing that since they require drug/alcohol testing, our program is redundant in that part, and violates state law. We disagree and continue to pursue enrollment and testing. We have set a fifth date for enrollment in mid-May for those drivers who missed the four enrollment dates in April.

We expect to begin actually issuing the company and driver permits this month. Based on the number of applications submitted to date, we expect to issue seven company permits. The drivers will be required to post their permit in a conspicuous place in the taxicab so that passengers will be able to identify the driver. The taxicab vehicles will be issued permits, which will be a sticker placed on the rear window of the vehicle after successfully completing an inspection. We expect to issue approximately 70 vehicle permits. As we have become engaged in the implementation of the program, we have found that there is still much left to do to establish procedures and actually issue the permits. During the summer as we issue permits and follow up on those issues, which crop up, Mr. Rawles and I will assess the amount of work associated with the taxicab regulation program. We will continue to update the Board at your regular meetings.

Under separate cover you have received a memorandum from MGSA counsel David Byers responding to Board questions from the March meeting.