

Appendix H: Support from City Regulator



CITY OF HOUSTON
Administration & Regulatory Affairs Department

Annise D. Parker

Mayor

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Ms. Dawn Castillo
Director of Safety Research
Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health
Division of Safety Research
1095 Willowdale Road
Morgantown, West Virginia 26505

RE: Taxi Driver Survey on Motor Vehicle Safety and Workplace Violence

Dear Ms. Castillo,

The purpose of this letter is to express our strong support for the Taxi Driver Survey on Motor Vehicle Safety and Workplace Violence ("Taxi Driver Survey"), a proposal by Cammie Chaumont Menéndez and Marilyn Ridenour at the Division of Safety Research within the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.

Representatives of the City of Houston's Administration & Regulatory Affairs Department ("ARA") have been active in the International Association of Transportation Regulators ("IATR") and that organization's efforts to evaluate the effectiveness of certain safety equipment in taxicabs. ARA supported Ms. Menendez's earlier effort, the Multi-City Study, funded by a small NORA in 2010, by providing her with the data she needed to count Houston as one of the 26 U.S. cities represented in the study, and one of 8 cities where a majority of taxicabs already have security cameras installed.

Our understanding is that the proposed Taxi Driver Survey is a follow-up to the Multi-City Study in which individual taxicab drivers will be interviewed about their experiences with workplace violence and road safety over the past 12 months. Findings from this survey will provide answers to the risks drivers face at an individual level rather than at the city level, and help us to make decisions on how to maximize the safety of Houston taxicab drivers.

We pledge our full support to Cammie and Marilyn for the proposed Taxi Driver Survey, and hope to see this study funded in this round of the small NORA competition. We look forward to the survey results.

Please feel free to contact me at 713-837-9630 or Kathryn Bruning at 832-394-9414 should you have any questions or concerns.

Kindest Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tina Paez".

Tina Paez, Deputy Director
Administration & Regulatory Affairs Department

Council Members: Helena Brown Jerry Davis Ellen R. Cohen Wanda Adams Mike Sullivan Al Hoang Oliver Pennington Edward Gonzalez
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