

Michael P. Gardner
Chairman

CAMBRIDGE LICENSE COMMISSION



City of Cambridge

Chief Gerald R. Reardon
Fire Department
Commission Member

831 Massachusetts Avenue, First Floor, Cambridge, Massachusetts 02139

Commissioner Robert C. Haas
Police Department
Commission Member

Memorandum

Elizabeth Y. Lint
Executive Director

To: Robert W. Healy, City Manager

From: Elizabeth Y. Lint, Executive Director

Date: August 7, 2012

RE: Council Order O-8 dated July 30, 2012 regarding implementation of a pedicab program in the City of Cambridge.

This is to advise you of the status of the License Commission's actions regarding the introduction of pedicabs into the transportation network in the City of Cambridge. To date, two (2) proposals were heard before the Board of License Commissioners—one received from Pedicambridge, LLC heard on October 4, 2011 and the other by Cambridge Pedicab heard on March 20, 2012. On both occasions, the License Commission voted to take no action citing concerns with the City's infrastructure being able to accommodate such vehicles, effects on the Cambridge taxicab industry, and general public safety concerns as it relates to bicycles, traffic, and parking.

After taking time to review these concerns with the appropriate City Departments, the License Commission has determined it is best to establish a pilot program beginning in the Spring of 2013. The purpose of the pilot program is to test and create a high-performing system that will fit best with our current transportation network. The pilot program will be based upon a review of company proposals received to date.

Upon review, the Board of License Commissioners will select one (1) company to participate in the pilot based upon the following criteria: (1) Operation history in other municipalities; (2) Ability to meet operation requirements as established by the License Commission; (3) Impact on the City's infrastructure and transportation network; (4) Effects on the business and tourism communities.

At that time, temporary pedicab licenses as well as a set of temporary operator's licenses will be granted. These licenses shall be subject to rules and regulations promulgated by the License Commission and operation will only be allowed within authorized service areas.

The License Commission intends to work closely with the Traffic and Parking Department as well as the Department of Public Works and Police Department to ensure adequate public safety standards are established and enforced. Additional information will be made available regarding the pilot program by the beginning of December 2012.