



Kriss Worthington

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CONSENT CALENDAR

September 10, 2013

To: Honorable Mayor and Members of the City Council
 From: Kriss Worthington, District 7, Berkeley City Council
 Subject: City Manager Referral: Permit Increase for Disability Taxi Cab Services

RECOMMENDATION

Refer to the City Manager to issue an additional 5 taxi permits to be used for wheelchair accessible taxi service in the city of Berkeley.

BACKGROUND

On November 25, 2003, City Council adopted Resolution No. 62,299–N.S. that granted 5 additional taxi cab permits to be used for wheelchair accessibility vehicles.

On October 14, 2003 the Commission on Disability recommended 10 permits but the Council allocated only 5. The Commissions rational was the following, “There are no other transportation options comparable to the service provided by taxis. Paratransit is designed to provide transportation for people who are unable to use buses or BART, but usually requires a one-day advance reservation.”

The Commission on Disability indicated, “Issuing permits for taxis that are wheelchair accessible is the only alternative that fills the need for on-demand transportation. By designating a number of the City’s taxi permits for wheelchair accessible vehicles, it allows more people with disabilities to utilize this convenient, practical and spontaneous transportation option.”

FISCAL IMPACTS

Minimal.

CONTACT PERSON

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