

September 5, 2007

The T&T Committee met in quorum on *September 5, 2007* in the District Office to hear from BQE Bus Service Inc. 40-06 Case Street, Elmhurst, N.Y. 11373 an applicant for permission to operate a commuter van service between Brooklyn and Queens for workers to get to and from work. NYC DOT is responsible for authorizing and regulating commuter van service in the 5 boroughs. TLC is responsible for determining fitness of the drivers and maintaining periodic inspection of the service. Mr. Wai Yeung Wong (cell # 917-560-2959) Mr. Jou (718 438-1317) and Mr. Hee are principals of the Corporation that will operate the service. The TLC will screen all drivers and be responsible to see that they are fingerprinted, possess a NYS bus driver certification and meet all DMV, Insurance and state inspection requirements. The driver's must have a TLC livery licenses and a NYS CDL. The drivers will be responsible for their vehicles and will keep them overnight. They live in the metropolitan area. the proposed number of vans is 10 and the aspiration of the company is to operate 16 to 20 vans with 14 to 20 passenger capacity. the vans will be marked in English and Chinese and bear vehicle identification numbers. The hours of operation shall be from 7a.m. to 12:00 p.m. (midnight). The vans will pick up passengers along a designated route by appointment or telephone reservation. The irregular route will not include 65th Street. The drivers may not deviate from their routes and will abide by DOT anti-idling regulations. The TLC can enforce deviations from the route with fines and the approval can be revoked for failure to follow regulations. The proposed fare will be \$2 a ride. The company anticipates that it will fill a need especially in the immigrant Asian community to get a familiar and easy to use method of transportation from Queens to Brooklyn and back again.

Some of the drivers will be employees and some will be franchise owner operators. Mr. Wong who lives in sunset park made himself available to handle any complaint and provided his cell phone number for the district office to use to deal with community complaints. A public meeting was held in Queens at the Borough Hall on September 25-2007 and an additional one will be held in Brooklyn Borough Hall on October 3, 2007.

NYCDOT review process will take about four to six months so the public is invited to make comment. The Committee considered the credentials of the presenters and their honest and forthright presentation and concluded after discussion to vote unanimously to recommend that the entire Board vote to request that NYCDOT approve this application.

The Committee also discussed transportation issues of interest: congestion pricing, VNB tolls, pavement and street markings and the 65th Street BQE highway ramp problems.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian Kieran, Chair T&T CB 10