



Why It's Time for NYC Taxi Drivers to Own Their Own App

By Michael Simon

At the August 13th Taxi and Limousine Commission hearing, I stood before the commission with a direct request: it is time for the TLC to certify a taxi driver cooperative of taxi drivers.

To change the trajectory of a taxi driver's life, give taxi drivers an app to compete against corporate giants UBER/LYFT, an app exclusively for taxi drivers.

A Taxi Driver Cooperative App is an economic model designed to put power and revenue back into taxi driver hands. Under a cooperative model, 100% of profits revert directly to its taxi driver members.

When corporate app giants take a cut of every fare, that capital flows straight out of driver's income to passive corporate shareholders. Under a taxi driver cooperative, those funds stay where they belong, for owner-drivers and lease drivers.

A taxi app, by uniting the taxi industry, can secure essential benefits that have been out of reach:

- **Comprehensive Healthcare Insurance:** Medical coverage for drivers and their families.
- **Pension and Retirement Support:** Long-term financial security after years on the road.
- **Disability Coverage:** Support when injury or illness prevents a driver from working.
- **Higher Income:** Eliminating the corporate middleman so the driver takes home more.
- **Unity Across the Industry:** A shared platform built by drivers, for drivers.

A shared cooperative app unites New York City's yellow cabs that delivers fast, reliable service to riders in all five boroughs.

We have the iconic brand and physical presence on the streets. This is a winning combination that's waiting to happen. By certifying a taxi driver cooperative, the Taxi and Limousine Commission can support a solution that gives yellow cab drivers the means to compete and prosper.

Become a Member

It is time for our own app and to unite the NYC taxi industry. A cooperative of taxi drivers.

thenewyorkcitytaxiapp.org

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