

CAPTIONING
FEBRUARY 16, 2016
PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION

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>> VICTOR CRIST: GOOD MORNING.

WELCOME TO HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION MEETING FEBRUARY 16th, 2016. IF WE CAN STAND FOR THE PLEDGE AND THE INVOCATION.

[PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE]

O FATHER, SUPREME BEING, WE COME BEFORE YOU TODAY AS DECISION MAKERS ASK, FOR YOUR DIVINE GUIDANCE, YOUR DIVINE INTELLIGENCE, BUT MOST ESPECIALLY TODAY FATHER WE ASK THAT YOU FORGIVE US FOR THE WRONGDOINGS THAT WE HAVE MADE IN OUR LIVES, AND ANY MISTAKES THAT WE HAVE DONE INADVERTENTLY THAT HAS HURT OTHERS. WE ASK YOU TO HELP US TO BE STRONG, TO DO WHAT IS RIGHT, AND TO REGAIN AND REBUILD OUR LIVES AND MOVE FORWARD IN A POSITIVE, FRUITFUL DIRECTION. WE ASK ALL OF THIS IN THY NAME, AMEN. I JUST FIGURED THERE WERE A FEW OF US IN THIS ROOM THAT COULD USE A LITTLE OF THAT TODAY. ALL RIGHT, MY EARS ARE PLUGGED SO I DON'T KNOW IF I'M YELLING OR IF I'M WHISPERING SO IF YOU CAN'T HEAR ME IN THE BACK OF THE ROOM, WAVE YOUR HANDS AND I'LL SPEAK UP BECAUSE I CAN'T REALLY TELL HOW LOUD I AM. CAN EVERYBODY HEAR ME? AM I WHISPERING OR YELLING? I'M GOOD. ALL RIGHT. FUNKY FLU THAT'S GOING AROUND. FIRST YOU LOSE YOUR VOICE, THEN YOU LOSE YOUR HEARING. ALL RIGHT. ON OUR AGENDA FIRST UP TODAY WE HAVE THE SWEARING IN OF THE WITNESSES, ARE YOU GOING TO GO AHEAD AND DO THAT?

>> [SWEARING IN]

>> VICTOR CRIST: , MEMBERS THE AGENDA WAS MAILED OUT TO EVERYBODY IN ADVANCE. I UNDERSTAND STAFF HAS MET WITH MOST OF YOU TO GO THROUGH THE AGENDA. ARE THERE ANY CORRECTIONS, ANY CHANGES, OR IS THERE A MOTION TO APPROVE THE AGENDA AS IT WAS PRESENTED? IS THERE A SECOND? WE HAVE A MOTION AND A SECOND. ANY DISCUSSION? SEEING NONE, ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT ADOPTED UNANIMOUSLY. IN THE NEWS.
>> GOOD MORNING, COMMISSIONER. I AM GOING TO DIVERT THIS SECTION. THERE IS A LATER SECTION IN THE NEWS SECTION THAT WILL BE INFORMATIONAL TO YOU ALL. AND I WILL DIVERT TO THAT SECTION LATER ON.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. WELL, ALL RIGHT, THEN WE WILL MOVE FORWARD. I GUESS I MIGHT HAVE A LITTLE SOMETHING THAT IS SOMEWHAT IN THE NEWS. VALENTINE'S CARD I RECEIVED IN THE MAIL. KIND OF FUNKY ON VALENTINE'S DAY BUT I GOT THIS MAILER AND IT SAYS \$997 NO FAULT DIVORCE IF

ANYBODY'S INTERESTED. YEAH, SURE ENOUGH. THAT ARRIVERS ON VALENTINE'S DAY. BUT I THOUGHT IT WAS KIND OF FUNNY. IN CASE ANYBODY OUT THERE MIGHT NEED THOSE SERVICES. ALL RIGHT, MOVING FORWARD. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION IN THIS PART OF THE MEETING. YOU'VE GOT 45 MINUTES ALLOTTED. THREE MINUTES APIECE IN CASE THERE IS SOMETHING YOU WANT TO SAY TO US TODAY. I SEE SOME FACES THAT ARE NEW IN THE AUDIENCE. THIS IS YOUR TIME TO COME UP AND SPEAK YOUR MINDS AND SHARE WITH US WHAT YOU WOULD LIKE FOR US TO KNOW. I'VE GOT SPEAKER CARDS. I'M GOING TO GO THROUGH IN THE ORDER I RECEIVED THEM. SETH? YOU'RE UP TO PUT SOME SUNSHINE ON OUR MORNING.

>> GOOD MORNING, COMMISSIONERS. I'M AT 100 NORTH TAMPA STREET. I RISE FOR JUST TO ADDRESS YOU ABOUT A COUPLE OF ITEMS THAT HAVE BEEN IN THE NEWS OF LATE. FIRST, AS YOU'RE ALL AWARE, WE LOST A MEMBER OF THIS INDUSTRY YESTERDAY IN A HORRIBLE ACCIDENT ON THE HOWARD FRANKLIN BRIDGE A. TOW TRUCK DRIVER WAS FATALLY KILLED THERE, AND SO THE INDUSTRY'S CONDOLENCES AND I'M SURE THE COMMISSION'S CONDOLENCES GO TO HIM AND HIS FAMILY, AND I WISH WE WOULD ALL REMEMBER THEM IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS. I RISE PRIMARILY HOWEVER TO ADDRESS SOME OTHER MEDIA REPORTS, AND THOSE ARE SOME REPORTS THAT HAVE, I THINK, WRONGFULLY AND FALSELY ACCUSED MY CLIENT, WHICH IS TCS TOWING ONE OF THE PREMIERE TOWING AGENCIES IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY OF ENGAGING IN SOMETHING THAT HAS BEEN WRONGFULLY PORTRAYED AS QUOTE PREDATORY TOWING. THE TRUTH OF THE MATTER IS CTS TOWING IS ONE OF THE MOST LAW-ABIDING RULE ABIDING COMPANIES IN THIS INDUSTRY. IT IS A VERY RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS THAT HAS BEEN AROUND FOR QUITE SOMETIME, AND THE THOUGHT HAS BEEN, OR THE MEDIA HAS I THINK WRONGFULLY PORTRAYED THIS AS THE TOWING COMPANIES IMPROPERLY TOWING FROM SOUTH TAMPA PROPERTIES VEHICLES WHERE CERTAIN PATRONS HAVE GONE TO DRINKING ESTABLISHMENTS AND WERE IMPAIRED. THERE IS A TAMPA ORDINANCE CITED IN THESE MEDIA REPORTS THAT PURPORTS TO REGULATE TOW TRUCK OPERATORS. THAT'S AN INTERESTING THING GIVEN THAT THE JURISDICTION RESTS WITH THIS COMMISSION NOT THE CITY BUT NOTWITHSTANDING, THE REPORTS ARE NONETHELESS WRONG. THE CITY OF TAMPA ORDINANCE AND I'M LOOKING, THIS IS RELEVANT LANGUAGE IN THE ORDINANCE PROVIDES EFFECTIVELY THAT NO TOW TRUCK OPERATOR SHOULD REMOVE A VEHICLE WITHIN CERTAIN PRESCRIBED HOURS FROM PREMISES WHICH ON WHICH A PURVEYOR OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR CONSUMPTION ON THOSE PREMISES IS OPERATING. THE STORY PORTRAYS WRONGFULLY PORTRAYS THE TOWING INDUSTRY AS HAVING DONE SO. IN FACT, THEY ARE NOT DOING SO. IF THE INVESTIGATIVE REPORTERS WOULD HAVE DONE THEIR JOBS THEY WOULD'VE FOUND THE PROPERTIES WHERE THE TOWS WERE OCCURRING, NUMBER ONE, THE TOWS ARE LAWFUL, THAT THEY ARE NOT OWNED BY THOSE PERSONS. THERE ARE OTHER PRIVATE PROPERTY IT'S NOT THAT THEY ARE NOT PATRONS BUT THE CITY ORDINANCE SIMPLY DOES NOT GO THERE. THIS IS PRIVATE PROPERTY OF OTHER PEOPLE WHO WANT THEIR PRIVATE PROPERTY CLEARED AND SO WE ASK THAT YOU TAKE THAT INTO ACCOUNT. MY CLIENTS ARE NOT OPPOSED TO THE RULES. NOT OPPOSED TO EVEN WHAT THAT INTENT IS.

THEY ENGAGE IN THE SAFE TOW PROGRAM WHERE THEY TAKE IMPAIRED DRIVERS' VEHICLES AND TOW THEM STRAIGHT TO THEIR HOUSE SO THEY DON'T HAVE TO WORRY ABOUT THAT AND GIVE THEM A RIDE IF THEY ARE IMPAIRED. THEY ALSO ENGAGE IN THE TOW-TO-GO PROGRAM WITH AAA AND BUDWEISER PROGRAMS. WE ARE WITH THE PROPOSED RULE BUT IT'S JUST WRONGFULLY BEING USED TO PORTRAY THE INDUSTRY AS SO-CALLED PREDATORY, WHICH IS JUST FLATLY WRONG. WE WANT TO MAKE YOU AWARE OF IT. I THINK WE ENGAGE IN GREAT WORK IN THIS COMMUNITY. MY CLIENT IS A SUPPORTER OF KEEPING IMPAIRED DRIVERS OFF THE HIGHWAY, AND I KNOW THIS COMMISSION IS AS WELL. THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: THANK YOU, MR. MILLS.

>> MR. CHAIR, MAY I MAKE A COMMENT TO THAT, PLEASE? CERTAINLY.

>> I WOULD JUST LIKE TO SAY THAT SITTING IN THE AUDIENCE IS DAVID. HE IS ONE OF THE PUBLIC RELATIONS WITH CTS TOWING AND I HAVE MET AND SPOKEN WITH SETH MANY, MANY TIMES AND I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE IT A STEP FURTHER. OUT OF ALL THE COMPANIES WE REGULATE IN THE TOWING INDUSTRY, CTS DOES A DARN GOOD JOB OF KEEPING AHEAD OF THE GAME.

THEY ARE IN CONSTANT CONTACT WITH ME AND THEY ARE SEEN AS ONE OF THE MOST PROGRESSIVE AGENCIES. WE RECEIVE NO COMPLAINTS ABOUT THEM. LIKE I SAID, I HAVE MET WITH THE OWNER OF THEIR COMPANY, TRUE RAGS TO RICHES COMPANY, SMART GUY, AND THEY REACH ABOVE AND BEYOND TO TRY AND DO THE RIGHT THING AND BECOME INVOLVED AND ENGAGED NOT JUST HERE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY BUT IN PINELLAS AS WELL.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. ROBERT SEARCY? I THOUGHT HE SAID SOMETHING. TOM SMITH?

>> HI, TOM SMITH, 4939 ZODIAC AVENUE, HOLIDAY, FLORIDA.

I HAVE TWO THINGS. FIRST THING IS TWO YEARS AGO, I PUT IN A LITTLE CHANGE FOR GREEN LIMOS. IT WAS TWO MONTHS BEFORE UBER EVEN STARTED BUSINESS HERE, AND IT SEEMS LIKE THEY'VE BEEN APPROVED. IT'S BEEN THROUGH, AND IT'S HUNG UP IN UBER. WHAT DOES UBER HAVE TO DO WITH GREEN LIMOS? IT HAS NOTHING WHATSOEVER TO DO WITH TIME SHARES, TNCs, OR TRAVEL WHATEVER OF THE TNCs, SO WHY IS GREEN LIMOS STILL HUNG UP IN THE ARGUMENT WITH THE TNC?

>> VICTOR CRIST: I'M NOT FAMILIAR WITH THAT. KYLE?

>> I CAN SPEAK TO THAT, COMMISSIONER. THAT, THE RULES AND POLICIES COMMITTEE WAS GOING TO RECONVENE ON THAT ISSUE. IT HAD TO DO WITH HOW DO YOU CLASSIFY A GREEN VEHICLE. THERE ARE SEVERAL DIFFERENT WAYS TO DO THAT. THERE IS NO WRITTEN POLICY, ACCEPTED POLICY ACROSS THE COUNTRY THAT EVERYBODY HAS ACCEPTED. THE RULES AND POLICIES COMMITTEE IS GETTING READY TO COME BACK TOGETHER RELATIVE TO SOME OTHER RULES. WE CAN CERTAINLY REVISIT THAT AGAIN, BUT THAT WAS HELD UP BECAUSE ALL OF THE RULES WERE HELD UP BECAUSE OF A PETITION THAT WAS FILED ON BEHALF OF UBER. I AGREE WITH YOU, MR. SMITH, THAT DOESN'T NECESSARILY HAVE ANYTHING TO DO WITH IT. WE CAN RECONVENE THE RULES AND POLICIES COMMITTEE AND TRY TO PUSH THAT ONE FORWARD.

>> VICTOR CRIST: DO I SEE ANY DISCUSSION OR OBJECTIONS HERE FOR STAFF TO MOVE FORWARD WITH THE RULES THAT AREN'T GERMANE TO UBER, LYFT,

AND THE TNC ISSUE? I SEE NO OBJECTION, SO GO AHEAD AND MOVE FORWARD.
>> GOOD DEAL. THANK YOU, SIR.

>> THAT HAS CAUSED ME LOT OF PROBLEM WITHIN MY COMPANY BECAUSE I HAVE A PART OWNER THAT HAD TWO PERMITS THAT HAS BEEN WAITING FOR THIS. HE'S REFUSED TO PAY HIS PERMITS, AND I'VE HAD TO LET THIS THING GO UNTIL THIS REVOCATION HEARING IN ORDER TO JUSTIFY KICKING THEM OUT OF THE COMPANY. I AM GOING TO END UP GOING THERE AND DOING HIS PART MYSELF JUST BECAUSE HE CAN'T MAKE HIS GREEN CAR INTO A LIMO, YOU KNOW. SO IT'S CAUSING ME A LOT OF PROBLEMS. THE OTHER, THE OTHER THING I WANTED TO SAY IS I'M STILL LOOKING TO COMPETE WITH UBER AND LYFT SO I'M JUST HOPING THAT YOU ALL WILL DO SOMETHING THAT'LL ALLOW ME TO DO IT BECAUSE I AM CAPABLE AND I DO KNOW HOW TO COMPETE WITH THEM AND I CAN KICK THEIR BUTTS IF I HAVE THE GREEN LIGHT TO DO IT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: PLEASE, REST ASSURED BEFORE THIS TIME NEXT YEAR YOU WILL HAVE EVERY OPPORTUNITY TO COMPETE WITH THEM ON A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD.

>> OKAY. THANK YOU VERY MUCH, AND I GUESS I'LL BE AT THE RULES MEETING.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, BROOK.

>> 4810 NORTH HALE AVENUE. GOOD MORNING, COMMISSIONERS AND STAFF. TWO, THREE MONTHS AGO I SPOKE ABOUT SITUATION HAPPENING ON THE STREETS. THAT IS ABOUT PEOPLE TAKING PEOPLE -- YOU KNOW, TRANSPORTATION FOR MONEY FOR CASH. WE SPOKE ABOUT AT LEAST WITH UBER AND LYFT YOU HAVE SOME KIND OF RECORDS, AND THEY CHARGE THEM BY THE MILE. AND THERE ARE A FEW THINGS THAT EVEN THOUGH I HATE TO ADMIT IT, BUT WHEN YOU HAVE PEOPLE TAKING PASSENGERS FOR CASH, YOU DON'T HAVE ABILITY. FROM THE CUSTOMER SIDE OR THE DRIVER SIDE AND THAT'S HAPPENING OUT THERE. AND I SPOKE ABOUT IT, MR. CHAIRMAN. AND I KNOW THAT I AM NOT GOING TO ACCUSE ANYBODY. I JUST WANT TO KNOW IF SOMETHING HAS BEEN DONE, I WOULD LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT IT. IF IT'S NOT, AT LEAST, YOU KNOW, I KNOW THAT STAFF IS, SOMEBODY NEEDS TO GIVE THEM THE AUTHORITY TO SET UP THESE PEOPLE AND CATCH THEM. AND LIKE I SAID, I UNDERSTAND ABOUT UBER AND LYFT AND THERE IS ACCOUNTABILITY. THE DRIVER IS PICKING UP, AND VICE VERSA AND UBER AND LYFT HAS THE RECORDS. SO DON'T PICK ANYBODY UP ON THE STREET FOR CASH THAT IS A GYPSY CAB AND THEN THAT'S WHAT YOU GUYS ARE HERE FOR TO PROTECT THE PUBLIC. THAT IS DANGEROUS. I WANT TO KNOW IF SOMETHING HAS BEEN DONE OR AT LEAST THIS AUTHORITY SHOULD GIVE THE STAFF THE TOOLS TO DO THIS JOB IF THEY HAVEN'T GOTTEN THE TOOLS BEFORE. SO MR. CHAIRMAN, IS THERE ANYTHING THAT YOU CAN TELL ME TODAY THAT IF ANYTHING IS HELPING IN THE LAST TWO, THREE MONTHS SINCE WE TALKED ABOUT IT LAST TIME.

>> VICTOR CRIST: YES, AND IT'S ON THE AGENDA TODAY. MR. COCKREAM AND MS. OSTER WILL BE TALKING ABOUT OUR NEXT STEPS IN ADVANCING OUR EFFORTS TO DEAL WITH THAT. ONE THING DO KEEP IN MIND, UNLIKE YEARS IN THE PAST WHERE THIS AGENCY HAD THE CERTIFICATION TO DO POLICE, THAT CERTIFICATION WAS TAKEN AWAY FROM US LAST YEAR. THE SHERIFF AND THE FDLE REMOVED IT. SO WE DON'T HAVE THE POLICING POWERS WE USED TO HAVE. WE CAN GO OUT AND IDENTIFY THESE FOLKS, WE CAN TICKET THEM,

BUT UNLESS WE TAKE THEM TO COURT AND GET THE COURT TO UPHOLD THE ACTIONS, THERE REALLY ISN'T A WHOLE LOT WE CAN DO. IN A LOT OF CASES, THEY JUST TAKE OFF AND DRIVE AWAY BECAUSE WE DON'T HAVE THE ABILITY TO DETAIN THEM LIKE ONCE HAD WHEN WE WERE CERTIFIED. OVER THE NEXT 30 DAYS, PART OF OUR DISCUSSIONS IS GOING TO BE AN OPTION THAT WILL GIVE POLICING POWER BACK TO ENFORCING THESE RULES. OUR STAFF IS GOING TO BE MEETING WITH ALL THE MEMBERS OF THIS BOARD AND SHARING WITH THEM SEVERAL DIFFERENT OPTIONS FOR MOVING FORWARD IF THE LEGISLATURE DOESN'T ACT. ONE OF THOSE OPTIONS THAT GUARANTEES POLICING POWERS IS TO TRANSFER TNCs TO THE COUNTY AND REGULATE THEM THROUGH AN ORDINANCE. BECAUSE THE COURTS WILL UPHOLD THE ORDINANCE.

THERE'LL BE NO QUESTION THAT IT'S LEGAL TO REGULATE, AND THE SHERIFF WILL BE REQUIRED UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA TO HAVE TO ENFORCE IT. THAT IS A DIFFERENT SCENARIO THAN WHAT WE HAVE HERE TODAY. IT'S A VERY CONTROVERSIAL MOVE. IT'S ONLY ONE OF FOUR OPTIONS. BUT THAT IS THE OPTION WITH THE SHARPEST TEETH.

>> MR. CHAIRMAN, WITH ALL DUE RESPECT, YOU HAVE PTC CREATED BY THE STATE STATUTE, AND YOU HAVE THE SHERIFF AND THE POLICE BOB BUCKHORN'S POLICE DEPARTMENT REFUSES TO PICK UP BECAUSE HE'S IN BED WITH UBER. NOW YOU ARE GOING TO TELL ME THAT BECAUSE OF YOU, THE COUNTY ENFORCE IS GOING TO ENFORCE THIS AND THE SHERIFF IS GOING ABOVE THE RULES? TELL ME THE DIFFERENCE?

>> THE DIFFERENCE IS OUR AGENCY HAS NO AUTHORITY OVER ANY OTHER AREAS. WHILE WE MAKE A RULE, WE CAN'T REQUIRE SOME OTHER AGENCY TO ENFORCE IT. BUT THE COUNTY AS A GOVERNMENT CHARTERED UNDER THIS FLORIDA CONSTITUTION, WHEN THEY MAKE A RULE THROUGH AN ORDINANCE, IT BECOMES LAW. UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA, ALL OTHER CONSTITUTION OFFICES WHICH INCLUDE LAW ENFORCEMENT ARE REQUIRED TO ENFORCE IT OR THEY'RE IN CONTEMPT.

>> YOU MEAN RIGHT NOW?

>> SO, YOU KNOW, THERE'S A BIG DIFFERENCE. THERE'S A HUGE DIFFERENCE. WE SENT OUT REQUESTS FOR HELP FROM LAW ENFORCEMENT ALL ACROSS THE COUNTY, AND EVERY SINGLE AGENCY TOLD US NO. THAT THEY WEREN'T GOING TO GET INVOLVED SO WE'VE BEEN LEFT HANGING OUT THERE ALL BY OURSELVES WITH NO ABILITY TO ENFORCE THE RULES. WE GOT RULES BUT WE CAN'T ENFORCE THEM. SO WHAT HAVE WE BEEN DOING? WE'VE BEEN GOING TO COURT AND SUING BUT WE CAN'T GET THE COURT TO ACT BECAUSE THEY'RE NOT SURE IT'S CLEAR WE HAVE THE AUTHORITY. SO NOW WE'RE WORKING WITH THE LEGISLATURE TO TRY TO GET THE LEGISLATURE TO PROVIDE SOME CLARITY SO WE CAN AT LEAST GET THE COURTS TO BACK US. BUT EITHER WAY YOU LOOK AT IT, WE'RE IN A HOLE. AND UNLESS THE LEGISLATURE ACTS QUICKLY DURING THIS SESSION, WE'RE GOING TO BE RIGHT WHERE WE WERE YESTERDAY TOMORROW.

UNLESS WE EXERCISE ONE OF THE FOUR OPTIONS THAT OUR ATTORNEY AND OUR DIRECTOR WILL BE TALKING TO THE BOARD MEMBERS ABOUT.

THERE ARE FOUR CLEAR OPTIONS. EACH ONE HAS THEIR STRENGTH, EACH ONE HAS THEIR WEAKNESS. TO ME THE CLEAREST OPTION IS TO TRANSFER THE TNCs OUT OF THIS AGENCY COMPLETELY GIVE THEM TO THE COUNTY, WHICH IS WHAT

SENATOR BRANDIS WANTS THEM TO DO, GIVE THE COUNTY AN ORDINANCE. IT IMMEDIATELY BECOMES A LAW THAT IS ENFORCEABLE UNDER THE CONSTITUTION AND REQUIRES THE SHERIFF TO POLICE IT.

>> EFFECTIVELY THIS AGENCY --

>> WE CAN GO BACK TO DOING OUR BUSINESS WHERE MOST OF OUR WORK IS, AND THAT'S REGULATING TOW TRUCKS, TAXIS, LIMOUSINES, AND AMBULANCES. WE HAVE NOT BEEN ABLE TO DO OUR WORK, AND AS MR. SMITH BROUGHT UP EARLIER, EVERYTHING IS ON HOLD BECAUSE OF THE TNC ARGUMENT. IT HAS BEEN A CLOUD OVER THIS AGENCY FOR THREE YEARS THAT HAS STALLED OFF OUR ABILITIES TO DO WHAT WE'RE SUPPOSED TO DO BECAUSE WE'RE SO CAUGHT UP IN THESE OTHER RESPONSIBILITIES AND IT'S GETTING TO BE VERY, VERY EXPENSIVE. WE'VE GOT A FULL AGENDA AND I CAN SEE STAFF LOOKING AT ME BECAUSE THEY HAVE COMMENTS LATER TO MAKE. BUT AT THIS JUNCTURE, REST ASSURED THERE ARE OPTIONS BUT ALONG WITH EVERYONE ELSE ON THIS BOARD YOU ARE GOING TO HAVE TO LOOK AT EACH OF THESE OPTIONS AND DETERMINE WHICH ONE WILL GET THE JOB DONE AND WHAT SACRIFICES YOU ARE WILLING TO LIVE WITH. BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, WE NEED TO HAVE A LEVEL PLAYING FIELD. WE NEED TO HAVE RULES THAT ARE ENFORCEABLE, AND WE NEED TO BE ABLE TO TAKE SOMEONE OR A COMPANY OUT THAT DOESN'T FOLLOW THEM AND RIGHT NOW WE ARE NOT IN A GOOD POSITION TO DO THAT.

>> SO DO WE HAVE ANY PARTICIPATION IN RULEMAKING AND WHAT HAVE YOU?

>> VICTOR CRIST: WE'LL MOVE FORWARD AND TALK ABOUT THAT AT THE NEXT STEPS OF THE MEETING, BUT WE ARE MOVING IN THE DIRECTION WHERE YOU WANT TO SEE US GO. BUT YOU'RE USED TO JUST LIKE EVERYONE ELSE THE WAY THIS AGENCY USED TO BE. WE DON'T HAVE THOSE POWERS ANYMORE. WE HAVE TO BE CREATIVE AND THOUGHTFUL AND LOOKING AND DISCOVERING AND CREATING NEW WAYS TO ACCOMPLISH THOSE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES.

>> THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: KYLE, I LET YOUR CAT OUT OF THE BAG EARLY HERE.

[LAUGHTER]

>> NO WORRIES, COMMISSIONER.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ANYONE ELSE? LOU MINARDI. I SEE YOU WAVING YOUR CARD. ARE YOU WAIVING, YOU'RE PASSING? OKAY, IF THERE IS NOBODY ELSE WE ARE GOING TO GO AHEAD AND CLOSE THIS PORTION OF THE MEETING AND MOVE FORWARD INTO OUR CONSENT AGENDA. WE HAVE A THROUGH F. KYLE?

>> ON THE CONSENT ITEMS ARE THE JANUARY MEETING MINUTES, APPROVAL OF PVDL LICENSES, FISCAL YEAR STATUS REPORT, COMMISSION REPORT, EAGLE CAB COMPANY FOR A VEHICLE COLOR SCHEME CHANGE, WHICH STAFF APPROVES, AND A&J TOWING SERVICE WRECKER CERTIFICATE AND TWO WRECKER PERMITS. ALL THE APPROPRIATE PAPERWORK WAS TURNED IN AND FEES WERE PAID. SO I'D RECOMMEND OR WE'D REQUEST A MOTION TO APPROVE THE CONSENT ITEMS ON THE AGENDA.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY THERE IS A MOTION. IS THERE DISCUSSION? NO DISCUSSION. IS THERE A MOTION TO MOVE IT? SECOND. ALL RIGHT. ALL IN FAVOR? THOSE OPPOSED? UNANIMOUS. MOVING ONTO OUR ATTORNEY'S REPORT. MS. OSTER?

>> I DON'T HAVE A REPORT TODAY, MR. CHAIR.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL THIS WORK YOU'VE BEEN DOING?

>> WELL, I'LL PROBABLY HAVE ONE NEXT MONTH BUT NO, I DON'T HAVE A REPORT AT THIS TIME.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT. OKAY. I GUESS WE DON'T HAVE TO DO A MOTION TO APPROVE A REPORT YOU DON'T HAVE, SO WE'LL GO AHEAD AND MOVE ONTO THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION SUMMARY. MR. COCKREAM, DO YOU WANT TO GIVE THAT?

>> YES, THANK YOU. LAST WEEK I WAS IN TALLAHASSEE, AND TAKING A LOOK AT SOME OF THE BILLS THAT WERE BEING PROPOSED, AND IN FRONT OF EACH ONE OF YOU THE BOARD MEMBERS THERE IS A HARD COPY OF A SUMMARY OF THOSE BILLS THAT ARE BEING PROPOSED, BUT A MORE GLOBAL EFFECT IS THAT I WOULD REQUEST THAT THIS COMMISSION CONSIDER A RESOLUTION ENCOURAGING THE 2016 LEGISLATURE TO TAKE IMMEDIATE ACTION TO ENSURE THAT ANY TNC OPERATE IN THE STATE OF FLORIDA PROVIDES AN INSURANCE POLICY THAT PROVIDES FIRST DOLLAR COVERAGE, AND AT THE END OF THE DAY, IT'S VITALLY IMPORTANT THAT THE TRAVELING PUBLIC AS WELL AS DRIVERS AND THIRD PARTIES THAT MIGHT BE INVOLVED IN ANY KIND OF AN UNFORTUNATE INCIDENT BE COVERED. AND MORE IMPORTANT, COVERED BY FIRST DOLLAR. AND AS YOU ARE ALL AWARE THE INSURANCE IS REGULATED AT THE STATE LEVEL OF FLORIDA, THE FLORIDA LEGISLATURE HAS THE AUTHORITY AND THE ABILITY TO ENACT RESPONSIBLE LEGISLATION THAT COVERS, AND ALL PARTIES SHOULD THEY BE INVOLVED IN ONE OF THESE ACCIDENTS. COMMISSIONER, I KNOW THAT YOU'VE BEEN INVOLVED IN CONVERSATIONS ABOUT SEVERAL OF THESE ISSUES, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY AT THE END OF THE DAY, I THINK THE GENERAL CONSENSUS IS QUITE SIMPLE. VERY SIMPLE. THAT THE RIDING PUBLIC OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA DESERVE TO BE COVERED AS WELL AS THE DRIVERS AND ANY THIRD PARTIES DESERVE TO BE COVERED BY APPROPRIATE INSURANCE. AND THAT INSURANCE REGULATION RESTS WITH THE LEGISLATURE. I KNOW THEY ARE WORKING ON IT. I KNOW THEY HAVE A COUPLE THINGS IN ACTION BUT AT THE END OF THE DAY, IF PEOPLE DON'T GET THEIR MEDICAL BILLS COVERED, THEIR VEHICLES REPAIRED, ET CETERA, ET CETERA, WHEN THEY'RE INVOLVED IN A CRASH, A LOT OF THIS OTHER STUFF BECOMES REALLY FAR LESS IMPORTANT, SO COMMISSION, I KNOW YOU WERE UP THERE IN TALLAHASSEE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: THANK YOU, MR. COCKREAM. FIRST I WOULD LIKE TO THANK OUR GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS ADVOCATE AND CONSULTANT MATT BLAIR OF CORKER AND JOHNSON. HE DID A REALLY GOOD JOB OF PREPPING AND PREPARING FOR OUR DAY UP IN THE CAPITOL. I HAD OVER A DOZEN APPOINTMENTS OVER TWO DAYS WITH SPEAKER'S OFFICE MEETING WITH MEMBERS AND WITH STAFF. AND WHAT WE LEARNED WAS FIRST THEY HAD A PRETTY GOOD WORKING KNOWLEDGE OF THE ISSUE. THANKS TO OUR GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS ON OUR TEAM. SECONDLY I THINK WE REALLY HAMMERED HOME THE IMPORTANCE OF THE INSURANCE ISSUE. MAKE SURE THE APPROPRIATE INSURANCE IS IN PLACE. WE MADE CLEAR ULTIMATELY AT THE END OF THE DAY WHEN PEOPLE START GETTING SUED OR COMPANIES START GETTING SUED, THE LEVEL OF THEIR INSURANCE COVERAGE WILL ADJUST ACCORDINGLY WITH THE HELP OF THE TRIAL BAR. AT THIS JUNCTURE, THE FIGHT BETWEEN THE HOUSE AND THE SENATE

ARE PRIMARILY OVER THE DIFFERENCES OF COVERAGE AND THE FACT THAT THE HOUSE WANTS TO DO POLICY REFORM AND THE SENATE'S NOT THERE YET. DO I THINK SOMETHING'S GOING TO GET DONE THIS SESSION? IT'S TOO EARLY TO TELL. I HONESTLY DON'T THINK THERE ARE GOING TO BE POLICY CHANGES WHETHER OR NOT THEY ARE ABLE TO GET INSURANCE WORKED OUT, WE ARE STAYING OPTIMISTIC. I KNOW WE ARE GOING TO GO BACK UP THERE ONE MORE TIME TO GIVE IT A GOOD FIGHT, SEE WHAT WE CAN DO. BUT WE'RE TRYING TO BRING THE SIDES TOGETHER AT THIS POINT AND BROKERING A DEAL BETWEEN THEM. AS FAR AS THIS AGENCY, I DIDN'T SEE ANY ISSUES OR THREATS AGAINST OUR AGENCY THIS YEAR. IT WAS MADE PRETTY CLEAR TO ME IF WE DID NOT FIX OUR LOCAL PROBLEM WITH TNC AND RIDE SHARING THAT THERE'S A GOOD CHANCE THIS AGENCY WILL CEASE TO EXIST NEXT YEAR. AND THAT SHOULD BE OUR MOTIVATION TO DO SOMETHING HERE OVER THE SUMMER SO THAT WE ARE NO LONGER BICKERING OVER TNC AND RIDE SHARING AND WE'RE BACK TO DOING THE BUSINESS THIS AGENCY WAS CREATED TO DO. I KNOW THERE'S SOME OF YOU IN THE AUDIENCE SHAKING YOUR HEADS. I DON'T KNOW WHAT YOUR LOBBYISTS ARE TELLING YOU, BUT I MET FACE TO FACE WITH THE PEOPLE WHO ARE GOING TO BE IN CHARGE IN THE HIGHEST POSITIONS NEXT YEAR, AND THEY MADE IT VERY CLEAR TO ME, FIX IT OR YOU'RE GONE. SO WE'RE GOING TO FIX IT. WE'RE AN ARK WE'RE AFLOAT, YOU CAN GET ON BOARD OR YOU CAN DROWN. BUT THIS AGENCY IS NOT GOING TO EVAPORATE BECAUSE WE CAN'T FIX THIS PROBLEM. THERE ARE FOUR CHOICES THAT WILL BE BROUGHT BEFORE THIS BOARD FOR CONSIDERATION. AND WE'RE GOING TO HAVE TO PICK THE BEST CHOICE IN ORDER TO ENSURE THAT THIS AGENCY STAYS SOLVENT NEXT YEAR. KYLE?

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. SO I WOULD REQUEST THAT THIS BOARD CONSIDER A RESOLUTION ENDORSING THE LEGISLATURE TO ADDRESS INSURANCE WHATEVER THOSE NUMBERS AND LIMITS LOOK LIKE, BUT MORE IMPORTANTLY AND MOST IMPORTANTLY TO ENSURE THAT WHATEVER INSURANCE GETS PASSED PROVIDES FIRST DOLLAR COVERAGE FOR PEOPLE THAT ARE PARTICIPATING IN THIS KIND OF SERVICE. AND ONCE AGAIN, THAT RESTS SOLELY UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF THE STATE OF FLORIDA REGULATES INSURANCE. WE DON'T HAVE THE AUTHORITY TO BE, TO INTERVENE IN THAT.

>> SO THAT'S NOT PICKING A SIDE. IT'S JUST SAYING THIS IS THE BASICS THAT NEED TO BE DONE. PLEASE GET IT DONE.

>> AND ASKING THEM JUST TO MAKE SURE THAT INSURANCE BECOMES A PRIORITY AS THEY TRY TO TEASE OUT SOME OF THESE ISSUES.

>> MEMBERS? DISCUSSION? COUNCILMAN.

>> I JUST HAVE ONE QUESTION, AND THAT IS DO YOU HAVE A PREPARED DRAFT RESOLUTION AVAILABLE?

>> PROVIDED THAT THIS BOARD APPROVES IT, MRS. OSTER IS GOING TO HAVE A DRAFT POLICY FOR YOU TO REVIEW BEFORE ANY ACTION IS TAKEN SO THAT WILL BE THE LIBERTY OF YOUR OFFICE BEFORE ANY SIGNATURES OR ANYTHING ARE REQUIRED.

>> I MOVE THE REQUEST FOR THE RESOLUTION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: I THINK IT'S A VERY SMART DECISION.

ANY DISCUSSION? ANY DEBATE? SEEING NONE, WE HAVE A MOTION AND A

SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MR. COCKREAM, TIME, THAT LETTER NEEDS TO GET OUT TODAY.

>> YES, SIR, I'LL BE WORKING WITH MRS. OSTER TO ADDRESS THAT ISSUE. THE NEXT THING WAS THE LEGISLATIVE SESSION SUMMARY WHICH I THINK WE JUST ADDRESSED AS WELL. ONCE AGAIN, THERE IS A HARD COPY PROVIDED. IT'S A SUMMARY OF ALL THE HOUSE AND SENATE BILLS CURRENTLY BEING PROPOSED AND DISCUSSED AND KIND OF WHAT THOSE LOOK LIKE.

MOVING ONTO THE NEXT, SOME WEEKS AGO CHANNEL 10 INVESTIGATIVE REPORTER BEGAN LOOKING INTO VEHICLES THAT WERE IMPROPERLY BEING TOWED OR ALLEGEDLY IMPROPERLY BEING TOWED FROM DIFFERENT AREAS AROUND THE CITY OF TAMPA. THESE REPORTS STEM FROM A CITIZEN COMPLAINT, MORE SPECIFICALLY THAT TOW COMPANIES WERE ALLEGEDLY VIOLATING A CITY ORDINANCE 14-48 WHICH STATES THAT IT SHALL BE UNLAWFUL FOR A PROPERTY OWNER OR LESSEE OF A PROPERTY OWNER LICENSED TO SELL ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES FOR CONSUMPTION ON THE LICENSED PREMISES OR AN AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEE THEREOF TO CAUSE ANY VEHICLE ON SUCH PROPERTY TO BE REMOVED BY A WRECKER OPERATION FROM 9:00 P.M. UNTIL NOON THE FOLLOWING DAY. UNLESS SAID PROPERTY OWNER LESSEE OR AUTHORIZED EMPLOYEE THEREOF HAS SIGNED AN ORDER AUTHORIZING THE REMOVAL OF THE PARTICULAR VEHICLE. THE ORDINANCE ALSO STATES THAT IT'S UNLAWFUL FOR TOW COMPANIES TO VIOLATE THIS ORDINANCE, PTC RULES ALSO INCLUDE THE SAME VERBIAGE. THE PTC HAS NOT RECEIVED ANY COMPLAINTS REGARDING THIS SITUATION AND WAS COMPLETELY UNAWARE OF THESE INCIDENTS OCCURRING. MR. PRANSKY BROUGHT THIS TO OUR ATTENTION, AND WE HAVE BEEN WORKING WITH HIM TO EDUCATE BOTH THE TOW COMPANIES AND THE CONSUMERS ABOUT THIS ORDINANCE AND THE PTC RULES, AND WE'LL CONTINUE TO DO SO. WE'LL ALSO CONTINUE TO ADDRESS COMPLAINTS SUCH AS THESE AS THEY COME IN. WE HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY ADDITIONAL COMPLAINTS REGARDING THIS MATTER.

AND ANY WORK WITH CONSUMERS TO HAVE, WHO HAVE BEEN WRONGFULLY TOWED TO MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO GET THEIR MONEY BACK AND TRY TO MITIGATE THAT SITUATION. GENERALLY FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT THIS ORDINANCE OR ABOUT THIS CHAPTER WITHIN OUR RULES BECAUSE WE JUST SIMPLY HAVE NOT RECEIVED ANY COMPLAINTS ON THIS ISSUE. I THINK THIS IS A SITUATION THAT FURTHER SUPPORTS OUR NEED TO REACH OUT TO THE COMMUNITY TO EDUCATE THEM ABOUT THE PTC AND WHAT WE DO AND AS A RESOURCE TO CONSUMERS. WE RECENTLY FOUND THAT THERE IS A SIMILAR COUNTY ORDINANCE ON THE BOOKS AS WELL THAT IS A LITTLE BIT DIFFERENT, AND IT MIGHT BE WORTH TAKING A LOOK AT THAT ORDINANCE TO SEE IF IT CAN BE TWEAKED AT ALL TO ADDRESS A MORE CURRENT SITUATION SO THE ORDINANCE FOR THE CITY AND THE ORDINANCE FOR THE COUNTY AND THE PTC RULES ARE MORE ALIGNED.

>> I REALLY DON'T. I THINK THE ENFORCEMENT PROVISIONS NEED A REVIEW IN TERMS OF BEACHING UP THOSE PARTICULAR PROVISIONS. THE OTHER THING THAT MR. COCKREAM AND I DISCUSSED IS THAT WE THINK EDUCATION ON THESE PARTICULAR ORDINANCES IS IMPORTANT BECAUSE I THINK THERE'S A GENERAL LACK OF EDUCATION OR UNDERSTANDING OF WHAT THESE ORDINANCES INDICATE

FROM THE BUSINESS OWNERS AND MAYBE THE WRECKING COMPANIES AND I THINK MR. PRANSKY BROUGHT THAT TO EVERYONE'S ATTENTION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, MEMBERS. WE JUST HEARD A REPORT ON A NEW ISSUE THAT HAS EMERGED AS A RESULT OF SOME GOOD INVESTIGATIVE REPORTING. NO, I GOT TO SAY WHEN I REPLACED MY DOBERMAN I AM GOING TO NAME IT NOAH, GOOD WATCH DOG. ANYWAY, AT THIS JUNCTURE, THERE'S A RULE ON THE BOOKS, THERE'S AN ORDINANCE IN THE COUNTY IS ONE THAT REALLY IS KIND OF HIDDEN THERE. PEOPLE ARE NOT AWARE OF. A GOOD EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM BRINGING TO LIGHT THAT IT'S THERE, WHY IT'S THERE, YOU KNOW, HOW IT WORKS WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO THE INDUSTRY. BENEFICIAL TO THE PUBLIC. MAYBE THERE'S SOME ADDITIONAL TWEAKING THAT COULD BE DONE TO PUT SOME ENFORCEMENT IN IT. I THINK IF SOMEONE HERE WAS TO MAKE A MOTION THAT WE DIRECT A REQUEST THAT THE COUNTY REVIEW THIS ORDINANCE, SEE WHAT IF ANYTHING CAN BE DONE TO IMPROVE ENFORCEMENT AND WE DO THE SAME WITH EACH OF THE CITIES. IT WOULD CERTAINLY GO A LONG WAY IN PROTECTING THE PUBLIC ESPECIALLY FROM DRUNK DRIVERS. >> GO AHEAD AND MAKE A MOTION THAT WE REVIEW THIS COUNTY ORDINANCE AS WELL. THIS IS A CONSUMER PROTECTION AS I LOOK AT IT TO KEEP THE PUBLIC AWARE, TO KEEP THE PUBLIC SAFE, AND KNOW THAT THERE IS THIS OPTION ON THE BOOKS AND ON THE TABLE AND JUST TO EDUCATE THE FOLKS, SO THAT'S IT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: COUNCILMAN, THANK YOU. YES, WE HAVE A SECOND FROM A COUNTY COMMISSIONER. ANY DISCUSSION? ANY DEBATE. SEEING NONE, ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? KYLE AND MS. OSTER, IF YOU COULD GET TOGETHER AND CRAFT THAT LETTER, I GUESS, I PROBABLY SHOULD COME FROM -- I DON'T WANT IT TO COME FROM ME BECAUSE I'M A COMMISSIONER SO KYLE, IT SHOULD COME FROM YOU.

>> YES, I WILL WORK WITH MRS. OSTER ON THAT. MR. PRANSKY IS HERE. I DON'T WANT TO PUT HIM ON THE SPOT BUT THE MIC IS OPEN IF HE WANTS TO MAKE ANY COMMENTS. SINCERELY ON BEHALF OF THIS COMMISSION AND MANY PEOPLE IN THE INDUSTRY APPRECIATE THIS BEING BROUGHT TO OUR ATTENTION SO WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO ADDRESS THIS ISSUE AS WE MOVE FORWARD. NEXT THING ON THE AGENDA IS QUITE SOMETIME AGO, COUNCILMAN POGORILICH ACTUALLY SEVERAL TIMES OVER THE LAST YEAR OR SO, HE HAS APPROACHED ME ABOUT AN APP COMPANY OR LOOKING AT A GLOBAL APP COMPANY THAT MIGHT BE CONSUMER FRIENDLY IN A LOT OF DIFFERENT WAYS, AND I RAN ACROSS A COMPANY AT A CONFERENCE I WAS AT. TODAY WE HAVE KARHOO HERE, WHICH IS AN INTERNATIONAL APP COMPANY. IF YOU WOULD STEP UP, PLEASE. HE HAS A SHORT PRESENTATION AND THIS IS AT THE REQUEST OF -- HE'S GOT SOME HANDOUTS ALSO. THANK YOU. THIS KARHOO IS AN INTERNATIONAL APP COMPANY. I THINK YOU'LL BE VERY IMPRESSED WITH THIS PRESENTATION. I'LL RESERVE COMMENT TOWARDS THE END OF THIS, BUT THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TODAY. I KNOW YOU TRAVELED TO BE HERE, YOU AND YOUR STAFF, AND I APPRECIATE YOU PRESENTING AND NOT ONLY THAT BUT HE'S GOT A VERY GLOBAL PERSPECTIVE OF THE TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY, SO THANK YOU FOR BEING HERE TODAY.

>> MR. COCKREAM, THANK YOU VERY MUCH. IT'S A GREAT PRIVILEGE AND AN

HONOR, THANK YOU, I APPRECIATE IT TO BE INVITED TO SPEAK TO THE COMMISSION. I'VE SEEN AND I HEARD THIS MORNING YOU ARE DOING A FANTASTIC JOB, AND WE'RE ALL FIGHTING FOR SURVIVAL OF OUR INDUSTRIES AND SERVING OUR PUBLIC. MY NAME IS -- I'M THE VICE PRESIDENT GLOBAL SENIOR VP OF KARHOO. I COME FROM THE INDUSTRY. WORKED IN 99 FOR A LIMOUSINE COMPANY THEN LAST POST AS DIGITAL MANAGER IN NEW YORK. I ALSO COFOUNDED THE LIVERY ROUNDTABLE WHICH IS A TRADE ASSOCIATION. PURPOSE IS TO HELP AND ASSIST LIVERY BASES IN NEW YORK CITY AND NEW YORK STATE IN A WIDER SPECTRUM. SO MY ONLY POINT TO BRING THAT UP IS NOT MY RESUME IS THE FACT THAT I COME FROM THE INDUSTRY AND I'VE SERVED WITH THE TLC COMMISSION AND THE STATE AND THE SENATE, THE STATE BOTH SENATE AND ASSEMBLY IN WORKING ON MAKING SURE OUR INDUSTRY SURVIVE. WORK VERY HARD FOR SO MANY YEARS IN LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY, AND THEN WE ALSO REALIZED THAT THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR US IS TO ADAPT AND ADJUST AND COME INTO THE MARKET, NOT JUST ASKING FOR THE REGULATORS AND LEGISLATION TO PROTECT US. WE HAD TO FIND OUT A WAY FOR US TO COMPETE, AND GET TO THE, BEAT INTRUDERS ONTO WHAT WE DO BEST. I'M GOING TO TRY TO FOLLOW THE SLIDE. I'M SURE MY COLLEAGUE IS WONDERING HOW LONG I'M GOING TO STAY WITHIN THE TEN MINUTES. I AM GOING TO DO A QUICK INTRO, GO THROUGH THE HISTORY, YOU SEE THE CONTENT THERE. AND IF WE HAVE ENOUGH TIME, I'LL DO A QUICK DEMO. AND DEFINITELY ANSWER QUESTIONS. WE DEFINITELY BELIEVE THE WAY TO MOVE AND GO FROM TRANSPORTATION IS ABOUT TO GET SMARTED OR WE ARE NOT GOING TO BE HERE. KARHOO IS A VERY SIMPLE PLATFORM. WE ARE CONSUMER FACING AGGREGATOR VERY SIMILAR IN CONCEPT TO THE EXPEDIA OR THE TREVAGO FOR TRAVEL. LIMOUSINE, TAXI, WHEELCHAIR DISABILITY, ALL THE WAY FROM THE LUXURY LEVEL DOWN TO THE TAXI OR UP FROM THE METERED TAXI TO THE LIMOUSINE. HAVING THEM ALL IN ONE PLATFORM WHERE THE CHOICE IS FOR THE CONSUMER TO CHOOSE A FLEET THAT INVESTED INTO YEARS AND YEARS. SOME OF THEM ALMOST 100 YEARS AND RECOGNIZE THAT. SO A CONSUMER WILL END UP CHOOSING A FLEET BY NAME, ETA, PRICE, VEHICLE TYPE, AND CLASS OF SERVICE AS BASE FOR CHOICE. HAVING THAT ALL IN ONE PLACE, IT MAKES IT FOR BOTH ON DEMAND AND PREARRANGED IS TRULY THE MAGIC. SO WHETHER THE POWER THE PRICE THE SPEED THE AVAILABILITY BRINGS IT ALL INTO ONE PLACE. OUR HISTORY'S VERY BRIEF REALLY. OUR COFOUNDER WAS IN FLORIDA SOMEWHERE OR THE STORY CALIFORNIA. I AM NOT GOING TO ADJUST IT TO THE AUDIENCE. IT'S SOMEWHERE THAT WE HAD COULD NOT ASK TO GO TO A PLACE DOWNLOAD UBER. DID NOT GET A CAR, GOT REJECTED, WANTED TO GO TO LYFT, HAD THE SAME PROBLEM, TRIED TO GET THE CONCIERGE TO GET HIM A CAR, AND HE WAS VERY FLUSTERED. HOLD ON A MINUTE. IF I WANT TO TRAVEL, I GO TO ONE PLACE, I CAN COMPARE ALL OF THEM, ALL THE FLIGHTS, ALL THE HOTELS ALL IN ONE PLACE AND I CAN GET THERE. HE HAD A VERY GOOD FRIEND WITH HIM AT THAT TIME THAT WAS VERY SUPPORTIVE WHO COMES FROM THE BACKGROUND AND THE IDEA WAS BORN IN SEPTEMBER 2014. IT WAS ESTABLISHED PROTOTYPES WAS DONE. THEN WE MOVED. YOU SEE KIND OF THE TIMELINE. THE, IT IS A NEW YORK IS A U.S. COMPANY. KIND OF IN ITS INFANCY IN LONDON AND RAISED IN NEW YORK AT

THE MOMENT AND GROWING AND IT'S IN THE MARKET IN U.K. AS THEY PILOT MARKET IS ACTUALLY IN THE MARKET WITH ABOUT 20 SOME THOUSAND VEHICLES. WE ARE IN TESTING BETA VERSIONS IN NEW YORK CITY WITH APPROXIMATELY ALSO APPROACHING 24,000 VEHICLES ON THE PLATFORM. SOON TO LAUNCH ON THE APP WITHIN THE MONTH OF MARCH, AND A GREAT MARCH AFTER THAT. SO WE ARE GOING TO HAVE NEW YORK, LONDON, SINGAPORE. WE ARE FOLLOWING AFTER THAT GROWTH INTO AREAS WHERE THERE IS A DEMAND AND WHERE WE HAVE ORGANIC GROWTH, SO WE'RE ANTICIPATING WITHIN THIS YEAR TO COVER ALL OF THE UNITED STATES. I DON'T KNOW HOW MANY TIMES I'VE SAID THIS WORD IN THE LAST TEN YEARS. LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD BUT WITH DIFFERENT APPROACHES TO LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD. ONE WAS OF THEM WAS LEGISLATIVE AND REGULATORY INSURANCE REQUIREMENTS, BACKGROUND CHECKS, AND THAT'S ALL VERY IMPORTANT. BUT IF WE LEVY ALL OF THESE RESPONSIBILITIES ON SMALLER COMPANIES OR THAT HAVE BEEN WORKING VERY HARD AND NOT LEVELING ON THE BIGGER ONES THERE IS STILL THE QUESTION OF THE ABILITY TO HIT AND APPROACH THE MARKET. WE BELIEVE THAT THROUGH KARHOO WE CAN LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD AND GET ACCESSIBILITY TO THE SMALLER OPERATORS AND THE OPERATORS WITH OTHER MARKETING CAPABILITIES TO GET THEM THE CHANCE TO PRESENT THEMSELVES IN A GLOBAL MARKET AND GIVING WITHOUT THE HANDICAP OF TECHNOLOGY. AND THAT IS TRULY THE BEST WAY FOR LEVELING THE PLAYING FIELD. THE CONCEPT IS REALLY SIMPLE. AN APP, A CONSUMER FACING APP IS CONNECTED TO A MAIN FRAME. THAT MAIN FRAME GOES THROUGH INTEGRATION WITH THE INDIVIDUAL DISPATCHING SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGIES THAT'S BEHIND THE DIFFERENT COMPANIES, WHETHER IT'S METERED, PRIVATE, OR LUXURY. IT'S NOTHING NEW OTHER THAN WE WERE WILLING TO TAKE THE RESPONSIBILITY AND THE ABILITY TO INTEGRATE WITH EVERY SINGLE DISPATCHING SYSTEM TO PROVIDE THE SERVICE AND LEVY THAT RESPONSIBILITY AWAY FROM THE SERVICE PROVIDERS AND THE SUPPLIERS. WE TOOK THAT RISK OURSELVES. WE WENT AND TALKED TO OTHER DISPATCHING SYSTEMS, AND WE AGREED TO INTEGRATE AT OUR COST AT ZERO COST TO THE CONSUMERS AND ZERO COST TO THE SUPPLIERS AND MAKE THAT LINK FOR THE TECHNOLOGIES. THIS IS A VERY QUICK DEMO. KIND OF WALK THROUGH IT AND I'M HAPPY TO SO AS YOU SEE YOU WILL SEE THE MAP GPS WHERE YOU ARE. USING THE SLIDER ON THE BOTTOM, CHOOSE THE TYPE OF VEHICLE YOU WANT AND THE CLASS OF SERVICE AND IF YOU INDICATE THE DESTINATION, IT'LL BE ABLE TO GO BACK THROUGH APIs AND RETRIEVE ETA AND PRICING FROM THE DISPATCHING SYSTEM WITH A CORRESPONDING SERVICE PROVIDERS AND THAT'S FOR ASAP AND IF WE WANT TO GO INTO PREARRANGED OR PREBOOKED YOU SIMPLY CLICK ON THE CALENDAR AND CHOOSE THE DAY. OF COURSE ETA DOES NOT BECOME AN OPTION AT THAT TIME AND YOU CHOOSE BASED ON PRICE OR STARS OR RATING OR BRAND NAME. YOUR CREDIT CARD IS ON FILE, SO THE SAFETY FACTOR IS THERE. AND THEN YOU FOLLOW SAME AS ALL THE OTHER SINGLE NETWORK OPERATORS YOU WILL GET TO SEE THE VEHICLES APPROACHING YOU ON, THE VEHICLE APPROACHING THE PICK-UP PLACE, THE STATUS UPDATES, AND AT THE END OF THE TRIP, OF COURSE, A RECEIPT AND A SURVEY REQUEST. VERY SIMPLE, VERY CLEAN DISPLAY. THERE IS, IT KEEPS IT RIGHT

WHERE THE EXPECTATIONS ARE. WE'VE HELD MANY SUPPLIERS SESSIONS AND MEETINGS AND EVENTS. A LOT OF THEM THE FIRST QUESTION IS WHY SHOULD WE COLLABORATE. KIND OF SURPRISES ME THAT MY COLLEAGUES STILL ASK THAT QUESTION. BUT IT'S VERY SIMPLE. THE NETWORK EFFECT, THE ABILITY TO BRING IN THE THREE TO, TWO TO FIVE-MINUTE ETAs OR WHATEVER THE CONSUMER HAS BEEN ACCEPTING OR MANDATING AS AN ACCEPTABLE ETA FOR ON DEMAND IS NO LONGER 20 MINUTES AND 15 MINUTES IN MOST PLACES. THE NETWORK EFFECT AND THE, WITH THE SUPPLIERS ACCORDING TO OUR NUMBERS ESPECIALLY IN A CITY LIKE NEW YORK CITY WHICH I KNOW A BIT MORE THAN ANYWHERE ELSE, IS UBER HAS ABOUT 34,000 VEHICLES REGISTERED IN NEW YORK CITY. WE BELIEVE -- IT'S REALLY FUNNY. THEY SAY 34. THE FACT IS THEY HAVE REGISTERED 34,000 BUT AT ANY GIVEN TIME BECAUSE OF LACK OF PROFESSIONALISM OR WHERE THEY STAND TODAY, YOU DON'T HAVE MORE THAN 6,000 OR SO VEHICLES ON THE STREET FROM UBER AT ANY GIVEN TIME. IT GETS INTO SURGE PRICING AND CONGESTION THEY CAUSE. WE BELIEVE WE'RE DEALING WITH THE SAME NUMBER OF 20 SOME THOUSAND VEHICLES. WE CAN GO INTO MUCH HIGHER AVAILABILITY AND MORE DISTRIBUTED AROUND THE CITY. CATEGORICALLY NO. I SAID WHAT WE ARE. I AM GOING TO SAY WHAT WE ARE NOT. WE ARE NOT A LIMOUSINE BASE COMPANY. WE ARE NOT A TAXI OPERATOR. WE WILL NEVER OPEN A BASE. WE WILL NEVER OPEN A COMPANY. WE WILL NOT HAVE A DRIVER APP AND WE WERE NOT HIRE A SINGLE DRIVER CATEGORICALLY IN ANY JURISDICTION AROUND THE COUNTRY. WE WILL ONLY, WE WILL ONLY WORK WITH LICENSED INSURED TRANSPORTATION COMPANIES IN ANY JURISDICTION. TO WORK WE WILL NEED ADDITIONAL GROWTH. I'M GOING TO SKIP THROUGH ALL OF THOSE. THIS IS KIND OF -- UBER DOES A CERTAIN TRICK WHERE THEY, UBER DRIVERS GO INTO THE HEART OF THE CITY AND THEY NEVER GO OUT. WITH OUR PROPOSAL THROUGH THE EXISTING NETWORKS, WE CAN EXPAND THAT TO COVER AREAS IN EVERY AREA AND BRING THEM BACK. DATA. WORKING WITH TO CREATE A GREATER MARKET UNDERSTANDING AS LONG AS IT'S CONFIDENTIAL. I KNOW I'VE EXCEEDED A LOT OF YOUR TIME BUT DATA IS VERY, VERY IMPORTANT A. LOT OF THE ASPECTS THAT A LOT OF SUPPLIERS AND A LOT OF GOVERNING BODIES KIND OF LACK THE CONNECTIVITY, ESTABLISHING TRENDS, SUPPLY AND DEMAND, CONCENTRATIONS, HEAT MAPS, INCREASING EFFICIENCY. WE ARE PLANNING TO PROVIDE THAT TECHNOLOGY AS IT BECOMES AGGREGATED TO BOTH SUPPLIERS AND THEIR REGULATORS TO BETTER UNDERSTAND THE INDUSTRY. AND MAINTAINING THE PRIVACIES NEEDED FOR THE SUPPLIERS THROUGH AUTOMATION. THAT'S OUR CEO. I PROMISED I WOULD PLAY THIS IF I CAN MAKE IT WORK. SORRY ABOUT THAT. HE WAS JUST TELLING US ALL THE GOOD FUTURES COMING AND VERY OPTIMISTIC.

>> WE WILL CERTAINLY VALIDATE THAT YOU SHOWED HIS PICTURE ON THE SCREEN.

>> THANK YOU VERY MUCH. I LIKE MY JOB.

>> THERE IS ONE THING I WOULD LIKE TO INTERJECT TO THE COMMISSION MEMBERS, IF YOU WOULD PLEASE. ONE OF THE THINGS I HAVE LEARNED ABOUT TALKING TO REGULATORS AROUND THE WORLD AND QUITE FRANKLY IN THE UNITED STATES, IS IN MANY MARKETS, COMPANIES LIKE KARHOO TAKE THAT

AGGREGATED DATA, HOW PEOPLE ARE MOVING, WHAT TIME OF DAY THEY ARE MOVING WHAT ROUTES THEY ARE MOVING. THEY PUSH THAT TO THE REGULATORS. THE REGULATORS, AND THEY DO SO ALMOST ON A 24-HOUR PERIOD.

THE REGULATORS TAKE THAT INFORMATION AND SHARE IT WITH CITY PLANNERS, WITH COUNTY PLANNERS, AND PLANNERS AND ENGINEERS THEN HELP USE THAT DATA TO LOOK INTO THE FUTURE ABOUT HOW CAN WE MANIPULATE ROADS AND TRAFFIC SIGNALS AND ALL OF THOSE THINGS SO THAT'S PART OF WHAT KARHOO DOES IS THAT THEY HELP PUSH ALL OF THAT INFORMATION. WHO'S MOVING WHERE, WHEN, HOW, TIME OF DAY, DAY OF WEEK, ALL THAT OUT SO IT CAN BE USED IN TO THE BIGGER PICTURE. THIS COMMISSION HAS CONTINUOUSLY TRIED TO BE INNOVATIVE IN MOVING FORWARD. I THINK THIS APPROACH, HOW WE CAN SERVE AS A RESOURCE TO OTHER ENTITIES AT THE STATE LEVEL, AT THE LOCAL LEVEL, AND PLANNING ROADS AND STREETS, AND MOVING PEOPLE, MASS TRANSIT, IT ALL PLAYS INTO ONE BIG EFFORT AND THIS IS PART OF GETTING AHEAD OF THE CURVE. IT'S MUCH BIGGER THAN AN APP.

>> VICTOR CRIST: COUPLE OF QUESTIONS. IS THERE A RATING SYSTEM, AN OPPORTUNITY TO RATE DELIVERY SERVICE SIMILAR TO, YOU KNOW, WHAT UBER AND LYFT CAN DO AND PROVIDE?

>> ABSOLUTELY. SO WE HAVE A COMBINED RATING SYSTEM. WE SOLICIT THE SURVEY WITH RATINGS FROM EACH CONSUMER AFTER EVERY RIDE. WE REVERT THAT BACK TO THE SUPPLIERS FOR THEM TO DO INTERNAL CONTROLS AND ADJUSTMENT AND THE DRIVER METHODOLOGIES AND HABITS, GOOD APPLES FROM BAD APPLES. WE DON'T BELIEVE THAT THE PLACE TO DISPLAY THE DRIVER RATING IS TO THE PUBLIC. THE DRIVER RATER GOES TO THE SUPPLIERS AND I BELIEVE THEIR RESPONSIBILITY STAYS WITH THEM TO MAKE SURE THE DRIVER THEY HAVE ARE CORRECT. THEY CAN, IF NOT THREE STRIKES AND YOU'RE OUT, THERE ARE LOT OF DIFFERENT PROGRAMS DONE BY DIFFERENT SUPPLIERS TO MAINTAIN A DRIVER POOL AND LINE ACCORDING TO RULES AND REGULATIONS IN EVERY COUNTY. WHEN WE SHOW TO THE CONSUMER IS A RATING PER FLEET. WHICH WE BELIEVE THAT THAT ENTICES COMPETITION AND NOT A RACE TO THE BOTTOM, BUT ALLOWING THE CREAM OF THE SERVICE TO GO UP TO THE TOP. WHICH ONE OF OUR CONCERNS WHEN WE BUILT ON A COMPARISON PLATFORM THAT WE DON'T CAUSE THE INDUSTRY TO KIND OF COMPETE WITH ITSELF.

>> VICTOR CRIST: SO IN ESSENCE THIS IS THE TRIP ADVISOR OF TAXIS AND LIMOS AND CARS WHERE SOMEBODY CAN GO TO ONE SOURCE, GET ALL THE INFORMATION, NEGOTIATE THE BEST DEAL, AND DO IT ALL ON THEIR SMART PHONE.

>> EXCEPT WE DON'T NEGOTIATE THE DEALS. WHAT WE ARE DOING IS TO MAINTAIN TOTAL NEUTRALITY AND TO BE THE SWITZERLAND OF TRAVEL OR CAR TRANSPORTATION INDUSTRY, WE DECIDED TO HAVE A TOTAL TRANSPARENCY WITH EACH SUPPLIER WOULD PROVIDE THEIR RATES AUTOMATICALLY THROUGH THE INTEGRATION SYSTEM TO THE CONSUMER. WE BELIEVE IN OPEN MARKET WHERE YOU HAVE FULL TRANSPARENCY WILL DRIVE RATES AND RATES AND COMPETITION TO THE RIGHT PLACE. IT WAS NOT OUR PLACE TO TELL PEOPLE HOW TO DO THE JOB. IT'S OUR PLACE TO BRING THE MARKET AND CONSOLIDATE THE SUPPLY SO THEY CAN FLOURISH AND DO WHAT THEY DO BEST.

>> VICTOR CRIST: COLLECT THE DATA AND MAKE IT AVAILABLE, LET THE

MARKET ADJUST.

>> CORRECT. WE ARE REALLY A MARKETING COMPANY. OUR FOUNDER STARTED IN 2000 WHAT WAS CALLED PAPER CRATE. SO IT'S WITHIN OUR DNA MARKETING. THIS IS WHAT WE DO BEST. AN INTERESTING PART. SINGLE NETWORK OPERATORS WITHOUT MENTIONING THEIR NAMES, THEY KIND OF SPEND MOST OF THE MONEY ON DRIVER ACQUISITIONS. ALTHOUGH WE ARE AS YOU CAN SEE A LOT OF THE COVERAGE OF MEDIA THAT WE HAVE RAISED ENOUGH MONEY AND CONTINUE TO RAISED ENOUGH MONEY BUT WE ARE GOING TO BE VERY, VERY SMART IN WHAT WE CAN DO WITH IT. WE ARE GOING TO CONTINUE TO ENFORCE THE STRUCTURE AND MARKET NOT ACQUIRE DRIVERS. WE BELIEVE THE SUPPLIERS DO THAT VERY WELL.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MR. COCKREAM, WHAT IS OUR NEXT STEPS.

>> I THINK OUR NEXT STEP IF THE COMMISSION SO CHOOSES IS TO CONSIDER HAVING AN EXPO OF A COUPLE OF COMPANIES TO COME IN AND LITERALLY GIVE A DEMO OF WHAT THEY CAN DO. THERE'S NOT, KARHOO IS NOT THE ONLY COMPANY. ONE THING THAT KARHOO HAS TO THEIR ADVANTAGE IS YOU CAN DOWNLOAD AN APP AND NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE IN THE COUNTRY YOU HAVE THE SAME APP. USE THE SAME APP. SO THAT'S, AND ACTUALLY INTERNATIONAL SINGAPORE, U.K., ET CETERA. SO IT'S VERY GLOBAL. SOY I THINK THE NEXT STEP WOULD BE FOR THIS COMMISSION TO CONSIDER A PRESENTATION OF SOME OTHER COMPANIES IN ALL FAIRNESS AND TRANSPARENCY.

>> VICTOR CRIST: , ALL RIGHT, I'M ALL ABOUT FINDING THREE AND GOING TO NUMBER ONE.

>> OKAY, I CAN SCHEDULE THAT AT SOME TIME IN THE FUTURE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WORKS FOR ME. ANY COMMENTS OKAY, THANK YOU.

MR. COCKREAM, DURING THE DECEMBER PTC MEETING THE COMMISSION VOTED TO GIVE ME A 7% PERFORMANCE INCREASE. NO ACTION WAS TAKEN ON THAT. IN JANUARY IT WAS ANNOUNCED THAT HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY HR DEPARTMENT THAT NONUNION DIRECTOR LEVEL EMPLOYEES WILL RECEIVE A 4% INCREASE. I WOULD PREFER TO STAY IN LINE WITH THE COUNTY PERFORMANCE INCREASE OF 4% AND TO CHANGE WHAT WAS VOTED ON IN DECEMBER FROM 7 DOWN TO 4.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WHOA, WHOA, WAIT A MINUTE, YOU ARE GIVING UP YOUR PAY INCREASE?

>> YES, SIR, IT'S THE RIGHT THING TO DO.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WOW. PUBLIC EMPLOYEE DOING THE RIGHT THING AND GIVING UP HALF THEIR PAY INCREASE.

>> THIS JOB HAS NEVER BEEN ABOUT THE MONEY FOR ME. IT'S MORE BEEN ABOUT DOING THE RIGHT THING AND AS I TOLD YOU WHEN YOU HIRED ME I GREW UP IN THIS COUNTY. MY PARENTS LIVE IN THIS DOWNTOWN COUNTY, MY FAMILY LIVES IN THIS COUNTY SO I HAVE SWEAT EQUITY IN THIS COUNTY. IT'S ALL ABOUT DOING THE RIGHT THING. IT'S NOT ABOUT THE MONEY, IT'S NEVER BEEN ABOUT THE MONEY. THIS WILL REQUIRE CONSIDERATION AND A MOTION ON BEHALF OF THIS BOARD TO READJUST THAT FROM 7 DOWN TO 4%.

>> I HEAR COMMISSIONERS LAUGHING I THINK THEY ALREADY HAD THAT COST SAVINGS REDIRECTED.

>> IF I COULD MAKE A COMMENT TO COMMISSIONER HAGAN IF THAT COULD BE CONTRIBUTED TO ENHANCING OUR ATHLETIC ENVIRONMENT AROUND HERE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: HOW ABOUT ROADS? [LAUGHTER] EVERY LITTLE BIT FOR GO HILLSBOROUGH.

>> NO COMMENT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT, IS THERE A MOTION TO REDUCE HIS PAY BY 3% AND PUT IT TOWARDS BASEBALL? JUST KIDDING. SECOND, WE HAVE A MOTION AND A SECOND. ANY DISCUSSION? ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED, OKAY. WE JUST CUT YOUR PAY INCREASE.

>> THANK YOU. THANK YOU TO THE COMMISSION MEMBERS AS WELL.

IN JANUARY RULES AND POLICIES COMMITTEE REVIEWED TWO RULES.

TWO RULES PASSED ONE WAS DISAPPROVED AND PROPOSED RULES FOUR AND FIVE ARE AWAITING LEGAL REVIEW. MORE SPECIFICALLY IT HAS TO DO WITH THE WORD OPEN AND WHAT DOES THE WORD OPEN MEAN IN THE BUSINESS ENVIRONMENT AND I DON'T KNOW IF MRS. OSTER WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT ON THE ISSUE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MRS. OSTER.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. AT THE LAST MEETING, THERE WAS SOME DISCUSSION ABOUT RULES 4 AND 5, AND SPECIFICALLY IT DEALS WITH SHORTENING THE TIME FRAME BY WHICH A WRECKING BUSINESS WOULD HAVE TO BE OPEN. AND THERE IS A STATE STATUTE SPECIFICALLY IT'S SECTION 715.07 THAT READS THAT THE SITE MUST BE OPEN FOR THE PURPOSE OF REDEMPTION OF VEHICLES ON ANY DAY THAT THE PERSON OR FIRM TOWING SUCH VEHICLE OR VESSEL IS OPEN FOR TOWING PURPOSES FROM 8:00 A.M. TO 6:00 P.M. AND THE RULE PROPOSAL WAS TO SHORTEN THAT TIME FRAME TO 5:00 P.M. AT THE END OF THE DAY. AT THE LAST MEETING, MR. MICHELINI WHO REPRESENTS THE WRECKING INDUSTRY HAD INDICATED THAT THEY WOULD HAVE THEIR LEGAL COUNSEL REVIEW THAT PARTICULAR ISSUE AND PROVIDE ANY CASE LAW AND FORWARD THAT TO ME IN SUPPORT OF THEIR POSITION WHICH I HAVE NOT RECEIVED WE GAVE THEM ABOUT 30 DAYS TO DO THAT.

AT THIS POINT IN TIME I AM PREPARED TO FORWARD THAT LEGAL OPINION TO THIS COMMISSION. IF THE PREFERENCE IS TO DO THAT IN WRITING, I CAN DO THAT. AND AT THIS POINT IN TIME, THE VERBAL OPINION IS THAT TO SHORTEN THAT TIME FRAME TO THE 5:00 P.M. HOUR WOULD IN MY OPINION BE CONTRARY TO THE STATE STATUTE. MR. COCKREAM AND I REVIEWED IT. I'VE ALSO REVIEWED IT WITH OUR LITIGATION COUNSEL. WE PROBABLY HAVE TO DEFEND THAT ACTION, AND HE LIKewise HAS THE SAME INTERPRETATION. SO IT'S UP TO THIS COMMISSION HOW YOU WOULD LIKE TO PROCEED WITH RULES 4 AND 5 WHICH ARE TIED TOGETHER. MR. COCKREAM, DID YOU HAVE ANYTHING YOU WANTED TO ADD?

>> NO, I DISCUSSED THIS WITH MRS. OSTER IN GREAT DETAIL, AND RECOMMEND THE COMMISSION NOT VENTURE OUTSIDE OF FLORIDA STATUTE TO THE INTENT OF THE LAW THERE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: DISCUSSION? QUESTIONS? MOTION?

>> THIS WOULD ONLY REQUIRE A MOTION TO NOT ACCEPT THE WRECKER RULES, WHICH WERE NUMBER LABELED AS NUMBER 4 AND NUMBER 5 TO DISAPPROVE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY WE HAVE A MOTION MADE BY COMMISSIONER, SECOND BY COUNCILMAN. DISCUSSION, SEEING NONE. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? SHOW IT UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR.

AS THE COMMISSION MAY RECALL A MOTION WAS PASSED IN 2015 TO SPLIT THE ANNUAL BILLING CYCLE FOR LIMOUSINES, VANS, AND TAXICABS INTO TWO SIX-MONTH PAYMENTS. THE SECOND SIX-MONTH BILLING CYCLE IS DUE TO BEGIN IN MARCH. DURING THE FIRST SIX MONTHS BILLING CYCLE, THE COMMISSION VOTED TO REDUCE THE PERMIT FEES BY 25%. YOU REQUESTED THAT THIS ITEM BE BROUGHT BACK BEFORE YOU TO DISCUSS FURTHER REDUCTION IN THE SECOND SIX-MONTH BILLING CYCLE. THE FIRST SIX-MONTH BILLING CYCLE, 25% REDUCTION, EQUATED INTO A 100, ALMOST \$170,000 REDUCTION FOR US. WHICH WAS OBVIOUSLY HANDED OFF TO THE INDUSTRY OF THOSE THREE VANS, LIMOS, AND TAXIS. IT'S UP FOR DISCUSSION AS WE MOVE INTO THE SECOND BILLING CYCLE. I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT WE DO HAVE SOME LEGAL EXPENSES THAT ARE PROBABLY LOOMING ON THE CORNER OR RIGHT AROUND THE HORIZON, AND I WOULD ASK THAT THE COMMISSION CONSIDER THAT MOVING FORWARD.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WHEN WILL OUR PREVIOUS ACTIONS BE UP? AT THE END OF THE MONTH?

>> YES, SIR, THE SECOND BILLING CYCLE WILL BEGIN ACTUALLY I BELIEVE IT IS AT THE END OF MARCH.

>> VICTOR CRIST: SO WOULDN'T IT BE ADVISABLE FOR US TO AT THIS POINT JUST WAIT AND SEE WHAT HAPPENS DURING SESSION AND THEN MAKE THE DETERMINATION AFTER SESSION IS OVER BASED ON WHAT THEY MAY OR MAY NOT DO?

>> YES, SIR, IF THAT'S THE CHOICE OF THE BOARD IT CAN ABSOLUTELY BE DEFERRED TO THE MARCH BOARD MEETING WHICH IS ONLY IN 2.5 WEEKS FROM NOW.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MEMBERS, THAT WOULD BE MY RECOMMENDATION. THAT WE NOT ACT HASTEFULLY, THAT WE WAIT AND SEE WHAT THE LEGISLATURE DOES OR FAILS TO DO.

>> THEN I WOULD LIKE TO MAKE A MOTION WE POSTPONE THIS UNTIL THE POST LEGISLATIVE SESSION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, YOU HAVE A MOTION, A SECOND. SECOND BY COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM. DISCUSSION? SEEING NONE, ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. ALL OPPOSED. UNANIMOUS. KYLE, WE'LL POSTPONE IT.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. B2 COMMUNICATIONS, WHICH CURRENTLY HANDLES OUR PUBLIC RELATIONS FOR THE COMMISSION, SEVERAL MARKETING POSITIONS HAVE BEEN PROPOSED. WHETHER IT'S BILLBOARDS ON I-275 OR DIFFERENT MEDIA. CURRENTLY MR. PARKS IS HERE TO PRESENT YOU WITH SOME VERY QUICK NUMBERS THAT MAY HELP YOU TO MAKE THAT DECISION MOVING FORWARD. ONE OF THE THINGS I WOULD ASK THAT IS ON THE AGENDA AS WE MOVE FORWARD IS LOOKING AT EXTENDING THE CONTRACT WITH CLEAR CHANNEL WHICH WOULD PROVIDE THE BILLBOARDS ALONG THE 275 AND I-4 CORRIDOR.

I WOULD LIKE TO SAY THAT THOSE BILLBOARDS ARE AT A COST OF ABOUT \$5,000 A MONTH. SO RUNNING THAT CONTRACT BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF THE YEAR WOULD BE ABOUT A \$55,000 EXPENDITURE BUT MR. PARKS THIS IS THE AREA THAT HE OPERATES IN AND THERE ARE SOME OTHER, THERE ARE SOME OTHER POSSIBILITIES OUT THERE. BUT MR. PARKS?

>> THANK YOU, KYLE, THANK YOU, COMMISSIONERS FOR TALKING ABOUT THIS

TODAY. QUICK UPDATE ON WHAT WE ARE UP TO. FOR STARTERS AS YOU ALL TALKED ABOUT THIS MORNING, WORKING WITH MR. PRANSKY ABOUT HIS REPORTS AND ALSO THIS IS TIED TO A LARGER INITIATIVE WE HAVE REALLY TAKEN ON OVER THE LAST 60 DAYS WHICH IS TELLING THE PUBLIC ABOUT TIPS FOR NOT BEING TOWED. AND HAD SOME REAL GOOD SUCCESS DURING GASPARILLA IN THAT RESPECT WITH KYLE BEING INTERVIEWED AND A LOT OF TIPS FOR FOLKS WHO ARE GOING TO THE PARADE. WITH ALL THE DISCUSSIONS TODAY, I THINK IT'S JUST ANOTHER SIGN OF HOW FEW PEOPLE KNOW ABOUT WHAT THE RULES ARE AND WHAT THEY CAN DO IF THEY ARE TOWED AND WANT RE-DRESS. OUR SOCIAL MEDIA WORK, VERY LOW COST WAY TO HAVE MORE PEOPLE SEE YOUR FACEBOOK POSTS. ALSO WE'RE NOW IN TRIPLE DIGITS AND FOLLOWERS ON BOTH TWITTER AND FACEBOOK WHICH WE'RE STARTING, WE'RE STARTING CLOSE TO ZERO SO THAT'S GOOD PROGRESS RIGHT AWAY. AS KYLE TALKED ABOUT WE HAVE THREE THINGS TO TALK ABOUT TODAY FOR POSSIBLE OUTREACH GOING FORWARD. ONE IS THE TAMPA BAY BUSINESS JOURNAL ADVERTORIALS. WE HAVE DONE TWO, THE MOST RECENT WAS ABOUT GETTING TOWED WITH TIPS TO AVOID GETTING TOWED. COST TO THOSE HAS BEEN \$8,000, 9,200 REACH, WE DON'T RECOMMEND DOING THAT AGAIN ANYTIME SOON. WE THOUGHT IT WAS EFFECTIVE BULLET MAYBE NOT QUITE AS COST EFFECTIVE AS THE OTHER OPTIONS WE'RE GOING TO SHOW YOU. OPTION TWO KYLE MENTIONED. THESE ARE BILLBOARDS THAT ROTATE. YOU'VE PROBABLY SEEN THEM. THEY ROTATE BETWEEN LOCATIONS ON 275 AND THE DOWNTOWN AREA. \$5,000 PER MONTH IS CERTAINLY A SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT, BUT I WOULD VENTURE THAT THERE IS NOTHING ELSE THAT YOU CAN DO THAT'S GOING TO HAVE THIS MANY IMPRESSIONS PER MONTH, ALMOST 670,000 IMPRESSIONS PER MONTH. CERTAINLY THE BILLBOARD IDEA IS SUCH THAT YOU NEED TO HAVE A VERY QUICK MESSAGE BUT AS WE KYLE HAS TALKED TO US ON ISSUES FOR THE REST OF THE YEAR, YOU MAY WANT TO LOOK AT A REVAMPED WEB SITE REALLY BASED AROUND MORE CONSUMER TIPS, AND ONE THING WE WOULD LIKE TO DO IF WE ARE CONTINUE TO WORK WITH YOU ALL WOULD BE TO CREATE A BILLBOARD. WE DID GET ANECDOTAL INFORMATION THAT PEOPLE HAD RAISED AWARENESS ALONG SOUTH HOWARD AND OTHER AREAS FROM THE BILLBOARD. ANOTHER OPTION WE ARE RECOMMENDING IS SOME BILLBOARD, I GUESS YOU CALL THEM BILLBOARDS ALSO, SOME SPOTS AT THE AIRPORT. THERE'S TWO DIFFERENT OPTIONS WE CHECKED OUT ON THIS. ONE IS THE 55-INCH LCDs AT THE AREAS WHERE YOU PICK UP YOUR BAGGAGE. AND THE IDEA WOULD BE THAT IT WOULD BE A VERY QUICK MESSAGE ON MAKING SURE WHOEVER IS PICKING YOU UP AT THE AIRPORT WOULD BE AN AUTHORIZED PROVIDER. THIS WOULD HAVE TO BE VERY QUICK, BUT THE NICE THING IS MORE THAN 12 MILLION PEOPLE GO THROUGH BAGGAGE CLAIM A YEAR SO A TON OF PEOPLE WOULD SEE THIS FOR WHAT WE THINK IS A FAIRLY REASONABLE COST. 1145 A MONTH. AND THEN THE OTHER OPTION IN THE AIRPORT IS A LARGER SCREEN WHICH DOESN'T, THERE ARE NOT AS MANY LOCATIONS. THERE ARE THREE LOCATIONS AND THERE ARE THREE VIDEO WALLS THERE. WE LIKE THE OTHER ONES NOT ONLY THE OTHER ONES CHEAPER BUT THEY'RE RIGHT THERE WHERE YOU PICK UP YOUR BAGS AND SO WHAT WE WOULD RECOMMEND TODAY WOULD BE GOING WITH THE WITH THE 55-INCH LCDs AT THE BAGGAGE CLAIM AND RENEWING THE

BILLBOARD WHILE WE CONTINUE TO LOOK AT OTHER OPTIONS. OBVIOUSLY THE OTHER WORK WE DO AT B2 FOR YOUR ALL IS REALLY FOCUSING ON WHAT WE CALLED EARNED MEDIA WHICH IS WORKING WITH THE NEWS MEDIA ON STORIES THAT YOU DON'T HAVE TO PAY FOR SO THAT'S CERTAINLY OUR BIGGEST FOCUS, BUT WE THINK THESE TWO THINGS WOULD BE SOMETHING TO ALSO CONSIDER.
>> QUESTIONS?

>> IN OUR BRIEFINGS YESTERDAY I ASKED ABOUT LEGAL EXPENSES AND IF I GOT OUR NUMBERS CORRECT, LAST TIME WE WERE IN COURT THE EXPENSES RELATED TO ATTORNEYS GETTING PREPARED FOR THAT HEARING WERE \$70,000. WE HAVE POSTPONED A DECISION ON OUR BILLING CYCLE WAS IN THE NEGATIVE. I'M CONCERNED THAT WHEN WE GET BACK INTO FULL SWING, WITH ENFORCEMENTS SEEING THAT THE LEGISLATURE MAY NOT ACT, I'M NOT COMFORTABLE WITH BILLBOARDS AND SPENDING THAT MONEY BECAUSE I THINK WE NEED TO BE AMASSING A WAR CHEST IF YOU WILL TO COVER OUR LEGAL EXPENSES. I LIKE THE CREATIVITY ON THE OUTREACH AT THE AIRPORT, BUT WE'LL MAKE A MOTION THAT WE APPROVE THE RECOMMENDATION WITHOUT THE BILLBOARDS. AND I'M DOING THAT IN JUST IN AN ABUNDANCE OF CAUTION BECAUSE OF LEGAL EXPENSES.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WE HAVE A MOTION AND WE HAVE A SECOND. I'M GOING TO PASS THE GAVEL IN DEBATE. COMMISSIONER HAGAN. I RESPECTFULLY DISAGREE. WE'RE SITTING ON A SIZABLE WAR CHEST CURRENTLY PUSHING A MILLION DOLLARS, AND HAVE AMPLE RESOURCES TO HANDLE ANY POTENTIAL FUTURE OF LEGAL ACTIONS THAT WE MAY NEED TO TAKE. WE'VE GOT SOLID CASH FLOW COMING INTO THE AGENCY. THIS MEDIA CAMPAIGN IS NOT ABOUT FEELING GOOD. IT'S STRATEGICALLY TIMED AND PLACED TO ACCOMPLISH SEVERAL OBJECTIVES. RIGHT NOW AN IMPORTANT OBJECTIVE IS TO REMAIN VISIBLE IN FRONT OF LAWMAKERS. TO SHOW THEM WHAT THE PTC DOES AND THAT WE'RE DOING IT. THEY'RE FLYING IN AND OUT OF THIS AIRPORT EVERY DAY. THEY'RE DRIVING THE INTERSTATE TO AND FROM THE AIRPORT EVERY DAY. THESE LOCATIONS WERE STRATEGICALLY LOCATED TO BE IN THEIR FACE AND THAT IS SOMETHING WE NEED TO DO. THEY NEED TO SEE THE GOOD WILL OF THIS AGENCY WELL UNDERWAY THAT WE'RE BIGGER THAN THE SMALL PICTURE THAT THEY'VE BEEN SEEING IN THE NEWSPAPERS. SECONDLY, WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO THE RIDING PUBLIC. THIS AGENCY WAS CREATED TO REGULATE THE INDUSTRY TO MAKE SURE THEY WERE SAFE, THEY WERE AVAILABLE, BUT ALSO TO ENSURE THAT THE PUBLIC IS MADE AWARE. ADVERTISING IS MORE THAN JUST MESSAGING. WITHOUT ADVERTISING, YOU WOULDN'T KNOW. YOU WON'T KNOW A LOT OF THINGS AND IT'S THE VEHICLE FOR PROVIDING NECESSARY INFORMATION THAT YOU NEED AT A STRATEGIC TIME. AND THE TWO MESSAGES THAT WERE GOING TO BE DISPLAYED HERE COULDN'T BE MORE TIMELY DURING THE FESTIVE TIME OF THE YEAR WHEN PEOPLE ARE BEGINNING TO DRINK, PARTY, AND ENJOY, THE MESSAGE TO NOT DRINK AND DRIVE AND WHAT YOUR ALTERNATIVES ARE, I THINK IS A MANDATE. AND THAT'S ONE OF THE MESSAGES. THE OTHER IS WE'VE HAD THE INDUSTRY TELL US REPETITIVELY ABOUT THE PROBLEM OF GYPSY DRIVERS. AND BEING ON THE AIRPORT BOARD, I KNOW THAT THAT IS A HUGE PROBLEM AT THE AIRPORT. I KNOW THE DIRECTOR AND STAFF HAS TOLD US WE NEED TO STEP

UP OUR GAME AND OUR PRESENT AND OUR MESSAGING THERE, AND HAVE WORKED WITH OUR MEDIA PEOPLE TO PROVIDE THE VERY BEST TIMES AND LOCATIONS. SO IF IT WAS JUST MAINTENANCE ADVERTISING, I WOULD AGREE WITH YOU, COMMISSIONER. IT WAS JUST SIMPLE MESSAGING, I WOULD AGREE WITH YOU, COMMISSIONER. IF WE DIDN'T HAVE A LARGE PURSE IN THE BANK, I WOULD AGREE WITH YOU, COMMISSIONER. BUT SINCE IT'S A DIFFERENT SCENARIO, AND THAT THE TIMING OF THIS COULDN'T BE MORE STRATEGIC, I RESPECTFULLY OPPOSE.

>> KEN HAGAN: YOUR COMMENTS?

>> I HAVE A QUESTION.

>> ARE THESE ELECTRONIC BILLBOARDS?

>> YES, SIR.

>> AND THE PURPOSE THAT WE USE THE ELECTRONIC BILLBOARDS IS BECAUSE THEY APPEAR FOR EIGHT SECONDS AT A TIME AND WE CAN ACTUALLY CHANGE THE MESSAGE WITHIN ABOUT 24 HOURS IF NEED BE. LIKEWISE, LIKEWISE WHEN IT CIRCLES THROUGH IT CAN HAVE MESSAGE A AND THEN MESSAGE B SO WE CAN HAVE TWO DIFFERENT MESSAGES.

>> CANDIDLY, I'M LIKE A LOT OF PEOPLE, I'M A FAN OF THE BILLBOARD INDUSTRY AND I HAVE NO PROBLEMS WITH IT AND THAT'S BEEN A HOTLY DEBATED ISSUE IN YEARS PAST ON THE BOCC. HOWEVER I'M JUST, I'M UNCLEAR ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF THE ROTATING, THE ROTATING BILLBOARDS.

I THINK YOU NEED TO HAVE IN MY OPINION FOR IT TO BE A SUCCESSFUL MARKETING CAMPAIGN, IT NEEDS TO BE A NUMBER OF BILLBOARDS AROUND THE COUNTY, AT LEAST THAT'S THE STRATEGIES I'VE UTILIZED AND CAMPAIGNED IN YEARS PAST. HAVE WE INQUIRED ABOUT ANY OTHER TYPES OF MARKETING WE COULD DO OTHER THAN BILLBOARDS?

>> THAT'S PART OF WHAT THE PRESENTATION WAS ABOUT TODAY.

>> AS FAR AS BILLBOARDS YOU COULD CERTAINLY GO TO FIXED MESSAGES AROUND TOWN AND DO A NUMBER OF THEM. WE'VE SEEMED TO HAVE GOOD SUCCESS WITH ROTATING IN THIS LOCATION BECAUSE IT'S THE HIGHEST TRAFFIC NUMBERS IN THE DOWNTOWN AREA BUT CERTAINLY WE COULD GO BACK AND LOOK AT DIFFERENT THINGS. WE'VE LOOKED AT BUS STOP, DOWNTOWN SOME OTHER THINGS AND THE IMPRESSION NUMBERS JUST AREN'T AS LARGE AS THIS. SO FROM WHAT WE LOOKED AT WE FELT LIKE THIS WAS THE LARGEST NUMBER OF IMPRESSIONS AND THE IDEA HERE WAS NOT TO, AS YOU KNOW YOUR GOING TO SPEND FIVE SECONDS LOOKING AT A BILLBOARD. THE IDEA IS TO DRIVE TRAFFIC TO THE PTC WEB SITE TO THE OTHER KIND OF THINGS WE ARE DOING FOR CONSUMER TIPS SO WE FELT LIKE IT'S NOT GOING TO BE SOMETHING THAT HAS TO BE A LONG MESSAGE BUT HIT AS MANY PEOPLE AS POSSIBLE WITH THE IDEA OF GETTING THE WORD OUT AND REALLY THE BIGGEST THING IS HERE WE'RE TRYING TO HONESTLY AFFECT CHANGE IN PEOPLE KNOWING WHAT THE PTC IS AND DOES. AT THE CORD OF IT WE ARE LOOKING TO SAY THE PTC IS HERE TO HELP CONSUMERS LOOKING FOR TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS, AND AT THIS POINT, WE FEEL LIKE THAT'S THE BEST OPTION BUT CERTAINLY WE CAN COME BACK WITH A NUMBER OF OPTIONS ON THE BILLBOARDS IF YOU ALL FEEL THAT'S THE WAY TO GO.

>> HAVE WE HAD ANY DISCUSSIONS WITH THEM AS FAR AS IN KIND SERVICES?

I MEAN, THEY'VE WORKED CLOSELY WITH ME THROUGH THE YEARS ON PUBLIC SERVICE ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DIFFERENT MESSAGES FOR FREE.

>> WE HAVE NOT HAD THAT DISCUSSION. I HAVE BROACHED THAT WITH THEM PREVIOUSLY, AND IT WASN'T SOMETHING THEY WERE WILLING TO DISCUSS BUT I'LL CERTAINLY GO BACK TO OUR POINT OF CONTACT OVER THERE AND HAVE ANOTHER DISCUSSION, ESPECIALLY SINCE WE'RE LOOKING AT A LONG-TERM, THE POSSIBILITY OF A LONG-TERM AGREEMENT WITH THEM.

>> ANY OTHER COMMENTS?

>> MR. CHAIR?

>> A QUESTION. HAVING WORKED IN THE ADVERTISING INDUSTRY AND MANAGING AN AGENCY FOR NEARLY 34 YEARS, I KNOW THE IMPORTANCE OF BALANCE OF REACH AND FREQUENCY, AND IN LIMITED BUDGETS, SOMETIMES IT'S DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE THE RIGHT BALANCE BETWEEN THE TWO. AND ANALYZING THIS PARTICULAR STRATEGIC MOVE, YOU LOOKED AT THE IMPRESSIONS.

DID YOU COORDINATE THAT WITH REACH AND FREQUENCY?

>> YES, WE DID. AND BASICALLY, AS YOU KNOW YOU CAN GET GREAT FREQUENCY AND REACH WITH BUDGET. WE CANNOT GET SEVEN OR EIGHT BILLBOARDS AROUND TOWN WITH SIX MESSAGES FOR THIS KIND OF MONEY. WE CANNOT HIT THE KIND OF NUMBERS WE ARE HITTING AT THE AIRPORT BAGGAGE CLAIM FOR THIS KIND OF MONEY WITH OTHER OPTIONS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: SO FOR THE AUDIENCE THAT WE WERE TRYING TO REACH FOR THE DELIVERY OF THE STRATEGIC MESSAGE THAT WE WERE TRYING TO PLACE, AND WITH THE BUDGET WE HAD TO WORK WITH, FROM A SPECIFIC PERSPECTIVE NOT A CREATIVE ONE, WOULD YOU SAY THAT YOU HAD THE STRONGEST BALANCE OF REACH, FREQUENCY, AND IMPRESSIONS?

>> YES, I WOULD. ESPECIALLY LIKE YOU SAID IT'S REALLY LOOKING AT THE PEOPLE WHO ARE COMING INTO THE AIRPORT. IT'S NOT JUST PEOPLE COMING FROM OUT OF TOWN. IT'S HOW MANY PEOPLE ARE USING TRANSPORTATION OPTIONS WHO LIVE HERE AND GO TO THE AIRPORT. BETWEEN THAT AND DOWNTOWN WE FELT THOSE WERE THE AREAS THAT WERE MOST IMPORTANT.

>> THANK YOU. ANY OTHER COMMENTS? MY MOTION WAS TO PROVE EVERYTHING IN THE RECOMMENDATION EXCEPT THE BILLBOARDS. BUT INCLUDE THE AIRPORT. MOTION BY COMMISSIONER HIGGINBOTHAM, SECOND BY COUNCILMAN MANISCALCO. NO OTHER DEBATE. ALL THOSE IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED, NAY. MOTION PASSES.

>> WE WOULD BE GLAD TO COME BACK WITH OTHER BILLBOARD OPTIONS, LOOK AT THE IDEA OF WHETHER CLEAR CHANNEL COULD WORK WITH US ON THAT FRONT.

>> THAT'D BE GOOD. THANK YOU.

>> THANK YOU, MR. PARKS, I APPRECIATE IT.

>> THE NEXT THING ON THE AGENDA IS AS YOU MAY REMEMBER, SEVERAL MONTHS AGO, THIS COMMISSION CAME UNDER SCRUTINY BY DAVID YOUNG AND JEFF BRANDIS FOR HIRING A LOBBYIST. ANY PROCESS OR PROTOCOL WE CAN PUT IN PLACE TO MAKE THE ACTIONS OF THIS BOARD MORE TRANSPARENT, COULD ONLY BENEFIT THE OVERALL MISSION OF THE AGENCY. I WOULD DEFER TO SOME DEGREE TO THE PRESENT BOCC COMMISSIONERS. BUT I WOULD LIKE TO PROPOSE THAT THIS COMMISSION ALLOW US TO LOOK AT ADOPTING. IT LENDS MORE TRANSPARENCY TO THE PROCESS BUT I KNOW THAT THE THREE COMMISSIONERS

PRESENT WERE A PART OF THAT DISCUSSION AND I WOULD DEFER TO THEM FOR ANY COMMENTS ON THE DETAILS OF THAT. IT ALLOWS FOR LOT OF TRANSPARENCY. IT GIVES US SOMETHING WE DON'T HAVE. CURRENTLY WE DON'T HAVE A LOBBYIST PROTOCOL AND PROCESS IN PLACE. I KNOW THAT THAT ORDINANCE WAS VETTED THROUGH THE COUNTY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE, SO I DON'T HAVE ANY CONCERNS ABOUT ANY LEGAL CHALLENGES, BUT I WOULD REQUEST THAT THIS COMMISSION CONSIDER SOMETHING LIKE THAT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MEMBERS, I HAD ASKED LEGAL COUNSEL AND MR. COCKREAM TO CONSIDER THIS, AND THEY THOUGHT IT WAS A WISE THING TO DO, TO BRING IT FORWARD. COUNTY HAD DELIBERATED AND DEBATED THIS FOR MONTHS AND RECENTLY HAD APPROVED THE NEW ORDINANCE THAT GOES INTO EFFECT IN 90 DAYS. I THOUGHT IT WOULD PLAY WELL MOVING FORWARD WITH THE REFORMS THAT WE'VE BEEN GOING THROUGH OVER THE LAST TWO YEARS WITH THIS AGENCY AND INCREASING TRANSPARENCY, INCREASING VISIBILITY, AND SIMPLY PRACTICING BEST PRACTICES AND TO OUR CITY COUNCIL THAT AREN'T USED TO THIS KIND OF THING, THESE AREN'T OVERLY BURDENSOME. THEY'RE REASONABLE AND WHAT'S BECOMING QUICKLY BEST PRACTICES ACROSS THE STATE.

>> MR. CHAIR, I RESPECT WHAT OUR DIRECTOR IS SUGGESTING, BUT TO US NONCOMMISSIONERS, I WOULD SUGGEST THAT WE HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW THAT ORDINANCE AND THAT IF WE ARE GOING TO VOTE ON IT WE PUT IT ON THE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING AND IN BETWEEN WE CAN HAVE AN OPPORTUNITY TO REVIEW IT AS WE WERE NOT PART OF THAT DISCUSSION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: IT'S A VERY WISE RECOMMENDATION. IS THAT A MOTION, SIR?

>> YES, SIR, I'LL MAKE A MOTION THAT EACH NONCOMMISSIONER RECEIVE A COPY OF IT AND THAT IT BE PLACED ON THE AGENDA FOR A VOTE NEXT MONTH.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, WE HAVE A MOTION AND A SECOND THAT LEGAL AND OUR DIRECTOR GET WITH EACH OF THE COMMISSIONERS WHO ARE UNFAMILIAR WITH THE ORDINANCE, HELP THEM TO UNDERSTAND IT, AND REMEMBER, WE CAN, WE CAN TWEAK IT IF THERE'S PARTS OF IT THAT YOU'RE UNCOMFORTABLE WITH. WE CAN DO OUR OWN VERSION HERE. BUT AT LEAST IT'S A, A FOUNDATION THAT WE CAN WORK OFF OF. OKAY, WE HAVE A SECOND. WE HAVE A SECOND. ANY DISCUSSION? SEEING NONE, ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? PASSES.

>> MR. CHAIR, IF I MAY. I THINK THAT THE MECHANISM FOR THIS WOULD BE TO INCORPORATE IT IN YOUR RULES, YOUR BYLAWS AND POLICIES THAT GOVERN THIS COMMISSION, SO MR. COCKREAM AND I WHEN REVIEWING THIS PROPOSAL ANTICIPATED THAT WE WOULD SEE HOW THAT STRUCTURE WOULD WORK IN YOUR BYLAWS, AND OF COURSE THAT WOULD HAVE TO COME BACK FOR APPROVAL BEFORE THIS COMMISSION.

>> IN ADDITION, IF IT'S OKAY WITH MR. CHAIR, MR. COUNCILMAN REDICK, WE CAN PROVIDE YOU WITH NOT ONLY THE COUNTIES BUT ANY CORRESPONDING DOCUMENTS THAT THE CITY HAS, SO YOU CAN MAYBE A DO A HYBRID OF THE TWO OR THERE MAY BE SOMETHING GOOD IN ONE OR BAD IN ANOTHER SO WE WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH ALL THOSE DOCUMENTS AND CIRCLE BACK WITH EACH OF YOU TO HAVE A DISCUSSION ON YOUR OPINIONS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MR. COCKREAM.

>> THANK YOU N. NEXT ON THE AGENDA IS HANDICAB CERTIFICATES, GOOD WHEELS INCORPORATED APPLIED FOR A HANDICAB CERTIFICATE, AND 10 HANDICAB PERMITS. THE HEARING OFFICER PAUL MARINO RECOMMENDS NOT GRANTING THE HANDICAB CERTIFICATE ALONG WITH THE PERMITS AND PTC STAFF CONCURS. THIS WOULD REQUIRE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE HEARING OFFICER'S RECOMMENDATION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, DISCUSSION? SEEING NONE WE HAVE A MOTION.

>> WE NEED TO GO BACK AND VOTE ON THAT LAST -- WE HAD A MOTION AND A SECOND ON THAT LAST ITEM TO MOVE THE --

>> WHICH ITEM WAS THAT, SIR?

>> DID WE CALL FOR A VOTE ON THE LAST ITEM? ON THE LOBBYING ORDINANCE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ON THE LOBBYING THING, WE HAD A VOTE.

>> OKAY.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WHICH SIDE OF IT, YOU WERE WRITING SO YOU MIGHT NOT HAVE REALIZED. WHICH SIDE DID YOU WANT TO VOTE ON? OKAY, SO WE HAVE UNANIMOUS ON IT. SORRY ABOUT THAT.

>> MR. CHAIR, THE COUNSEL'S GOT SOME CALLS ON THIS ISSUE.

>> IF I MAY, MR. CHAIR. IN THIS PARTICULAR CASE, THE APPLICANT HAS NOT FILED EXCEPTIONS TO THE HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT. THE APPLICANT BEING GOOD WHEELS TRANSPORTATION. AND I BELIEVE IT'S THEIR INTENT NOT TO CHALLENGE THE DENIAL OF ITS APPLICATION FOR THE CERTIFICATE. HOWEVER, WHAT I WOULD SUGGEST IS THAT WHILE THIS COMMISSION PROCEED FORWARD WITH DENYING THIS APPLICANT'S APPLICATION FOR CERTIFICATE AND PERMITS, THAT IT ISSUE A ORDER MODIFYING THE HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS TO REFLECT A MORE APPROPRIATE LEGAL STANDARD FOR THAT DENIAL SO WHAT THAT WOULD INVOLVE IS UPHOLDING THE DENIAL OF THE APPLICATION FOR THE CERTIFICATE, BUT MODIFYING THE REPORT AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR WHICH I COULD PREPARE AN ORDER FOR THE CHAIRMAN'S SIGNATURE IF THAT IS THIS COMMISSION'S DIRECTION.

>> VICTOR CRIST: BOARD PLEASURE? YOU HAVE A MOTION AND A SECOND. DISCUSSION. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? GO AHEAD AND PREPARE IT FOR MY SIGNATURE.

>> NEXT ON THE AGENDA IS ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS, ATS, LLC HAS APPLIED FOR HANDICAB CERTIFICATE WITH 25 HANDICAP CERTIFICATES. THE HEARING OFFICER SUSAN MOORE RECOMMENDS NOT ISSUING THE CERTIFICATES AND PTC STAFF CONCURS. HOWEVER, ATS HAS REQUESTED A CONTINUANCE ON THE BOARD HEARING THIS. A MOTION WAS FILED ON BEHALF OF MR. STEVE ANDERSON WHO IS HERE PRESENT TODAY.

>> MR. CHAIRMAN, WHAT I WOULD SUGGEST IS THAT EACH OF THE PARTIES HAVE ABOUT FIVE MINUTES TO ARGUE WHETHER OR NOT TO GRANT THE MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE FOR THIS COMMISSION TO CONSIDER THAT MATTER. MR. ANDERSON IS HERE, AND I BELIEVE THERE ARE TWO INTERVENERS WHO ARE LIKewise PRESENT. AND SO I WOULD SUGGEST THAT EACH PARTY HAVE AN EQUAL AMOUNT OF TIME TO ARGUE WHETHER OR NOT THIS MATTER SHOULD BE CONTINUED. IF THE COMMISSION GRANTS THE MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE, I BELIEVE MR. ANDERSON HAS REQUESTED THAT IT BE ON A MONTH BY MONTH

BASIS NOT TO EXCEED SIX MONTHS, SO WE CAN CERTAINLY KEEP IT ON THIS COMMISSION'S AGENDA FOR CONSIDERATION IF IT IS THIS COMMISSION'S DESIRE TO CONTINUE THIS MATTER.

>> VICTOR CRIST: HOW MANY MINUTES?

>> I WOULD SUGGEST, IT'S REALLY WITHIN YOUR DISCRETION BUT I THINK FIVE MINUTES WOULD BE APPROPRIATE EACH OF THE APPLICANTS AND INTERVENER.

>> DO WE HAVE A SET POLICY ON HOW THIS BOARD HANDLES CONTINUANCES? I KNOW BOCC WITH LAND USE USUALLY THE POLICY IS ONE SIDE ASKS FOR CONTINUANCE WE GRANT IT. IS IT NECESSARY TO GO THROUGH, YOU KNOW, FIVE MINUTES FOR EACH SIDE. DO WE HAVE A POLICY ON THAT? HOW DO WE NORMALLY HANDLE A REQUEST LIKE THIS?

>> MS. OSTER.

>> COMMISSIONER, THERE IS NO SET POLICY. IT IS A CONTESTED MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE. I THINK IF IT HAD NOT BEEN CONTESTED, PROBABLY WE COULD, YOU KNOW, MOVE FORWARD IN A MUCH MORE EXPEDITIOUS FASHION. HOWEVER, THE INTERVENERS ARE OBJECTING TO THE CONTINUANCE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: PLEASURE OF THE BOARD. DO WE GIVE EACH SIDE FIVE MINUTES TO MAKE THEIR ARGUMENTS AND MAKE A DECISION AND MOVE ON? OKAY, WE HAVE A MOTION. IS THERE A SECOND? WE HAVE A SECOND. DISCUSSION. SEEING NONE, ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED. MR. ANDERSON? OPPOSING COUNSEL. MS. OSTER, DO WE FLIP A COIN ON WHO GOES FIRST AND SECOND.

>> I THINK CONSISTENT WITH A COURT PROCEDURE, THE ATTORNEY REQUESTING THE CONTINUANCE USUALLY BEGINS MAKING THE ARGUMENTS IN RELATION TO THE MOTION.

>> OKAY, MR. ANDERSON YOU HAVE FIVE MINUTES. WE KNOW WHO YOU ARE AND WE KNOW WHO YOU'RE REPRESENTING. SO YOU HAVE FIVE MINUTES TO MAKE YOUR POINT.

>> THANK YOU. THE WHOLE IDEA HERE IS TO SAVE YOU AND EVERYONE ELSE TIME AND MONEY ON SOMETHING THAT MAY VERY WELL BE TOTALLY UNNECESSARY. MY CLIENT ALTERNATIVE TRANSPORTATION SYSTEMS FILED A REQUEST ON APPLICATION FOR HANDICAB CERTIFICATION AND PERMITS, BUT THE APPLICATION MADE IT CLEAR, AND I'LL STILL MAKE IT CLEAR TO YOU TODAY, THAT THAT APPLICATION, THEIR EFFORTS WERE BASED STRICTLY ON THE, WHETHER OR NOT THE JAMES HALEY VETERANS ADMINISTRATION AWARDED THEM A CONTRACT FOR HANDICAB SERVICES. IN OTHER WORDS, THEY CAME IN SAYING WE ONLY NEED THIS IF WE GET THE AWARD, BUT WE HAVE TO FILE IT. WE HAD TO DO IT. WE HAD THE WELL, FORGET THE HEARING FOR THE MOMENT. BUT THE VA DID NOT AWARD THE CONTRACT TO MY CLIENT. SO THEORETICALLY, AT THAT POINT WE WOULD NOT NEED THE CERTIFICATION. HOWEVER, THERE HAS BEEN AN APPEAL FILED AGAINST THE VA'S AWARD. SO THAT ISSUE IS STILL OPEN. ONE OF THE TWO THINGS COULD HAPPEN FRANKLY. THEY COULD, ONE OF THREE THINGS. THEY COULD CONFIRM THEIR ORIGINAL AWARD. SECOND, THEY COULD REJECT THE AWARD AND ISSUE IT TO OUR CLIENT AND IF OUR CLIENT HAPPENED TO BE NUMBER TWO WE WOULD BE ELIGIBLE. AND NUMBER THREE, THE THIRD OPTION IS THEY COULD TOSS OUT THE ENTIRE

PROCESS AND START AGAIN WHEREUPON OUR CLIENT WOULD STILL BE IN THAT POSITION. SO WHAT I'M SAYING TO YOU IS I DON'T WANT TO TAKE UP YOUR TIME OR MONEY IN HAVING A HEARING ON SOMETHING THAT VERY REALISTICALLY MAY NOT BE AN ISSUE. MAY NOT BE NECESSARY. AND I WILL TELL YOU TODAY IF THE VA CAN EITHER RATIFIES OR CONCERNS ITS ORIGINAL AWARD OR FOR ANY OTHER REASON AT THE END OF THE APPEAL WE DO NOT GET THE AWARD, WE WILL NOT COME BACK TO YOU AND WE'LL NOT SEEK TO ACTUALLY HAVE A HEARING ON OUR APPEAL. WE HAVE FILED AN APPEAL. I THINK IT'S A VALID APPEAL. BUT WHY IN THE WORLD WOULD WE WANT TO PUT YOU THROUGH THAT, PUT YOUR LAWYERS THROUGH THE EFFORT PERHAPS GOING TO THE SECOND DISTRICT AND THE TIME AND MONEY TO DO THAT. SO I RESPECTFULLY REQUEST THAT YOU GRANT MY MOTION FOR A CONTINUANCE ON A MONTH TO MONTH BASIS FOR NO MORE THAN SIX MONTHS. THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, OPPOSING COUNCIL. BEFORE WE BEGIN THE CLOCK, GO AHEAD AND STATE THE NAME.

>> GOOD MORNING, COMMISSIONERS. MY NAME IS JORDAN MILLER. I REPRESENT BOTH INTERVENERS OR TWO INTERVENERS IN THIS MATTER, AMERICAN MEDICAL RESPONSE AND EXPRESS MEDICAL TRANSPORTERS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: YOUR CLOCK WILL START HAD YOU START SPEAKING.

>> COMMISSIONERS, JUST TO CLARIFY THE PTC RULES AND SPECIAL ACT DON'T REALLY SAY ANYTHING SPECIFIC ABOUT A CONTINUANCE. THEY DON'T REFERENCE ANY CONTINUANCE AND NEITHER DO THEY REFERENCE A VA CONTRACT AWARD. WHAT THE RULES IN SPECIAL ACT DO SPEAK TO ARE THE RIGHTS OF EXISTING CERTIFICATE HOLDERS SUCH AS MY CLIENT BEING ABLE TO INTERVENE IN THESE PROCEEDINGS. AND ONCE THE INTERVENER TAKES PLACE AND ONCE THAT HAPPEN, THEN THEY'RE AFFORDED CERTAIN RIGHTS UNDER THE SPECIAL ACT. WE HAD A HEARING OFFICER HEARING WHICH MR. ANDERSON REFERENCED THE APPLICANT, HIS CLIENT, ATS WAS ALLOWED TO PUT ON EVIDENCE, TESTIMONY, AND GO THROUGH THEIR DUE PROCESS. OUR CLIENTS PUT ON THEIR OWN EVIDENCE, OWN TESTIMONY. THE HEARING OFFICER ISSUED A REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION RECOMMENDING DENIAL OF THAT APPLICATION. THE REASONS FOR THE DENIAL FOLLOW REALLY THE SIX FACTORS THAT ARE WEIGHED OUT IN THE SPECIAL ACT WOULD SAY THAT THE COMMISSION MUST CONSIDER BEFORE ISSUING ANY -- AND THE HEARING OFFICER SPECIFICALLY FOUND THAT ATS DID NOT MEET THREE OF THOSE FACTORS, AND THOSE THREE BEING THE ADEQUACY OF EXISTING SERVICE, THEY DIDN'T PUT ON ANY EVIDENCE OR ANY TESTIMONY BASICALLY THAT WOULD SHOW THAT THE EXISTING SERVICE WAS NOT ADEQUATE. ALSO THEY FAILED TO MEET THE STANDARD OF SHOWING THAT THEY WOULD ACHIEVE PROBABLE PERMANENCE WHICH MEANS GOING FORWARD THEY WOULD BE A VIABLE ENTITY AS A HANDICAB PROVIDER IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY, AND ALSO FINANCIAL STATUS CHARACTER AND RESPONSIBILITY OF THE APPLICANT. ESSENTIALLY THEY SUBMITTED NO FINANCIAL INFORMATION IN THEIR APPLICATION, AND THOSE THREE THINGS ARE REQUIRED TO BE CONSIDERED BY THIS COMMISSION UNDER THE SPECIAL ACT. AND THE HEARING OFFICER SPECIFICALLY FOUND THAT ATS DID NOT MEET THOSE THREE REQUIREMENTS AND THAT'S WHY SHE RECOMMENDED DENIAL. SO I BELIEVE THAT ATS'S ATTEMPT TO TRY TO DIVERT THIS COMMISSION'S

FOCUS TO A VA CONTRACT AND APPROACH US THAT AWARD IS NOT REALLY PROPER. THE SPECIAL ACT AFFORDS SPECIAL RIGHTS TO HAVE THIS MATTER DECIDED UPON. I MEAN, WE CAN'T JUST KICK THE CAN DOWN THE ROAD AND LET THIS GO MONTH TO MONTH WHEN WE HAD A HEARING. THE HEARING OFFICER MADE A REPORT AND RECOMMENDATION. YOU KNOW, THEY DIDN'T MEET THE BURDENS OR STANDARDS THAT'S LAID OUT IN THE SPECIAL ACT. AND SO THE HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDED DENIAL, AND I BELIEVE THE COMMISSION SHOULD FOLLOW THAT RECOMMENDATION. AND JUST A FEW OTHER POINTS THAT I BELIEVE MERIT DENIAL, JUST A FEW MONTHS AGO, WE WERE UP HERE ON A DIFFERENT APPLICANT, WHEELCHAIR TRANSPORT SERVICE THAT ACTUALLY RECEIVED THE VA CONTRACT AWARD, AND IN BETWEEN THE HEARING OFFICER'S REPORT RECOMMENDING DENIAL, SPECIFICALLY FINDING THAT THE APPLICANT DID NOT PUT ON ANY EVIDENCE OR ANY PROOF ABOUT THE ADEQUACY OF EXISTING SERVICE IN BETWEEN THAT TIME, WHEELCHAIR TRANSPORT SERVICE RECEIVED A CERTIFICATE OF PUBLIC CONVENIENCE AND NECESSITY FOR 15 PERMITS. SO WE'VE ADDED 15 MORE PERMITS FOR HANDICAB SERVICE JUST SINCE THE HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDED DENIAL OF ATS'S APPLICATION SO THERE IS NO QUESTION THAT SERVICE IS ADEQUATE AND WHEELCHAIR TRANSPORT SERVICE WAS IN FACT THE ENTITY THAT RECEIVED THE VA CONTRACT AWARD. SO REGARDLESS OF ANY VA PROTEST THAT MAY BE OUTSTANDING, THE SIMPLE FACT IS THAT WE HAVE PROCEDURES AND RIGHTS AFFORDED TO INTERVENERS SUCH AS MY CLIENTS. I MEAN THEY HAVE HAD TO SPEND MONEY ON ATTORNEYS' FEES, THEY'RE PAYING ME TO BE HERE TODAY. THEY BY THE PTC RULES HAVE TO SPLIT THE COST OF THESE HEARINGS THAT WE'VE ATTENDED. WE'VE ATTENDED TWO HEARINGS SO FAR IN THIS MATTER NOT TO MENTION BEING BEFORE YOU HERE TODAY. I WOULD ASK THE COMMISSION TO FOLLOW THE PTC RULES AND SPECIAL ACT WHICH RECOGNIZE PROCEDURAL DUE PROCESS RIGHTS FOR INTERVENERS. WE HAVE JUST AS MUCH RIGHT TO HAVE THIS APPLICATION ADJUDICATED AND FINAL DETERMINATION AS THE APPLICANT AND SO I WOULD REQUEST THAT THE MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE BE DENIED, THE PTC TAKE FINAL ACTION ON THIS MATTER, DENYING THE APPLICATION AND DENYING THE MOTION FOR CONTINUANCE. THANK YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MS. OSTER?

>> I'VE REVIEWED THE PLEADINGS FILED IN THIS CASE, AND MR. ANDERSON HAS FILED A NOTICE OF APPEAL AND STATEMENT OF EXCEPTIONS TO THE HEARING OFFICERS REPORT, AND IN SUMMARY, HE HAS IDENTIFIED THE HEARING OFFICER DID NOT ADMIT CERTAIN EVIDENCE INTO THE RECORD DURING THE HEARING THAT HE FEELS WOULD SUPPORT HIS CLIENT'S POSITION. WHAT THAT TELLS ME IS THAT IF WE WERE TO MOVE FORWARD WITH A PUBLIC HEARING ON THIS MATTER, IT WOULD BE HEAVILY CONTESTED AND PROBABLY VERY LITIGIOUS. THIS WOULD BE MANAGED VERY MUCH LIKE A JUDGE AND A DOCKET.

IF AT THE END OF THE DAY, THERE IS NOT A NECESSITY FOR SUCH A LITIGIOUS PROCEEDING, THAT MAY BE SOMETHING THAT THE COMMISSION CONSIDERS. I HAVE ALSO CONSIDERED MR. MILLER'S ARGUMENT THAT THE INTERVENERS DUE PROCESS RIGHTS WOULD BE VIOLATED. AT THIS TIME THE APPLICANTS ARE NOT OPERATING IN THIS MARKET AND WILL NOT OPERATE IN THIS MARKET,

SO IT IS UNCLEAR HOW THE INTERVENERS DUE PROCESS RIGHTS WOULD BE VIOLATED. I THINK THAT A REASONABLE MOTION, CONTINUANCE ON THIS MATTER WOULD NOT IMPEDE THE INTERVENERS DUE PROCESS RIGHTS AND I FEEL THAT IT WOULD BE POTENTIALLY A REASONABLE COURSE OF ACTION FOR THIS COMMISSION AS LONG AS --

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. QUITE A CONVINCING ARGUMENT. DISCUSSION? DEBATE? SEEING NONE, WE HAVE A MOTION AND A SECOND. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED. SHOW IT UNANIMOUS. WE'LL GO WITH STAFF RECOMMENDATION.

>> THANK YOU, I WILL MOVE THROUGH THESE QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. PRESTIGE MED HAS REQUESTED A VAN CERTIFICATE. HEARING OFFICER RECOMMENDED. PTC STAFF CONCURS. THIS WOULD REQUIRE A MOTION OF ACCEPTANCE. WE HAVE A MOTION. WE HAVE A SECOND. SEEING NO DISCUSSION, ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED. SO DONE.

>> REVOCATION HEARING FOR NONPAYMENT OF CERTIFICATE AND PERMITS IS SCHEDULED FOR FEBRUARY 26th, 2016. BETWEEN 9:00 A.M. AND 12:00 P.M. AT THE PTC OFFICE LOCATED AT 4148 NORTH ARMENIA AVENUE. REMINDER ANY COMPANY THAT HAS NOT PAID RENEWAL FEES FOR FY '16 PRIOR TO THE CLOSE OF THE REVOCATION HEARING WILL BE REVOKED AND NO LONGER ALLOWED TO OPERATE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY. ONCE THEIR CERTIFICATE AND PERMITS ARE REVOKED, THEY'RE ALLOWED TO REAPPLY IN ORDER TO OPERATE IN HILLSBOROUGH COUNTY. ONCE AGAIN, THAT HEARING IS SET FOR FEBRUARY 26th, 2016, FROM 9:00 TO NOON. I'M GOING TO SKIP NUMBER E, WE'VE ALREADY DISCUSSED THE CLEAR CHANNEL CONTRACT ISSUE.

THERE IS IN FRONT OF YOU A REQUEST FOR VARIANCE/WAIVER TAMPA LIMO & CARS REQUESTING A WAIVER TO PERMIT A 2008 LINCOLN NAVIGATOR WITH 234,000 MILES. THE WAIVER REQUESTS IS FOR RULE 1-8 A LIMOUSINE SEDAN OR SUV SHALL BE FIVE MODEL YEARS OLD OR NEWER WHEN INITIALLY INSPECTED TO BE PLACED INTO SERVICE. IF A PERMITTED VEHICLE IS TAKEN OUT OF SERVICE FOR LONGER THAN 30 DAYS, THE VEHICLE WILL LOSE ITS STATUS AS A PREVIOUSLY IN-SERVICE VEHICLE. IN YOUR BACKUP ARE PICTURES OF THE LINCOLN NAVIGATOR. I SUPPORT THIS REQUEST PROVIDED THAT THE COMPANY HAS THE DRIVER'S SEAT REUPHOLSTERED. THE DRIVER'S SEAT IS SHOWING A LOT OF WEAR. OTHER THAN THAT, THE VEHICLE LOOKS PRETTY NICE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY. ANY DISCUSSION? DO YOU HAVE A MOTION? MOTION AND A SECOND TO ADOPT STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. SHOW IT ADOPTED.

>> THANK YOU, SIR. NEXT UP IS MR. RICARDO PAGAN. HE IS APPLICANT FOR PVDL. STAFF RECOMMENDS DENIAL OF HIS APPEAL. IS MR. PAGAN IN THE AUDIENCE? WOULD YOU LIKE TO STEP FORWARD, SIR? THANK YOU, IN FEBRUARY YOU SUBMITTED AN APPLICATION FOR PUBLIC VEHICLE DRIVER'S LICENSE AND ONE OF THE THINGS THE STAFF LOOKS AT IS A PERSON'S BACKGROUND, AND IF THERE IS ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO COMMENT THIS IS THE SOMETIME YOU WOULD MAKE YOUR CASE AND DISCLOSE ANY INFORMATION YOU WANT TO DISCLOSE.

>> I JUST LIKE TO SAY THAT THE STUFF FROM MY BACKGROUND IS FROM WHEN I WAS 17, A YOUNGER, IT'S BEHIND ME. I'M JUST TRYING TO MOVE FORWARD.

>> WHEN WAS THE LAST TIME YOU HAD ANY CONCERNS OR ANY PROBLEMS?
IT WAS LAST YEAR.

>> LAST YEAR?

>> WHICH WAS THE LAST YEAR THAT YOU HAD ANY PROBLEMS, DO YOU REMEMBER
WHAT YEAR THAT WAS?

>> I WANT TO SAY IT WAS 2007, 2008, SOMEWHERE AROUND THERE.

>> OKAY.

>> OKAY IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO STAND BY AFTER THIS MEETING, I WOULD
BE MORE THAN HAPPY TO DISCUSS WHAT THE ISSUES ARE WITH YOU, OKAY?

>> JUST HAVE KIND OF A SIDE BAR IF YOU WILL WITH STAFF BECAUSE I KNOW
IT'S BEEN IT STATES HERE YOU WERE 17 AT THE TIME. BUT I'D LIKE FOR
YOU TO HAVE A FURTHER DISCUSSION WITH STAFF BEFORE WE MAKE A FINAL
VOTE.

>> OKAY, WE'LL, IF IT'S OKAY WITH THE COMMISSION, WE'LL TABLE THAT
UNTIL AFTER I HAVE A DISCUSSION WITH HIM SIDE BAR.

>> VICTOR CRIST: TEMPORARILY POSTPONED TO THE NEXT MEETING UNTIL YOU
HAVE HAD A CHANCE TO DISCUSS IT.

>> THE NEXT APPLICANT WOULD BE GEORGE ELLINGHAM. GOOD MORNING, IF
YOU WOULD STEP UP TO THE DAIS, PLEASE. PVDL APPLICANT REPRESENTED
BY SHERI. NOW IS A TIME TO DISCUSS ANY MISHAPS THAT MAY HAVE OCCURRED
IN YOUR PAST THAT NEED TO BE DISCLOSED TO THIS COMMISSION.

>> YES, SIR.

THE LAST I CAN RECALL IS PROBABLY BEEN CLOSE TO 50 YEARS AGO, I'M
NOT MAKING ANY EXCUSES. I DID SOME DUMB THINGS WHEN I WAS A MUCH
YOUNGER MAN BUT I HAVE BEEN CLEAN EVER SINCE. I'M VERY PROFESSIONAL
IN WHAT I DO AND I'M GOOD AT IT.

>> OUR REPORT INDICATES THAT ANYTHING WAS ABOUT CIRCA 1970 OR SO.

>> YES, SIR.

>> AND SINCE THEN, WE DON'T HAVE ANYTHING ON THE RECORD, BUT NOTHING
WAS LISTED ON THE APPLICATION. THERE WAS AN NA PUT UNDER THE CATEGORY
OF LIST ALL CRIMINAL OFFENSES WHICH YOU WERE CONVICTED OF, AND
PARENTHESES IN YOUR ENTIRE LIFETIME THERE WAS AN NA PLACED THERE.

>> IT WAS CLEAN SINCE 1970.

>> THE CONTINGENT WAS THAT HE PUT AN NA ON THE APPLICATION.

>> OKAY. I'M GOING TO MOVE TO GRANT THE REQUEST WITH A SIX MONTHS
REPORT BACK TO THE COMMISSION.

>> SECOND.

>> THE HESITANCY HERE WAS THE APPLICATION. IT IS THERE WERE NO ISSUES
AND WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT WHEN YOU'RE FILLING OUT THE APPLICATION
FOR FUTURE APPLICANTS WE LIST ANYTHING THAT MIGHT BE THERE BECAUSE
THAT'S WHERE THE STUMBLING BLOCK IS, BUT I'LL SUPPORT THE MOTION.

>> THAT WAS MY REASON. SIX MONTHS JUST IN CASE THEY DISCOVER
SOMETHING.

>> THANK YOU, COUNCILMAN.

>> WHAT HAPPENED AT WOODSTOCK STAYS AT WOODSTOCK.

>> YES, SIR.

>> AT THIS POINT, MY GOODNESS, THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE AT THIS DAIS

WHO WEREN'T EVEN BORN THEN. BELIEVE OR NOT I HAVE A CAR THAT OLD. IS THERE, WE HAVE A MOTION, WE HAVE A SECOND. ANY FURTHER DISCUSSION? ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED. UNANIMOUS.

>> THANK YOU, MR. CHAIR. NEXT IS MICHAEL JOHNSON.

PTC STAFF HAS RECEIVED HIS RECORD AND BASED ON HIS PAST, PTC RECOMMENDS DENIAL OF YOUR APPEAL. MR. JOHNSON NOW WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO DISCUSS ANYTHING YOU THINK THIS STAFF NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT, THIS BOARD NEEDS TO KNOW ABOUT IN YOUR PAST.

>> THE PAST OCCURRED IN 1996 AFTER I RETURNED HOME FROM THE NAVY, I TRIED TO HELP A FRIEND OF MINE STARTING A TOWING BUSINESS IN ARBORDALE, FLORIDA. THE CHARGES THAT WERE -- I FOUND OUT AFTER THE CHARGES CAME ABOUT THAT HE HAD A SERIOUS DRUG HABIT. I WAS TRYING TO KEEP THE BUSINESS THAT I WAS PARTNERED IN AFLOAT. I WASN'T GETTING PAID, MONEY WASN'T GOING OUT, I DID THE BEST THAT I COULD, I ACCEPTED RESPONSIBILITY FOR MY CHARGES, I TOOK CONSEQUENCES FOR THEM.

I'VE NEVER HID THEM. I MOVED OUT OF KENTUCKY IN 2002 OR I MOVED OUT OF FLORIDA AND WENT TO KENTUCKY IN 2002. THERE IS ACTUALLY NOTHING ON MY RECORD. I CONTACTED THE KENTUCKY COURTS AND HAD THEM PROVIDE A PRINTOUT IF LADIES AND GENTLEMEN WOULD LIKE TO SEE IT.

THE MOST SEVERE THING I HAVE ON THERE IS I FORGOT TO REGISTER A VEHICLE. AND I PLEADED GUILTY TO THAT. THERE'S BEEN NOTHING ON MY RECORD. IT WAS WELL OVER 20 YEARS AGO. I'VE BEEN IN FIRE AND EMS EVER SINCE THEN. CONTINUED TO AND I TRIED TO USE IT AS A LEARNING EXPERIENCE WHEN I CAN HELP OTHER PEOPLE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: DISCUSSION?

>> MR. JOHNSON, EXCUSE ME, DID YOU EVER LIVE IN POLK COUNTY IN 1999?

>> IN 99, YES, SIR.

>> OKAY.

>> THE CASE STARTED IN 96.

>> I THINK WE PROBABLY OUGHT TO HAVE A SIDE BAR DISCUSSION BEFORE THIS COMMISSION TAKES ACTION. THAT WOULD BE MY RECOMMENDATION, MR. CHAIR, IF THAT'S OKAY WITH YOU.

>> VICTOR CRIST: IT'S FINE WITH ME. IS THERE ANY OBJECTION?

SEEING NO OBJECTION, SO MOVED. WHAT THAT MEANS IS WE DIDN'T RULE YOU OUT. OUR DIRECTOR JUST NEEDS TO GET WITH YOU AND WITH US.

>> MR. HUSNI BEN-GHUZZI A PVDL APPLICANT WORKING FOR WEST COAST EXECUTIVE. THAT WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO DISCLOSE ANYTHING YOU WOULD LIKE TO HAVE THIS COMMISSION KNOW ABOUT.

>> GOOD MORNING, COMMISSIONERS. I TRIED TO GET A COPY OF MY RECORDS IN THE PAST IN COLORADO AND THEY DIDN'T HAVE ANYTHING, THEY ONLY HAD THE D. W. I. AND D.U.I. THAT OCCURRED IN 1986. I'VE BEEN CLEAN EVER SINCE. I HAVEN'T HAD ANY PROBLEMS, AND I OWN MY OWN BUSINESSES, AND I'M HERE. I BROUGHT RECORDS FROM COLORADO WHERE THE -- IF YOU GUYS WOULD LIKE TO SEE THEM.

>> WHERE WERE YOU LIVING IN 1983? DO YOU REMEMBER?

>> 1983 I WAS LIVING IN GREELEY, COLORADO. BEFORE THAT I WAS IN FORT COLLINS, COLORADO. IT'S ABOUT AN HOUR FROM FORT COLLINS.

>> OKAY. THERE IS AN ISSUE FROM 1983 THAT WE WOULD NEED TO DISCUSS WITH YOU.

>> YES, SIR.

>> OKAY. ONCE AGAIN, I WOULD RECOMMEND THAT WE, YOU ALLOW STAFF TO HAVE A SIDE BAR CONVERSATION WITH THIS GENTLEMAN IF THAT'S OKAY, IF THE BOARD SO SEES FIT.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WE'RE GOING TO BRING HIM BACK UP TODAY OR AT THE NEXT MEETING.

>> WHATEVER IS THE PLEASURE OF THIS BOARD, I CAN PUT IT ON THE AGENDA FOR NEXT MEETING IF YOU WISH.

>> VICTOR CRIST: AS LATE AS IT IS, PROBABLY NEXT MEETING. UNLESS THERE'S OBJECTION.

>> I'M AVAILABLE UNTIL 11:15.

>> VICTOR CRIST: DO WE WANT TO TRY TO GET THESE DONE TODAY.

>> WHATEVER THE PLEASURE OF THE BOARD.

IT WILL TAKE ME ABOUT 30 SECONDS DISCUSSION WITH EACH ONE OF THESE GENTLEMEN. I CAN TAKE CARE OF THIS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT, IF WE CAN WRAP IT UP WITHIN 15 MINUTES.

>> YES, SIR. SIR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO STEP OVER HERE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: WE'RE GOING TO GO AHEAD AND TAKE A 15-MINUTE RECESS. ALL RIGHT, A 10-MINUTE RECESS.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY, WELCOME BACK.

I THINK STAFF'S HAD AN OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH EACH OF THE APPLICANTS OR CONTESTERS, AND WE'RE READY TO ADDRESS THE BOARD.

>> YES, SIR, I CAN TAKE CARE OF THIS PRETTY QUICK.

MR. PAGAN IF YOU WILL STEP UP TO THE DAIS, PLEASE.

AFTER FURTHER CONVERSATION, IT WAS DISCOVERED THAT SOME OF THE THINGS THAT WERE CARRIED OVER TO 2007 THAT APPEARED ON HIS 2007 RECORD WERE ACTUALLY A CARRYOVER FROM 2006.

HE HAD A PROBLEM IN 2007.

HE DIVULGED THAT PROBLEM, AND HE WAS VIOLATED ON A PROBATION, SO IT WASN'T A NEW CHARGE.

IT WAS A CARRY OVER FROM 2006.

MY RECOMMENDATION WOULD BE TO GRANT THE PVDL WITH A PROBATIONARY PERIOD.

>> ALL RIGHT, IF I COULD MAKE A MOTION. GRANT THE LICENSE WITH A SIX-MONTH PROBATIONARY PERIOD.

>> SECOND.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ANY DISCUSSION? ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? CONGRATULATIONS.

>> THANK YOU, SIR.

>> MR. JOHNSON. I THINK WE DISCUSSED SOMETHING THAT OCCURRED IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ENLIGHTEN.

>> THE ORIGINAL CHARGES I WAS PUT ON PROBATION FOR CALLED A FAMILY MEMBER OF MINE WHO WAS A DEPUTY SHERIFF AT THE TIME SAID HEY I'M ON PROBATION, WHAT DO I DO WITH MY GUN, HE SAID GET RID OF THEM, I SOLD THEM. PAID ALL THE MONEY BACK THAT'S IN QUESTION FROM THIS.

I WAS TALKING WITH CHIEF SANDERS ABOUT. ALL THAT MONEY WAS PAID BACK. WENT TO THE ATTORNEY. WE FILED A MOTION TO EARLY TERMINATION OF PROBATION. PROBATION OFFICER FOUND THIS, VIOLATED ME, AND IT WAS POSSESSION OF A WEAPON. FROM WHEN I SOLD THE GUN. I WENT IN AND SAID YES, YOUR HONOR, I DID IT. HE SAID TIME SERVED, HAVE A NICE DAY, END.

>> AND THAT WAS IN 1999.

>> VICTOR CRIST: OKAY WE HAVE A MOTION TO APPROVE. ANY DISCUSSION? SEEING NONE, ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? CONGRATULATIONS.

>> THANK YOU, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN OF THE BOARD.

>> THANK YOU. MR. BEN-GHUZZI. AS WE DISCUSSED, THERE WAS AN INCIDENT IN 1983. IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ELABORATE ON THAT A LITTLE BIT.

>> I WAS IN HIGH SCHOOL AND SOMEBODY LEFT STUFF IN MY CAR, AND I COULD'VE THROWN IT IN THE TRASH BUT I GAVE IT TO SOMEBODY AND SHE TOOK IT TO THE POLICE OFFICER AND I'VE BEEN CLEAN. I DON'T DO ANYTHING AND I DON'T EVEN DRINK, SO I HAD SOME PROBLEMS, AND I HAVEN'T HAD A DRINK SINCE 1994. I HAD PROBATION. I TOOK CARE OF EVERYTHING.

>> THANK YOU. THAT WAS, HE WAS GIVEN PROBATION FOR THAT, WHICH TELLS ME THAT THAT WAS PROBABLY A VERY MINOR AMOUNT.

>> DIDN'T EVEN GET A RECORD OF IT, SO.

>> THIS WAS HIGH SCHOOL?

>> YEAH.

>> MAY I MAKE A MOTION?

>> IS THERE A MOTION.

>> MOTION TO APPROVE THE LICENSE.

>> VICTOR CRIST: HEAR A SECOND? WE GOT A GENEROUS BOARD TODAY. ALL IN FAVOR, AYE. THOSE OPPOSED? CONGRATULATIONS.

>> THANK YOU, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN.

>> VICTOR CRIST: ALL RIGHT, CLOSE OF BUSINESS.

>> NO, SIR, THANK YOU FOR YOUR PATIENCE THIS MORNING.

>> VICTOR CRIST: MS. OSTER.

>> NOTHING FURTHER FOR ME EITHER.

>> VICTOR CRIST: SO WE ADJOURN.