

**ADDITIONAL MATERIAL
REGULAR MEETING**

OCTOBER 19, 2021

SUBMITTED AT THE REQUEST OF

**COMMISSIONER DR. BARBARA
SHARIEF**

October 19, 2021

Honorable Steve Geller - Mayor of Broward County
115 South Andrews Avenue, Room 411
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33301



RE: To Request Support for Taxicab Item Number 54 that is on the Agenda for Oct. 19, 2021.

Dear Mayor Geller:

I am Remy Marseille from the United Drivers of Broward, and I am hoping you are well, as we are all trying to adjust to a fast-evolving situation, such as a pandemic. During challenging times, we need each other support, especially from our elected officials who are here to work with us.

As Broward concerned Taxi drivers and county's ambassadors, we are writing to inform you about our current calamity. As members of the frontlines workers in the Broward County amidst of the corona virus (Covid-19) pandemic, we are in a dire strait. Taxicab drivers belong to the low income category that still has to be out in the street serving the people to make ends-meet.

It is widely known that the current structure of the taxi industry prevents most, if not all of the drivers from participating in the Stimulus Package CARES- Act. As a result, we are counting on the local County Government to take action on our behalf. It will be very appreciative to pass a resolution to provide taxi drivers a special grant to help us survive the economic downturn similar to what your colleagues Commissioners did in Dade County for Dade Taxi Cab drivers.

Therefore, Commissioner Barbara Sharief is introducing a Taxicab driver Item on the Oct. 19, 2021 Agenda and the item number is 54. We are humbly requesting your support for this item.

The taxicab industry is one of the remaining open transportation businesses in the county. We serve the community by facilitating the moving of people and goods. Our contribution is often under-appreciated, or forgotten due to the complexity and the fragility of the industry. Please, be mindful that we are still part of the social and economic chains. While we may have been counted down by many, the airport, seaport, airlines, cruise lines, and the trains are still counting on us to bring their passengers, employees, and customers to their final destinations. It is still true that our services are still valued and appreciated by our loyal customers. We are more than just a simple chauffeurs. We are men, women, parents, business owners, tax payers, constituents, donors, contributors, and super voters.

It is imperative to act boldly because we cannot afford to lose any more lives. Mayor Geller, we, the concerned taxicab drivers, ambassadors of Broward County, need your support, compassion, and leadership to pass Item 54 as it is related to the fight the Covid-19 pandemic.

Counting on your public service, I am looking forward to seeing the enactment of this resolution for the betterment of our great Broward County. For information, contact me at (305) 587-7687.

Thank you for your public service.

Sincerely,

Remy Marseille, for United Drivers of Broward (UDOB)