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## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **STITA rallies at City Hall on Monday as cabs circle the block; drivers deliver letter asking Mayor for temporary city licenses**

*Seattle* – As STITA, the Seattle Tacoma International Taxi Association, transitions from providing airport service to serving the region, the taxi company petitioned Mayor Mike McGinn for temporary city taxi licenses at a rally at City Hall Monday morning. Nearly 100 cabs circled the block around City Hall in a unified show of support for STITA’s underemployed drivers.

Although STITA has been known for its expertise operating at Sea-Tac Airport, it is now shifting to a new business model serving the region throughout King County. Monday is the first day STITA has not operated out of the airport, after the Port of Seattle awarded the airport taxi contract to Yellow Cab.

“STITA is an experienced taxi company and we’re the greenest fleet around. We want to serve the entire region, including Seattle, but we can’t do that without city licenses,” said Harpreet Bassi, president of STITA’s board. “So we’re asking the Mayor to grant us temporary city taxi licenses as we make this transition. With his help, we can provide a green ride and great customer service in Seattle.”

STITA – the greenest cab company in the state – already serves a number of prominent businesses, school districts, non-profits and individual passengers. But, STITA needs more work, and currently there isn’t enough county business to support its entire fleet.

At the same time, the awarding of the airport taxi contract to Yellow Cab means the city’s biggest cab operator will be shifting many of its cabs to the airport. So Seattle passengers could find it much harder to hail a cab or get picked up quickly when they call a dispatch service.

STITA wants to fill that vacuum and today delivered a letter to Mayor Mike McGinn asking for temporary city licenses so it can serve Seattle.

QUOTE FROM LETTER HERE (attach letter)

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[For more information on STITA, see stitataxi.com](http://stitataxi.com)