

## A fairer system for taxi passengers and drivers

Minister for Roads David Borger said the NSW Government will conduct a study to identify more areas in Sydney where taxis can safely and legally pick up and drop off passengers.

Mr Borger said the study will aim to increase the number of places that people can get into a taxi and reduce the instances of taxis getting fined.

"This study will aim to deliver a fairer system for taxi drivers and better access to taxis for passen-

gers," Mr Borger said.

Under the NSW Road Rules, taxis are prohibited from stopping in no stopping, no standing and bus zones as well as T-ways, with penalties of up to \$201.

Based on feedback from Sydney taxi drivers, ten key Local Government Areas will be targeted to participate in the trial:

- City of Sydney
- North Sydney
- Woollahra
- Parramatta
- Hills Shire

- Blacktown
- Ryde
- Randwick
- Willoughby
- Liverpool

In 2007 a trial of 'No Stopping Taxis Excepted One Minute Limit' zones took place at six Sydney CBD sites, where safety was not compromised.

The trial was deemed a success and these zones are now able to be installed at other locations across NSW, with the approval of the local council's traffic committee.

Through the study announced today, the NSW Government will work with the Taxi industry and councils to roll these out and investigate other stopping zones.

"What we are doing here is working to deliver fairer, more flexible rules for taxis and taxi passengers," Mr Borger said.

"The taxi industry told us they need more areas to legally and safely pick-up and set-down passengers and this review is about identifying those areas.

"We will also explore the possibility of taxis using the Liverpool to Parramatta and North West T-ways - to see if they could be used without impacting on bus services.

"This study could potentially save both taxis drivers and their passengers time and money."

The study is expected to start next month and will take around six months to complete. The RTA will work with local councils and Transport NSW to finalise a report based on the study's findings.



## SBS RADIO'S GREEK PROGRAM TO HOST A DAY OF SUPPORT FOR CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE SURVIVORS

Today Tuesday 1 March, SBS Radio's Greek program will be hosting a day of support for Christchurch survivors by running a Radio appeal.

From 6pm to 7pm volunteers will be manning phones taking donations for the Australian Red Cross 2011 Earthquake Appeal.

"Our experience following the 2009 Victorian Bushfire Appeal was that the SBS Radio community are incredibly generous and want to do all they can to help ease the pain and suffering of others," SBS Director of Audio & Language Content Dirk Anthony, said. "But sometimes language can act as a barrier to people making donations and this is where SBS can help."

"Our volunteers will be able to offer advice and assistance in-language to callers who want to make a donation to the Australian Red Cross 2011 Earthquake Appeal.

Tune in to Sydney 1107am or Melbourne 1224am. For frequency information in your area, go to [sbs.com.au/radio](http://sbs.com.au/radio).

Listeners can call SBS's toll free number 1800 501 931 to make a donation, or donate online at [sbs.com.au/greek](http://sbs.com.au/greek)

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