DINOLFO URGES STATE LEGISLATURE TO RE-INTRODUCE BILLS SUPPORTING RIDEHARING SERVICES

DINOLFO EMBRACES ROLE AS ONE OF THE FIRST PUBLIC SUPPORTERS OF RIDEHARING

Monroe County Executive Cheryl Dinolfo authored a letter to the local New York State Legislature delegation urging the re-introduction of bills to allow ridesharing services such as Lyft and Uber to operate in Monroe County and Upstate New York. This issue is especially important to the economic interests of Monroe County residents.

"Transportation Network Companies, like Uber and Lyft, have become a booming entrepreneurial opportunity across the Country and a widely used service that provides great benefits to the communities in which they operate," said Dinolfo. "I've heard from our community that ridesharing services are in high-demand here in Monroe County. I will continue to urge our State Representatives to bring bills permitting ridesharing to the floor so we can get this done for the people of our region."

In her letter to the local State Delegation, Dinolfo stated the benefits of ridesharing services which include flexible job opportunities for residents and families who are vetted and approved as drivers, accessible and affordable transportation for consumers, reductions in impaired driving and reduced traffic congestion and air pollution. Dinolfo continues to be a strong proponent for bringing ridesharing services to our region, already having sent a letter of support to the State Legislature back in June.

"Economically speaking, tourism has become an important industry here in Monroe County, with over a $1 billion economic impact in 2015," said Dinolfo. "In order to keep up with this industry, we must keep up with state-of-the-art transportation, which entails TNC ridesharing services."

A copy of Dinolfo's most recent letter to the local State Delegation is attached.

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Media Inquiries, contact:
Department of Communications at 753-1080
Dear Honorable Legislators:

As Monroe County Executive, I would ask that as a member of our local delegation that you introduce and support a measure in this upcoming legislative session to allow transportation network companies (TNCs) approved ridesharing services such as Lyft and Uber to operate in Monroe County and Upstate New York. This issue is especially important to the economic interests of Monroe County residents.

Throughout our nation, many municipalities, including New York City, have begun utilizing the ridesharing services provided by TNCs such as Lyft and Uber. With the success that TNCs have had in these areas, I know there are several benefits that TNC’s would provide residents, families and businesses here in Monroe County.

Economically speaking, tourism has become an important industry here in Monroe County, with over a $1 billion economic impact in 2015. In order to keep up with this industry, we must keep up with state-of-the-art transportation, which entails TNC ridesharing services. Additionally, ride-sharing is an expected amenity for any community which expects to attract business travelers.

TNC’s provide flexible job opportunities for individuals who are vetted and approved as drivers. I have heard from residents throughout Monroe County who are looking for part-time ridesharing employment. Drivers can work their own hours and use their own vehicles. These services lead to the ability for consumers to receive accessible and affordable means of transportation. This not only allows for easier travel throughout the County for riders but connects our local businesses to a larger market of consumers.

There is also evidence that the use of the ridesharing services reduces DUI arrests and with it, impaired driving. According to public data analyzed by Uber, since the company’s introduction to the city of Seattle, DUI arrests are down 10%. Given the option for a safe and affordable ride home, we see that many people will make the smart choice.
Lastly, by reducing the number of drivers and traffic congestion on our roads, TNCs help to curb air pollution and reduce the amount of harm done to our environment. Monroe County has led the way with innovative approaches towards reducing our environmental footprint. The introduction of TNCs will provide us with yet another opportunity to continue our mission towards a cleaner environment.

On behalf of the residents of Monroe County, I thank you for your consideration and support in this important matter.

Sincerely,

[Signature]
Cheryl Dinolfo
Monroe County Executive

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