

April 25, 2021

TO: Mayor Dale H. Cooke
Commissioner Paul Bauer
Commissioner David Jasinski
Commissioner Gary Persinger
Commissioner Bill Stevens
Bill Zolper – Town Manager

Subject: Doobie Ridez, LLC – Request to Enact Ordinance for Low Speed Vehicle (“LSV”) to Operate on Dual Highway in the Town of Dewey Beach, Delaware

Dear Members of Dewey Beach Town Council:

On behalf of the Doobie Ridez, LLC team, we would first like to thank you for allowing us to obtain a business license in the wonderful town of Dewey Beach.

Doobie Ridez, LLC is a transportation service that has engineered a platform in creating a rideshare experience like no other. Our registered and tagged LSV vehicles have proven to be an efficient, fun, and safe ride in areas where the posted speed limit is under 35 mph. We were able to operate at the University of Delaware for the Fall and Spring semesters (2020-2021) and were able to perform over 1500 rides. Our business is a unique alternative to rideshares like Uber and Lyft that are currently congesting the Dewey Beach roadways with multiple vehicles at one time. Doobie Ridez can perform the same service as these rideshare companies in less time, to more people and with less traffic. In speaking with town people, there seems to be a trend in not wanting to use Uber or Lyft while at the beach. We would be performing a reservation only service in which customers would be required to sign up and register in groups for a night in order to guarantee our service. In addition, our vehicles are electric, and do not emit any pollution into the atmosphere like current bus / trolley services.

There is one hurdle to our operation - Delaware Code Title 21, Section 2113A says – “Low speed vehicles shall only be operated on Delaware two-lane roadways where the posted speed limit is 35 miles per hour or less. Low speed vehicles shall not be operated on dual highways, regardless of the posted speed limit, except to cross the highway at a designated intersection.” While the section of Route 1 is technically a dual highway, the speed limit is 30 miles per hour (and it is our understanding the Town is considering lowering this to 25 mph) and the Town expects vehicles to operate in this stretch of highway as if it were a local road (as evidenced by the transportation services allowed to operate in the form of rickshaws and the Jolly Trolley). The Code also provides for the following: “Delaware law allows local governments to allow operation on dual highways within incorporated cities and towns if the respective municipal government enacts an ordinance permitting such movement on dual highways with a speed limit of 35 miles per hour or less.” It is within Town Council’s power to enact such an ordinance with respect to LSVs and we respectfully request the members to take this action.

Our goal is to ensure the safety of our customers, while also providing a branded and trusted service that the community will recognize and utilize. Amidst the difficulties of the Covid-19 crisis, we have also constructed a plan to help small businesses advertise and market on our vehicles and a few of your town businesses have already said they wish to participate in a marketing campaign. The Hyatt Hotel is also engaged in using our services for special events such as weddings. We would love to be able to carry out our projected summer plans in Dewey Beach and become a benefactor to the surrounding community for years to come. We would like to thank you for your time and consideration, and we hope to obtain the approval we are seeking in order to carry out our business plan for summer 2020.

If you have any questions regarding this request or would like to speak to me directly about Doobie Ridez, LLC, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Best regards,
Jack Dubecq
Founder & CEO: Doobie Ridez , LLC
(302) 598-3933

