

Headline

WWMED (What would Mr. Ed Do?)

by Maria L. Balais, Resident of The Metropolitan and Patti Clark, Resident of 123 Luckie

If Mr. Ed was more than a fictional talking horse on old late night TV, what would he do to address our neighborhood issues regarding the horses and carriages on our streets? He'd probably do exactly what we're doing. As you know (if you've been keeping up with newsletters and attended the last meeting on 9/11), our neighbor, Patti Clark from 123 Luckie, is working with the horse carriage operators, Bureau of Taxicabs and Vehicles for Hire, City Council, Central Atlanta Progress (CAP) and ADNA on several issues related to the horses and carriages in downtown Atlanta. Accountability, better care for the horses, and better hygienic practices are all major concerns. There's a lot we can do as residents to ensure that horses are taken care of, help keep the streets cleaner and make sure that all proprietors are held accountable. Find out what you can do. For the full story, [click here](#).

Full story

As we found out at the last meeting on Tuesday, September 11, 2007, it's not just about horsesh**. Having horses and carriages on our streets certainly adds a lot of charm to our city and can be entertaining for our tourists. Three carriage companies have come forward seeking help from downtown residents in reporting compliance violations within their ranks. As reported by Yasir Araim (Nottinham Shire & Carriage), violations from other operators hurt their business also. The carriage industry would like to move forward with expansion of routes and hours, but cannot unless compliance issues are resolved.

This gives the ADNA a great opportunity to work with this industry to improve upon many issues. Including...

1. Better and proper care for the horses
2. Better waste management
3. Better compliance with traffic laws
4. Better education of historical facts about our neighborhood for drivers.

The above are just basic concerns. There are many ordinances that govern vehicles for hire. If you want even more detail, [click here](#) to see the full PDF's about routes, hours and the ordinances.

CAP is looking for better horse diaper dumping locations closer to the routes and better "watering holes" for the horses, but until then, the horse operators are forced to find their own means of manure dumping (in local dumpsters) and horse hydration (carrying containers of water on the carriages).

The enforcement of the carriage industry comes from the APD Bureau of Taxicabs and Vehicle for Hire. Their staff is limited and their emphasis is on Taxi compliance due to sheer numbers. Therefore, this department requests our assistance as well in pursuing

violators. They need to know exactly which carriages are breaking the ordinances. Sorry, but “some horse pooped in front of my building” is not going to do it. Trust us. We’ve tried it.

In the meantime, the horse and carriage proprietors are still responsible for ensuring a hygienic state for the horses and our streets. **Here’s what you can do to help:**

1. If you see the animals being mistreated, horse diapers overflowing or carriage drivers not following traffic laws, you should report them to the Bureau of Taxicabs and Vehicles for Hire at the contact number(s) noted below. Be certain and get the time, date, location, and (most important) the carriage company name and carriage number (noted on the back tag of the carriage). The Bureau records all the complaints and this will get reviewed by a committee and could eventually impact their licenses. Be prepared to be a witness if needed! Here’s the contact:

APD Department – Bureau of Taxicabs and Vehicles for Hire

Between 6 am and 11 pm, call the department directly at 404-658-7600 OR call 9-1-1 and request connection to the Bureau.

After hours, can use non-emergency number: 404-658-6666.

2. If you don’t see a violation actually occur, but you see a big mess in a crosswalk or from the horses belonging to the ADP mounted police, then contact: CAP Clean Team – Sara Whyde, Public Work Supervisor @ 404-215-9600 (w) 404-535-0495 (c) or email her @ swhyde@centralatlantaprogress.org

3) If you have any additional ideas regarding locations for a centrally located sanitary manure disposal or for water provision for the horses on their routes, please feel free to contact the ADNA or any of the carriage companies listed below.

The ADNA Board and other concerned residents are still brainstorming on other ideas of how else we can make all this better. So keep reading your newsletter and stay tuned...--

-Maria L. Balais, Resident of The Metropolitan

Horse & Carriage Operators List

*Nottingham Shire & Carriage – web site: www.carriageforhire.com

404-622-526 contact: Yasir Araim

email: Amanda@carriageforhire.com

*Amen Carriage Company

404-653-202 contact: Patricia Willis

*Capitol City Carriage

404-805-8852 contact: Edward Gates Bey, Manager

email: ebey49@comcast.net

Inshirah Horse Drawn Carriage

404-523-3993

*In attendance at ADNA meeting and/or CAP meeting