

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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December 9, 2013
Start: 12:26 p.m.
Recess: 12:32 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway
Committee Rm, 16th Fl.

B E F O R E:
JAMES VACCA
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Gale A. Brewer
Daniel R. Garodnick
David G. Greenfield
G. Oliver Koppell
Jessica S. Lappin
Dalene Mealy
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
James G. Van Bramer
Vincent M. Ignizio
Peter A. Koo
Eric A. Ulrich

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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CHAIRPERSON VACCA: Good morning or good afternoon I should say. My name is James Vacca, and I'm Chair of the Committee on Transportation. And today we're going to vote on four bills on different topics that have one thing in common, they would increase transparency and public input. Three of these bills would require our transportation agencies to report more data, and one would establish an advisory committee. Proposed Intro 635-A by Council Member Crowley would require the Taxi and Limousine Commission to update their website with any new commuter van services designated a geographic service area in addition to reporting the number of vans to be used as part of that new service. A bill I introduced, proposed Intro 930-A would also require the TLC to report additional data. The agency would be required to issue a quarterly report to the council detailing the average wait time and counted by TLC licensed drivers to secure a vehicle inspection at assigned inspection time.

Council Member Garodnick's bill, proposed Intro 1114-A, would require the Department

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

of Transportation to publish a street design manual and update it every four years.

We will also be voting on proposed Intro 844-A by Council Member Brewer. This bill would establish an electric vehicle advisory committee consisting of representatives of the Department of Transportation, the Department of Environment Protection, the Department of Buildings, the Mayor's Office of Long Term Planning and Sustainability among others. An advisory board is the first step to creating a more productive discourse about expanding the city's infrastructure to accommodate a more sustainable mode of transportation.

I want to thank Council Member Crowley, Brewer and Garodnick for introducing these bills, and I want to thank the committee staff for their wonderful work. And with that, I want to turn to my colleagues who wish to be heard before we vote.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Mr. Chairman, before that... [interject]

CHAIRPERSON VACCA: Council Member Koppell?

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: ...could I just ask could I be added as a sponsor to the two bills that I'm not on? One is 930-A and the other is 1114-A.

CHAIRPERSON VACCA: Thank you, it will be done.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON VACCA: Without hearing from any other members, I will now ask the clerk to call the roll. Oh, I'm sorry, Council Member Rose?

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Sorry, Chair. I also would like to be added to Intro 844-A.

CHAIRPERSON VACCA: Okay.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON VACCA: Please do so. Council Member Brewer?

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I want to thank Lyle Frank in particular. It's nice to thank the chair, but I particularly want to thank Lyle Frank because he answers one million questions all day long, and I want to thank Chair Vacca because he has put a lot of time into thinking about ways to improve transportation safety and transparency and items that are not so popular but are desperately

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

needed in our city. We had an extensive hearing on electric vehicles including discussions about the future of the countries, what's possible, and I think because there was a lot of concern about what we are doing perhaps too quickly an advisory board is the best way to proceed. I will tell you that I continue to meet with those who are thinking about sidewalk structures and ways in which plug ins could take place, and it is a quickly evolving industry. Lots of jobs, lots of clean energy possibilities and lots of ways of perhaps making our city cleaner and healthier and environmentally sustainable. So I look forward to this discussion continuing, and I really want to thank both Lyle and Chair Vacca for your support.

CHAIRPERSON VACCA: I thank you and as always I always want to thank Lyle Frank for his hard work, and his knowledge has really served this committee well and I count on him and I count on Jonathan Messarano [phonetic] and Gafar [phonetic], who are here, Zalaf [phonetic]. Both of them are staff analysts and they help us significantly. This is a very busy committee. I think you can tell by the hearings we've held and by the

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

legislation we've passed. Now, this makes how many? This makes 43 bills that this committee has passed in the last four years [applause] so I am very proud of all the members, all of our work, 43 bills. It's a damn good record. Hard work. Okay. Now, let me indicate who's here for the record. Council Member Mealy, Council Member Greenfield, Council Member Koppell, Council Member Brewer, myself Council Member Vacca, Council Member Debbie Rose, Council Member Ignizio, Council Member Ulrich. Without further to do, I will now ask the staff to call the roll, and the Chair is recommending an aye vote on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call vote, Committee on Transportation. Items are coupled. Council Member Vacca.

CHAIRPERSON VACCA: Vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye, and I'd like to be added, please, to 1114-A. Thank you.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Koppell.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Aye on all.

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

8

COMMITTEE CLERK: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Rose.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Greenfield.

COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I vote aye
and ask that my name be added to...

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of eight in
the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
abstentions, all items have been adopted. Members,
please sign committee reports. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON VACCA: Without further to
do, I will hold... without further to do, this
meeting is... what word do I use? Recessed, and the
record will be kept open until 20 to one to allow
one more member to vote. I thank you all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member
Rodriguez.

COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote now stands at nine in the affirmative. Council Member Van Bramer.

COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: The final vote, Committee on Transportation is now 10 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no abstentions. And this hearing is adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date 12/27/2013

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION