

THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Hon. Melissa Mark-Viverito
Speaker of the Council

Hon. David Greenfield
Chair, Committee on Land Use



Hearing on the Fiscal 2015 Preliminary Budget & the Fiscal 2014 Preliminary Mayor's Management Report

Landmarks Preservation Commission

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Landmarks Preservation Commission Overview

The Landmarks Preservation Commission (LPC) protects the City's architectural, historic, and cultural resources. The agency is comprised of a panel of 11 commissioners who are appointed by the Mayor and supported by a staff of approximately 67 preservationists, researchers, architects, historians, attorneys, archaeologists and administrative employees. The Commission identifies, designates, and regulates buildings, districts, sites, and interiors, surveys potential landmarks and historic districts, evaluates proposals for landmark designations, and regulates alterations to designated sites and structures.

This report provides a review of the Landmarks Preservation Commission's Preliminary Budget for Fiscal 2015. In the first section, the highlights of the expense budget are presented. The report then provides a financial summary of the Commission's budget, discusses initiatives included in the November and Preliminary Financial Plans, and reviews relevant sections of the Preliminary Mayor's Management Report for Fiscal 2014. This is followed by a review of revenue generated from Landmark Permit Fees.

Fiscal 2015 Preliminary Plan Highlights

	2012	2013	2014	2014	2015	*Difference
<i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	Actual	Actual	Adopted	Prelim. Plan	Prelim. Plan	2014 - 2015
Personal Services	\$3,812	\$4,019	\$4,548	\$4,566	\$4,566	\$18
Other Than Personal Services	461	433	457	457	457	0
Agency Total	\$4,273	\$4,452	\$5,006	\$5,024	\$5,024	\$18

**The difference of Fiscal 2014 Adopted compared to Fiscal 2015 Preliminary Plan funding.*

The Landmarks Preservation Commission's Fiscal 2015 Preliminary Budget is \$5.024 million or \$18,000 more than the agency's Fiscal 2014 Adopted Budget of \$5.006 million. The agency's funding sources for Fiscal 2015 consist of \$4.5 million in City tax levy funds and \$557,992 in federal Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funds. Since the Fiscal 2014 Adopted Budget, the agency has implemented the following initiatives:

Landmark Permit Fee Revenue: LPC anticipates additional revenue from the continued growth in permit applications. Applications for work on landmark buildings have been on the rise in recent years, partly due to the resurgence of construction activity across the City since the economic downturn, and partly as a result of the expansion of landmark protection to thousands of additional buildings to meet community demand. Since its creation, LPC has designated over 31,000 buildings and sites. LPC continues to do designations on an ongoing basis. This ongoing designation of landmarks will only increase the already high volume of permit applications. Due to an increase in landmark permits issued in Fiscal 2014, the Commission will generate additional revenue of \$700,000 in Fiscal 2014; total revenue is projected to generate \$5.2 million for the same Fiscal year (See Appendix D). The Commission has roughly estimated that the City will realize \$3.2 million in Fiscal 2015 from the issuance of Landmark Permits.

Personal Services Increase: LPC's Fiscal 2015 Preliminary Budget includes an increase of \$18,000 in personal services as the result of six, full-time positions in the permit and preservation department. This is anticipated to cost approximately \$288,000 in Fiscal 2014 and \$306,000 in Fiscal 2015.

Fiscal Year 2013 Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Rollover: LPC's Fiscal 2015 Preliminary Budget includes an adjustment of \$63,000 in federal CDBG funds originally awarded in Fiscal 2013. This CDBG rollover was done to allow for completion of LPC restoration projects that were committed in Fiscal 2013, but for which construction was not completed due to the construction schedule. LPC funds these restoration projects through the agency's federally-funded Historic Preservation Grant Program (HPGP), which offers grants to non-profit organizations and to income-eligible owners of landmark buildings under the CDBG program (See Appendix B).

Maintenance and Repair Contracts: The New York City Charter mandates the preparation of a Contract Budget to identify expenditures for contractual services, which are defined as any technical, consultant or personal service provided to the City by means of a contract. The Contract Budget is actually a subset of the Other Than Personal Services (OTPS) portion of the City's Expense Budget. The Administration prepares a Contract Budget twice each fiscal year. In January, it is prepared with the Departmental Estimates, and in late April it is submitted to the Council with the Executive Budget. LPC's Fiscal 2015 Preliminary Budget includes 45 registered City contracts, at a total cost of \$223,056. Of these 45 registered contracts, 35 are for maintenance and repairs in relation to restoration projects under the agency's federally-funded Historic Preservation Grant Program (HPGP). This is anticipated to cost approximately \$114,790 in Fiscal 2015 (See Appendix A).

Work Permits Issued: The 2014 Preliminary Mayor's Management report indicates that LPC's ability to issue work permits has increased, from 3,827 in Fiscal 2013 to 4,377 in Fiscal 2014, therefore leading to quicker collection of related fees. Additionally, the agency's ability to issue certificates of No Effect issued within 10 days increased to 92% in Fiscal 2014, up from 84% for the same period in Fiscal 2013. This type of permit is issued when proposed work on a designated structure requires a permit from the Department of Buildings, but the proposed work will not affect a protected architectural feature of the structure (See Appendix E).

Landmarks Preservation Commission Financial Summary

<i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	2012 Actual	2013 Actual	2014 Adopted	2014 Prelim. Plan	2015 Prelim. Plan	*Difference 2014 - 2015
Spending						
Personal Services						
Full-Time Salaried - Uniformed	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Full-Time Salaried - Civilian	3359	3602	4048	4048	4066	18
Other Salaried and Unsalaries	333	315	344	344	344	0
Additional Gross Pay	118	107	126	126	126	0
Overtime - Uniformed	0	0	0	0	0	0
Overtime - Civilian	6	1	7	7	7	0
P.S. Other	(4)	(6)	0	0	0	0
Fringe Benefits	0	0	0	0	0	0
Amounts to be Scheduled	0	0	22	22	22	0
Subtotal	\$3,812	\$4,019	\$4,548	\$4,548	\$4,566	\$18
Other Than Personal Services						
Supplies and Materials	\$80	41	\$50	\$50	\$50	\$0
Fixed and Misc Charges	0	875	0	2	0	0
Property and Equipment	36	37	19	55	19	0
Other Services and Charges	176	16	165	161	165	0
Contractual Services	169	155	154	196	154	0
Contractual Services-Professional Services	0	44	69	56	69	0
Subtotal	\$461	\$1,168	\$457	\$520	\$457	\$0
TOTAL	\$4,273	\$5,186	\$5,006	\$5,069	\$5,024	\$18
Funding						
City Funds			\$4,448	\$0	\$4,466	\$18
Other Categorical			0	0	0	0
Capital- IFA			0	0	0	0
State			0	0	0	0
Federal - Community Development			558	0	558	0
Federal - Other			0	0	0	0
Intra City			0	0	0	0
TOTAL	\$4,273	\$5,186	\$5,006	\$5,069	\$5,024	\$18
Positions						
Full-Time Positions - Civilian		68	68	68	68	0
Full-Time Positions - Uniform		0	0	0	0	0
TOTAL		68	68	68	68	0

*The difference of Fiscal 2014 Adopted compared to Fiscal 2015 Preliminary Plan funding.

Appendix A

Contract Budget

Category	Number	Budgeted	Pct. of Agency Total
Contractual Services General	1	\$13,403	6%
Telecommunications Maintenance	1	500	0%
Maintenance and Repairs Motor Vehicle Equipment	1	1,000	0%
Maintenance and Repair General	35	114,790	51%
Office Equipment Maintenance	2	4,500	2%
Data Processing Equipment	1	10,605	5%
Printing Contracts	1	4,500	2%
Temporary Services	1	3,500	2%
Training Program City Employees	1	1,000	0%
Professional Services Other	1	69,258	31%
Fiscal 2015 Preliminary Budget	45	\$223,056	100%

Appendix B

Budget Action Chart

<i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	FY 2014			FY 2015		
	City	Non-City	Total	City	Non-City	Total
Agency Budget as of Fiscal 2014 Adopted Plan	\$4,447	\$558	\$5,005	\$4,465	\$558	\$5,023
Program to Eliminate the Gap (PEGs)						
None	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL, PEGs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
New Needs						
None	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL, New Needs	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other Adjustments						
FY13 Community Development Block Grant ROLL OVER	\$0	\$63	63	\$0	\$0	0
TOTAL, Other Adjustments	\$0	\$63	\$63	\$0	\$0	\$0
TOTAL, All Changes	\$0	\$63	\$63	\$0	\$0	\$0
Agency Budget as of Fiscal 2015 Preliminary Plan	\$4,447	\$621	\$5,068	\$4,465	\$558	\$5,023

Appendix C

Revenue Summary

LPC Revenue Sources			
<i>Dollars in Thousands</i>	FY14 Adopted Budget	FY14 Modified	FY15 Preliminary Budget
License, Permit & Franchises	\$3,814	\$3,814	\$3,814
Miscellaneous	9	9	9
TOTAL	\$3,823	\$3,823	\$3,823

Appendix D

Miscellaneous Revenue

LPC Revenue Sources	Actual		Planned			
	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
<i>Dollars In Thousands</i>						
Licenses, Permits & Franchises						
Landmark Permits	\$4,445	\$5,208	\$5,200	\$3,814	\$3,814	\$3,814
Miscellaneous						
Landmark Settlements and Other	226	160	9	9	9	9
TOTAL	\$4,671	\$5,369	\$5,209	\$3,823	\$3,823	\$3,823

Appendix E

Fiscal 2014 Preliminary Mayor's Management Report Performance Measures

Performance Measures

LPC Critical Indicators	FY11 Actual	FY12 Actual	FY13 Actual	FY13 4-Month Actual	FY14 4-Month Actual
Individual landmarks and historic districts designated	40	36	20	4	7
Total number of buildings designated	1,528	1,040	1,408	329	7
Work permit applications received	10,753	11,823	11,886	3,917	4,480
Actions taken on work permit applications received	11,738	11,238	11,767	3,827	4,377
Permits for minor work issued within 10 days (%)	81%	81%	83%	83%	87%
Archaeology applications received	273	283	242	82	104
Archaeology applications reviewed within 10 days (%)	96%	96%	96%	98%	96%
Expedited Certificates of No Effect issued within 2 days (%)	100%	92%	100%	90%	100%
Certificates of No Effect issued within 10 days (%)	85%	80%	87%	84%	92%