

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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October 27, 2009
Start: 11:23 am
Recess: 11:27 am

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
JOHN C. LIU
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Vincent Ignizio
Jessica S. Lappin
Daniel R. Garodnick
Darlene Mealy
Larry B. Seabrook
G. Oliver Koppell
Elizabeth Crowley
Diana Reyna
Gale A. Brewer

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2 CHAIRPERSON LIU: Good morning,
3 welcome to today's hearing of the City Council's
4 Committee on Transportation. My name's John Liu,
5 I have the pleasure of Chairing this hearing.

6 Today we've convened for the
7 purpose of voting on two bills. Proposed Intro
8 number 947-A, introduced by Council Member
9 Elizabeth Crowley, would make it illegal to idle
10 an unattended car for any amount of time and raise
11 the fine for such violations from \$5 to \$250.
12 This law was prompted by two tragedies, one in
13 Council Member Crowley's district where two people
14 were killed and one in Council Member Alan
15 Gerson's district where two toddlers were
16 tragically killed. Both tragedies were caused by
17 unattended idling vehicles.

18 Proposed Intro number 1023-A,
19 introduced by Council Member Stewart, would
20 require commuter vans to post a passenger bill of
21 rights. This bill follows on a prior Council law
22 that requires the posting of a passenger bill of
23 rights in taxicabs and liveries.

24 These are common sense bills,
25 Council Member Crowley's bill will make all New

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2 Yorkers safer, and Council Member Stewart's bill
3 ensures that commuter van passengers understand
4 their rights. I urge my fellow committee members
5 to vote yes on these bills.

6 We are joined by Council Members
7 Vincent Ignizio of Staten Island, Jessica Lappin
8 of Manhattan, Daniel Garodnick of Manhattan,
9 Darlene Mealy of Brooklyn, Larry Seabrook of the
10 Bronx, and Oliver Koppell of the Bronx.

11 And I will turn the floor over to
12 Council Member Crowley for brief opening remarks.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you,
14 Chairman John Liu, for giving me the opportunity
15 to speak on behalf of the idling bill, also known
16 as the Robert Ogle bill, which I believe will
17 ultimately make New York City safer. Far too many
18 people carelessly leave their cars running and
19 unattended. And when we saw recently with the
20 tragedy not only in Middle Village, but the
21 tragedy in Chinatown, we know that if people
22 understand that there is a fine, a fine of \$250,
23 they may think twice of leaving their car running
24 and unattended, so I encourage my colleagues to
25 vote yes on this. And I appreciate your support

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as the Chairman. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON LIU: Thank you very much. And I want to thank the staff of the committee, Legislative Counsel Phil Hom, Legislative Counsel Rachel Cordero, Finance Analyst Chima Obichere, and a special intern.... [Pause] All right, I won't say it.

In any event, let me ask the Clerk to call the roll and that would to be--well, please-- [Pause] Oh, I'll ask that the Committee vote on these two bills coupled together, and will the Clerk please call the roll.

WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin, Committee Clerk, roll call on the Committee on Transportation, Introduction 947-A and 1023-A. Council Member Liu.

CHAIRPERSON LIU: Yes.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Koppell.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Yes.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Seabrook.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Yes.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Yes.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote of six
in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
abstentions, item is adopted. Council Members,
please sign the Committee reports, thank you.

[Pause]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member
Reyna.

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: I vote aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Vote now stands at
eight in the affirmative, zero in the negative,
and no abstentions.

[Pause]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member
Brewer.

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye,
thank you.

[Off mic]

COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: I vote aye
on both.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Vote now stands at
nine in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and
no abstentions.

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[Pause]

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[Off mic]

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COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: The meeting
is now adjourned. Thank you.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Tammy Wittman, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

Signature Tammy Wittman

Date November 4, 2009