

The New York City Council

Legislation Details (With Text)

File #: Int 0036-2014 Version: * Name: Requiring the placement of an informational sign

near the intersection of Wall and Water Streets in Manhattan to mark the site of New York's first slave

market.

Type: Introduction **Status:** Filed (End of Session)

In control: Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and

International Intergroup Relations

On agenda: 2/4/2014

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Title: A Local Law in relation to requiring the placement of an informational sign near the intersection of Wall

and Water Streets in Manhattan to mark the site of New York's first slave market.

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Peter A. Koo, Rory I. Lancman, Stephen T. Levin, Helen K. Rosenthal, Mark Levine, Julissa Ferreras-Copeland, Karen Koslowitz, I. Daneek Miller, Andy L. King, Rafael L. Espinal, Jr., Carlos Menchaca, Costa G. Constantinides, Laurie A. Cumbo, Deborah L. Rose, Vanessa L. Gibson, Donovan J.

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Attachments: 1. Summary of Int. No. 36, 2. Committee Report 2/28/14, 3. Hearing Testimony 2/28/14, 4. Hearing

Transcript 2/28/14

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
2/4/2014	*	City Council	Introduced by Council	
2/4/2014	*	City Council	Referred to Comm by Council	
2/28/2014	*	Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and International Intergroup Relations	Hearing Held by Committee	
2/28/2014	*	Committee on Cultural Affairs, Libraries and International Intergroup Relations	Laid Over by Committee	
12/31/2017	*	City Council	Filed (End of Session)	

Int. No. 36

By Council Members Williams, Van Bramer, Chin, Cabrera, Cohen, Koo, Lancman, Levin, Rosenthal, Levine, Ferreras-Copeland, Koslowitz, Miller, King, Espinal, Menchaca, Constantinides, Cumbo, Rose, Gibson, Richards, Rodriguez and the Public Advocate (Ms. James)

A Local Law in relation to requiring the placement of an informational sign near the intersection of Wall and Water Streets in Manhattan to mark the site of New York's first slave market.

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. The department of transportation shall construct and maintain a sign bearing the following inscription: "In 1711 New York's first slave market was established at the intersection of Water and Wall

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Streets. Also known as the 'Meal Market,' grain and other goods were bought and sold there. The market was

created by the New York Common Council in order to regulate the commerce of slavery, which up to that time

had been a somewhat informal system. Captive African slaves would arrive on slave ships along the East River

and be brought to market on this site. Some ships came directly from Africa, but most came from the West

Indies, leaving from ports in Cuba, Haiti, Jamaica and elsewhere. Native Americans were also sold as slaves

here. New York's early economy was fueled by slavery. Slaves were used to clear the land to create Broadway

and to build the first City Hall, Fraunces Tavern, and the wall for which Wall Street is named." Said sign shall

be erected near the intersection of Wall Street and Water Street in Manhattan within ninety days of the effective

date of this local law.

§2. This local law shall take effect immediately.

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