

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

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December 10, 2018
Start: 10:05 a.m.
Recess: 10:15 a.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: RUBEN DIAZ, SR.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Joseph C. Borelli
Costa G. Constantinides
Francisco P. Moya
Ydanis A. Rodriguez
Deborah L. Rose
Paul A. Vallone

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

2 [sound check] [pause]

3 CHAIRPERSON DIAZ: Good morning ladies
4 and gentlemen. [Speaking Spanish] Welcome to the
5 hearing—Committee hearing of the For-Hire Vehicle
6 Committee. We're here today to hold a public hearing
7 on the legislation proposed. We were supposed to be
8 here today. We were supposed to be here today to
9 hold a hearing on a proposed the legislation by
10 Council Member Cabrera and myself on the Bill
11 Introduction 149. On Friday, December 7, 2018, Pearl
12 Harbor Day, the day of infamy in the nation. That
13 day—that Friday in the late afternoon about—about
14 5:00 p.m. my—my bill was changed. A new bill was
15 crafted to sat—to satisfy the Mayor's Office [bell]
16 and they called that new bill Introduction 1249-A,
17 and I have not reviewed these changes on—on what is—I
18 have—I have not reviewed these changes, and what I
19 see is that also this bill does, in fact, abolish the
20 critical driver program. It takes the various parts
21 of it, and repackages a very—in another assistant
22 program. It does not do what my bill intended. I do
23 not support Introduction 1249-A. Therefore, that
24 bill is taken out. I apologize for you to come here
25 today. We will not be doing that. Let me say that

2 in Spanish. [Speaking Spanish] [background comments]
3 So, we will not be doing today Introduction [Speaking
4 Spanish]. What I'm say is that my bill was supposed
5 to eliminate the critical program and the critical
6 program of the drivers, but even though they change
7 it, to 1249 to 1249-A, what they did they-in reality
8 they're eliminating the Critical Driver Program, but
9 the effect of the Critical Driver Program have been
10 tramped free-tramped-tramped-trespassed to another
11 program. So, even the Critical Driver Program has
12 been eliminated, what the Critical Driver Program
13 does it is transferred to other programs and,
14 therefore, I cannot support that. This is not what I
15 came here for. We have eight drivers already killed
16 and have killed theirselves, and we are trying to
17 alleviate the pressure that drivers are getting. So,
18 today we are not taking any testimony on critical--
19 on-- 1249-A, we're not taking any-any testimony.
20 We're not putting-we're not dealing with that program
21 until we discuss, and in the future maybe we could
22 bring that as I want it, but not the-not the way
23 they're putting it. So, it was done at the last
24 minute. I apologize for you to come here to testify
25 on that program. Again, there will not be no

2 testimony on that program, and the program will not
3 take—will not be dealt with today. Today, we only
4 have one program to deal with, and it is the
5 committee had been asked to have a hearing on Council
6 Member Williams' legislation that was passed by this
7 committee, which defines commuter vans for
8 consideration. It seems that the MTA wants to make
9 sure that this bill doesn't result on MTA buses being
10 integrated. (sic) So, we are joined today by
11 Council Member Borelli and I don't know if you
12 understand what I'm saying: No testimony on 4-on
13 1249. So, it won't be taken. We are not dealing
14 with that. We only—we are only going to be dealing
15 with the Councilman Williams, and I'm opening that,
16 and that's why see nobody here come today because at
17 the last minute we—we canceling everything. This
18 never has been done. What I'm doing I don't think
19 ever has been done. It's—I'm taking a leap of faith.
20 [Speaking Spanish]

21 LEGAL COUNSEL: We have two witnesses.

22 CHAIRPERSON DIAZ: I have two witnesses
23 in the order and then the committee—the hearing will
24 be done. Hector Herman, and on—and on 1249. I think
25 you came to talk about 1249. We're not taking that.

1 COMMITTEE ON FOR-HIRE VEHICLES

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2 We're not doing that bill. We're taking--were only
3 doing, and I--I understand. [Speaking Spanish]
4 [background comments] And anybody who want to--want
5 to testify on Council Member Williams?

6 MALE SPEAKER: The MTA wanted this bill.
7 Is the MTA--is the MTA here?

8 CHAIRPERSON DIAZ: Is the MTA here? If
9 nobody is here, [gavel this hearing is being
10 adjourned. [background comments/pause]

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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 December 24, 2018