

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS, PUBLIC SITINGS

AND DISPOSITIONS

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON LANDMARKS, PUBLIC
SITINGS AND DISPOSITIONS

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October 15, 2025
Start: 10:36 a.m.
Recess: 11:11 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING
ROOM 3

B E F O R E: Sandy Nurse, Acting Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Amanda Farías
Christopher Marte
Yusef Salaam

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Darlene Mealy

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A P P E A R A N C E S

Jacob Kotler, Project Manager at New York City
Housing Preservation and Development

Justin Donlon, Project Manager at New York City
Housing Preservation and Development

Devin Perera, Deputy Director of Operations,
Division of Special Needs Housing at New York
City Housing Preservation and Development

Wayne Finley, President of BluFin Development

LaQuisha Kellum-Smith, self

Janique Edwards, Acting Board President for 2149-
53 Pacific Street HDFC

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SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone
check for the Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public
Sittings and Dispositions recorded in Hearing Room 3
on October 15, 2025, by Nazly Paytuvi.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and
welcome to today's New York City Council Hearing.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Will the Zoom Host
please start the webinar?

ZOOM HOST: Webinar started.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Thank you, and welcome
to today's New York City Council Hearing for the
Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sittings and
Dispositions.

At this time, please silence all
electronic devices.

No one may approach the dais at any time
during this hearing.

Chair, we are ready to begin.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Thank you.
[GAVEL] Good morning. Welcome to a meeting of the
Subcommittee on Landmarks, Public Sittings and
Dispositions. I'm Council Member Sandy Nurse, and
I'll be Acting Chair of the Subcommittee today. I am

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joined today by my Colleagues, Majority Leader Amanda
Farías and Council Member Salaam.

Before we begin today's agenda, I will
remind everyone that this meeting is being held in a
hybrid format for members of the public who wish to
testify remotely. We ask that you first register
online, and you may do so now by visiting...

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and
welcome back to today's New York City Council Hearing
for the Committee on Landmarks.

At this time, please silence all
electronic devices.

No one may approach the dais at any time
during this hearing.

Chair, we are ready to begin.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: [GAVEL] Good
morning again. Welcome to our new hearing rooms.

Welcome to a meeting of the Subcommittee
on Landmarks, Public Sitings and Dispositions. I'm
Council Member Sandy Nurse, and I'll be the Acting
Chair of the Subcommittee today. I am joined today by
my Colleagues, Council Member Salaam, Majority Leader
Farías, and Council Member Mealy.

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Before we begin with today's agenda, I will remind everyone that this meeting is being held in a hybrid format. For members of the public who wish to testify remotely, we ask that you first register online, and you may do so now by visiting www.council.nyc.gov/landuse to sign up, and then sign into the Zoom and remain signed in until you have testified.

For anyone with us today in person and wishing to testify, if you have not already done so, please see one of our Sergeants to fill out a speaker's card, and we will call your name at the appropriate time.

For anyone wishing to submit written testimony on the items being heard today, we ask that you please send it via email to landusetestimony@council.nyc.gov, including the land use number and/or project name in the subject line of your email. Video and audio testimony will not be accepted.

I remind members of the public that this is a government proceeding, and that decorum shall be observed at all times. As such, members of the public

shall remain silent unless and until called to
testify.

The witness table is reserved for people
who wish to testify. No video recording or
photography is allowed from the witness table.
Further, members of the public may not present audio
or video recordings as testimony, but may submit
transcripts of such recordings to the Sergeant for
inclusion in the hearing record.

We will now hold a public hearing for a
Pre-Considered Land Use Item for the 2149-2153
Pacific Street Article XI request, which is an
application for a 40-year Article XI property tax
exemption retroactive to April 1, 2018, under Section
577 of the Private Housing Finance Law, to facilitate
the rehabilitation of three existing buildings at the
site for a total of approximately 24 affordable
housing units. This exemption will replace an
existing real property exemption, which is set to
expire in 2032, and will be retroactively terminated.
The project is located in Council Member Meely's
District in Brooklyn.

Appearing today on the proposal on behalf
of the City's Department of Housing Preservation and

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Development are Devin Perara, Jacob Kotler, and
Justin Donlon.

Okay, I already mentioned about the
testifying. So first I'm going to pass it to Council
Member Mealy for her opening remarks before I turn it
over to the panelists.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Good morning,
Chairs and my Colleagues. I just want to let you know
about this Article XI for, I guess, 17 years this has
been going on, or more, about 10 or 15 years. It went
through another administration, I was in office, it
went through another administration, I'm back in
office, it's still here, and I just hope my community
is watching this, I ask them to watch this. Anyone
else would love to have 40 years to not pay taxes on
their house. And here it is, this City, I just found
out about that law, y'all saying that y'all are going
to retroact it for 17 years. When the City has taken
people's homes for one year's taxes, and now we're
going to give someone who probably has a connection
with somebody in the Mayor's Office or whoever, to
give them 40 years. I said 25 would be good, I don't
know when this Administration started doing 40 years,
20 to 25 I could see, because no other entity in this

city, and that's regular average people, cannot have their taxes probated back for years. And here it is, we, as this City government, is going to give this to a development. We don't know if after they get the tax abatement for 17 years back taxes, and then give them 40 more years, how do you know they're not going to knock down these three buildings in which one is totally vacant, no one, I have tried to speak to everyone in that building, they only have one individual that I even put a police complaint in, that let me see what is needed to be done with this building. So I just ask this community and my Colleagues to consider this. Not 40 years. 25 years would be good, and now that we have this legislation for 17 years to be back taxes to be paid, with this money right now that we are... well we just discussed it now, that we're going to vote on. Please know this is so injustice to this city in which people are losing their homes for 2,000 dollars' worth of taxes and now we're giving a big entity that have resources and we're going to give them 40 years to not pay taxes. Just think of that. How many of you do not want to pay taxes on your own home? And here it is, we're giving entities. And I think about so many

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others, small six-family units could get this, but they don't know the right people in HPD, they don't know how to fill out the paperwork that they can be tax exempt for 40 years. So, I ask maybe this process has to be better to let everyone know that they can get 40 years, they do not have to pay taxes on their homes, the small homeowners. So right now I'm against this project. If it's not 25 years, I'm not voting for this. Thank you so much.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Thank you,
Council Member Mealy.

Counsel, would you please swear on the
panelists?

SUBCOMMITTEE COUNSEL HUH: Panelists,
please raise your right hands. I will ask you in turn
to answer the following.

Do you affirm to tell the truth, the
whole truth, and nothing but the truth in your
testimony before this Subcommittee in an answer to
all Council Member questions?

Mr. Perera.

DEVIN PERERA: I do.

SUBCOMMITTEE COUNSEL HUH: Mr. Kotler.

JACOB KOTLER: Yes.

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SUBCOMMITTEE COUNSEL HUH: Mr. Donlon.

JUSTIN DONLON: I do.

SUBCOMMITTEE COUNSEL HUH: Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: You all may
begin.

JACOB KOTLER: We have a presentation.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Can we get the
presentation up?

Ready to go?

JACOB KOTLER: Yeah. Okay. So I'm Jacob
Kotler. I'm the HPD Project Manager that's been
working directly with 2149-53 Pacific Street, which
is located in the Ocean Hill neighborhood in
Brooklyn. Next slide, please.

So just a high-level overview of the
building's history and ownership. The City gained
title to the property back in 1988 through an in rem
tax foreclosure, and it was in 1993 where a moderate
rehab was last completed to the building. The
building was conveyed to the HDFC back in 1992
through the TIL program, and there are 24 units
total. Currently, there are 20 that are occupied by
shareholders, three that are occupied by rental

tenants, and there's one vacant unit. Next slide,
please.

So, here's a breakdown of the units that
I described, as well as an overview of the average
housing cost. So, there's one-, two-, and three-
bedroom units inside of these buildings. The average
cost for a one-bedroom, 595 dollars. Two-bedroom is
581 dollars a month, and then three-bedroom is 600
dollars a month. So looking at the average, which is
around 581 dollars for these housing costs, this is
quite low compared to the rental market in the area.
It's about 20 percent AMI with these current housing
costs, and that's relative to the neighborhood, which
is around 90 percent AMI. Also want to note that the
building has been operating at a loss with its income
less than the actual expenses that have been incurred
by the building. And for our projects, we like to see
buildings have at least, like, 5 percent above what
they would expend on expenses, so 1.05 income-to-
expense ratio is what we call that. And then the ANCP
program through HPD, which helps convert co-ops, the
standard is 1.1. Next slide, please.

So, an overview of some of the financial
and physical issues that this building has been

1 experiencing. So as noted, these arrears started
2 around 2018. Right now, they stand around 322K, and
3 this is with a partial tax exemption that the
4 building already has, which is known as the DAMP
5 exemption, and that is set to expire, as was noted,
6 in 2032. And just an overview of some of the building
7 needs, part of the reason it's working with HPD,
8 building envelope, window replacements, boiler
9 upgrades are needed, plumbing and storm line
10 improvements are needed, as well as new electrical
11 breakers. And a really important part of our
12 discussions with the building have been related to
13 the building's cash flow, so how much money is
14 available for their accounts and reserves after
15 paying for any debt and any operating expenses. You
16 know, there hasn't been a maintenance increase of
17 this building in some time, and it's been hard for us
18 to identify the last time it actually did occur. And
19 based off of some of the calculations that we've
20 worked on, looking at what the building's year one
21 cash flow might be, and that's the cash flow after
22 construction has been completed the first year
23 afterwards. So, without any maintenance increases, it
24 would be negative 43,940, and this is factoring in
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the Article XI exemption without the maintenance increases. And then the maintenance increases that we have discussed with the building, which would provide about 331K in cash flow for that year one. And this is, again, something that's been actively discussed with the building, understanding the need for these maintenance increases in order to improve their income and long-term financial stability. Next slide, please.

So, the building came to HPD requesting this full Article XI tax exemption to help the building maintain financial stability for the next 40 years. And a part of this process would be regulating the building through a regulatory agreement. This has various provisions to try to maintain affordability as well as try to allow the building to have some financial stability. So, there's things called a flip tax, which relate to sales so a portion of those sales, 10 percent, would go back to the co-op. There are reserve requirements, so a certain amount of funds need to be set aside into reserve each year. Again, this is there to help the building's financial stability. We also have income and sales, so price restrictions to make sure that it's focused on

housing low- to moderate-income folks. And then any rental that may still be in the unit upon vacancy needs to be sold. And in our regulatory agreement, we do have a whole formula that sets the max sale price. So this is a breakdown of what those sale prices might look like compared to market comps in the neighborhood. So 439K for the one-bedroom compared to 516K. Two-bedroom, 549K compared to 687K. And then three-bedrooms would be around 645K compared to 695K. And just want to note that the calculations for a sale price are based off a 7 percent interest rate. And just to note, if I didn't call on it, but the max income restrictions per our regulatory agreement are 120 percent AMI, and sale prices are set relative to 100 percent AMI.

And that concludes my presentation.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Okay. Thank you so much.

Can you back up a couple slides? I actually had one question. I know you can't. Can the slide person back up? I don't know where they are, but can they back up two slides? I'm sorry, can you go forward one?

Can you just reiterate the cash flow
piece?

JACOB KOTLER: Yeah. So, we've been
talking about necessary maintenance increases to
improve the building's income. So, the main variable
that we look at is cash flow, so these are funds
available for the building to set aside into their
reserves or their accounts after paying for necessary
operating expenses, electricity, utilities...

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Sorry. I guess
I meant what is the increase from the maintenance
fee?

JACOB KOTLER: Yeah. So we've discussed
about the 63 percent increase, and this would be
phased over three years. So we've discussed like a 25
percent increase, which would happen around next
year. The following year would be 18 percent, and
then the year after that would be 11 percent.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: To bring it up
to the full 63? Sorry, I can't do math.

JACOB KOTLER: Yes, exactly.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Okay. We
already talked about the breakdown of owners and
renters.

Do you have any information you can share
on the average income for the existing residents?

JACOB KOTLER: I mean, based off of
discussions with the building, I would say it's
probably around 30 percent AMI or less for the folks,
but we don't have a definitive number on their
incomes.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Okay. So, the
current rent is not too far off from what they're
actually able to pay.

And what are the plans that you have for
those residents during the actual rehab work?

JACOB KOTLER: Well, it's in terms of like
safety precautions or anything?

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Do you need to
relocate them?

JACOB KOTLER: No relocation is required.
We typically require that for any substantial or gut
rehab, but most of these repairs can happen with
folks in place, and there'd also be a tenant
protection plan per DOB requirements so measures
would be taken to make sure that folks are safe.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Okay. And then what's the kind of timeline in terms of outreach or lead time before work begins?

JACOB KOTLER: Can you clarify that?

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: What kind of outreach or lead time will be given to the residents before work begins?

JACOB KOTLER: As far as I understand, the building has been pretty well aware of these repairs and the work that's been involved with us, HPD. So a Board Resolution needs to be passed in order to actually approve the loan. That would happen prior to our closing. So no matter what, it'd be a couple months in advance of any work starting that folks in the building would be aware.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Okay. I just want to recognize Council Member Marte has joined us.

Council Member Mealy, do you have any questions?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Yes. How much the loan is going to be?

JACOB KOTLER: The loan right now is a little over 2 million.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: 2 million.

If this goes through, you're going to pay back the taxes 17 years, and then the Article XI will kick in, and then you're going to get a 2-million-dollar loan, right, to do repairs.

JACOB KOTLER: To do repairs, yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: And you're HPD, right?

JACOB KOTLER: Mm-hmm.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: So what makes this building, these buildings, any different from any other co-op? Because I've known co-ops have went under. Some of my co-ops, they took it over when HPD didn't help them, and they took it over with my help. So what makes this one so different than any other ones?

DEVIN PERERA: So thank you, Council Member Mealy, for your earlier comments. I just want to clarify that. We have an open...

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: HPD?

DEVIN PERERA: HPD. We have an open application process, so you can go to Multifamily Rehabilitation Program, an HPD website, and you can submit an application. We have a number of projects.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: When did they get
this application put in?

DEVIN PERERA: I'm sorry?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: When did they put
in the application?

DEVIN PERERA: Jacob, do you know when the
application was?

JACOB KOTLER: Like around 2018, I want to
say.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I didn't hear you.

DEVIN PERERA: Around 2018, we believe. So
anyone in the city can apply. Our program is meant to
help rehabilitate and stabilize low-income
properties. We provide loans and tax exemptions in
exchange for regulatory agreements to keep sales
prices and rents and maintenance affordable to all
residents. It's an open process. Anyone can apply.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Yes. I just asked,
what makes these buildings any different from anyone
in this whole city?

DEVIN PERERA: So, this building applied
to our program.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: How many others has
applied?

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DEVIN PERERA: How many others? We have
about...

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Co-ops.

DEVIN PERERA: We have about 70 co-ops in
our pipeline.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: In your portfolio,
70?

DEVIN PERERA: Yes. We're working on...

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Everyone got
Article XI?

DEVIN PERERA: It is typical for our
applicants...

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Because I haven't
heard that many Articles XI. Only people from finance
or in their district, they got Article XI. It's like
if you're in the know, you could get it. But if
you're not, the average individual never gets it. So
how many out of 70?

DEVIN PERERA: I can't give an exact
number, but most of our projects that come through
our pipeline and our typical projects like this, it's
a 24-unit low-income shareholder-owned co-op...

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COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: How many
shareholders do you have in this? One building is
vacant, right?

DEVIN PERERA: No, I don't believe any of
these...

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: A whole building is
vacant.

JACOB KOTLER: One vacant unit.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: It's one whole
building that is vacant.

JACOB KOTLER: That's not my
understanding. My understanding is...

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: It is. You should
go see for yourself.

So how many tenants do you have? 20? No,
shareholders.

JACOB KOTLER: 20 shareholders, yeah.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: You say. Okay. You
can finish.

DEVIN PERERA: Yes. It is typical for...

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I got about three
other questions, and I'm finished.

DEVIN PERERA: Buildings in our pipeline, which are... this is an average building in our pipeline to receive a tax exemption.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Please talk up. I can't hear.

DEVIN PERERA: It is typical for buildings in our... applicants in our pipeline to receive Article XI tax exemptions.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: How did you choose this one since it was already in tax trouble? How did HPD choose this development out of all the other ones that have almost 20 years in the tax arrears? So how did HPD choose this one?

DEVIN PERERA: We are working with multiple projects at any given time.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: And y'all felt this one is not too much enough that you can help them? I just want to understand.

DEVIN PERERA: We're working with many projects on Article XI tax exemptions. This is just one of many.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Yes, and I'm asking, what criteria is it that you choose different co-ops that are in trouble to give them Article XI?

DEVIN PERERA: Depending on...

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: 40 years to not pay taxes. And this project did not pay taxes for 17 years. So why did you choose this one? That's all I want to know.

DEVIN PERERA: My understanding is that their back taxes started accruing since 2018, which is about six years ago.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: 2018. Do you know I was in office, then got out of office, and now I'm back in office, and this still is going on? Why didn't you do it eight years ago? Why didn't it pass eight years, HPD?

DEVIN PERERA: I can't speak to what happened eight years ago. I know that they applied to us shortly after.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: In 2018.

DEVIN PERERA: And it's... (BUZZER)

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Somebody just said that the AMI was going to be 100 percent after this is all done. True? You just stated that in this.

JACOB KOTLER: I mentioned 100 percent AMIs is the standard for setting the sale price, but

after these increases, the AMI would be around 32 percent.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: You sure?

JACOB KOTLER: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: 32 percent AMI. So that would stay... it would go up just a little for these co-op owners?

JACOB KOTLER: Exactly, yeah.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Okay.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Do you have any further questions?

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Did you tell me how much the loan was? Two million?

JACOB KOTLER: Yeah.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: And you still didn't tell me why that one building is vacant?

JACOB KOTLER: That I can't speak to.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: When was the last time you went out there?

JACOB KOTLER: I haven't been out there, I will say.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Nobody from HPD?

DEVIN PERERA: We speak to the management company and the shareholders on a regular basis.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I tried to speak to
the management company, never got through, so.

DEVIN PERERA: We'd be happy to connect.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Okay. Thank you.

And I just want the City to know, 40 years of taxes,
who would not want that? And this is so almost bogus
that we are doing this to this just one, three
buildings, when this city is in a crisis, they have
lost their homes over a one year not paying taxes, so
I'm so glad you came here today. Thank you.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Thank you,
Council Member Mealy, and maybe you all could just
follow up with us and confirm that the building is
only vacant in one unit, just so we can just get it
on the record.

Do any other Council Members have
questions?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: I have a question.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Council Member
Marté.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Has HPD spoken to
every tenant in the building, just because with the
potential financial hikes, we want to make sure that
no tenant is evicted without understanding how much

it's going to increase, especially in the next three
years?

DEVIN PERERA: We interact with the
management company and the board, the board who is
the legal representative for the HDFC Co-op, and we
send out notices prior to closing. I just want to
make it very clear that the increases that are being
required are not there to pay back HPD debt, they are
to make sure that the building can afford to pay
their operating expenses. And as part of that, we are
offering this building, along with other buildings in
our pipeline, tax exemptions that run the length of
the loan for the rehab projects that we are, the
rehab loans that we are issuing.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: And were these
notices sent to every single tenant, or just the
management?

DEVIN PERERA: These notices get sent out
prior to closing, which is a few months away. They
will get sent out to every resident.

COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: All right. Thanks.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Thank you,
Council Member Marte.

I'll just say that I think that preserving low-income co-ops and ownership opportunities is incredibly important. I think the Council has a lot of consensus on opportunities for homeownership. We're talking about a 12 percent increase here on units that people are paying about 600 dollars for, which is pretty golden right now. And it seems, from my understanding, what you're saying, that the money that would be generated is actually going back, or the savings goes directly into repairing those buildings to improve the quality of living in those units. And whatever gets sold would still be, even though I find it personally wild that a one-bedroom would cost like 400,000 dollars in the world, it's still pretty damn good for what is on the market. So, I'm just putting that from my perspective on the record.

But I think we are now going to move into testimony if there's no other questions from Council Members.

Okay, so thank you panelists for coming today.

Counsel, are there any of the members of the public who wish to testify on this item?

SUBCOMMITTEE COUNSEL HUH: We have one person in the room with us signed up to testify, and then we have two online witnesses that I'm aware of to testify after that.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Thank you. We will now dismiss the panel.

And Wayne Finley. You may come forward. Okay, when you're ready to begin, you can either pull the mic close and then turn on the little button. You have about two minutes.

WAYNE FINLEY: Good morning, Councilwoman Nurse and Members of the Subcommittee. My name is Wayne Finley, and I am President of BluFin Development. We are a family-owned real estate firm that my brother, daughter, and I operate. While our firm engages in development work, in this case, we've served as the property manager and rehabilitation consultant to the co-op shareholders at 2149 through 2153 Pacific Street. The shareholders of these buildings have achieved the dream of homeownership and do their very best to keep the property affordable and well-maintained. Despite their best efforts, the building is experiencing financial distress, which is also now impacting their ability

1
2 to properly maintain it. We, as a management company,
3 conducted a full building needs analysis, and it is
4 critical that we replace the roof, windows, boiler,
5 and very importantly, we must also replace a number
6 of electrical panels in the building. It has been a
7 pleasure to work with the project managers at HPD's
8 Preservation Unit to help put together a
9 rehabilitation plan, the financing for which we are
10 ready to almost immediately close on. The final piece
11 of this puzzle is an Article XI tax exemption, which
12 we are humbly requesting the City Council to approve.
13 I'd be happy to answer any questions, and thank you
14 for this hearing today.

15 ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Thank you. Any
16 questions?

17 How long have you all been managing this
18 building?

19 WAYNE FINLEY: We've been managing the
20 building since 2019, I believe.

21 ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Okay.

22 WAYNE FINLEY: 2018.

23 ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Okay. Well,
24 hopefully with this new conditions put on the
25 building, there can be better efforts made to sustain

the building. You know, we have a lot of co-ops
falling into this kind of situation because of poor
management and maybe bad decisions or lack of
willingness to make hard choices by boards, and
hopefully we can continue to fix that through these
types of moves so thank you very much.

WAYNE FINLEY: You're very welcome.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: You're
dismissed from the table. Thank you so much.

And now I have online, LaQuisha Kellum.
You may begin.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Starting time.

LAQUISHA KELLUM-SMITH: Hi. I'm LaQuisha
Kellum-Smith. First of all, good morning,
Councilwoman Nurse and the Members of this
Subcommittee. I've resided in this Co-op 2149-53
Pacific Street HDPC for about 14 years, and I just
joined the Board of Directors because I really care
about the neighborhood, I care about my neighbors.
And that's about all I have to say. But thank you for
listening to us today.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Thank you.
Thank you for testifying.

Next up, we have Janique Bradley.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Starting time.

JANIQUE EDWARDS: Good morning, Acting
Chair Nurse and members of the subcommittee. My name
is Janique Edwards, and I'm currently serving as the
Acting Board President for 2149-53 Pacific Street
HDFC. So, I've been a resident and a shareholder at
21 Pacific Street for over nine years. In 2016, I
joined the Board as a treasurer to help my neighbors,
many of whom are elderly, manage the corporation and
protect our homes. Over the years, our community has
worked tirelessly to keep the HDFC stable and
thriving with invaluable support from Blufin
Management. Together, we've built a sense of
community and a safe, affordable place where our
neighbors look out for one another. So as the Acting
President, my goal is to preserve that stability and
affordability, especially for our senior
shareholders. We've done everything possible to keep
maintenance costs manageable, but increasing expenses
and deferred maintenance on major building systems
are creating challenges we just can't afford to
ignore. Through this HPD program, we have identified
our most critical repair needs and worked diligently
to refine a realistic budget to address those. The

final step in this long process is the approval of a tax exemption through an Article XI, which will allow us to move forward with the essential repairs and continue offering affordable homeownership opportunities. We're deeply grateful for the Council's ongoing commitment to supporting affordable housing in this city, and we respectfully ask for your approval of this exemption within the near future. Thank you so much for your time and for your consideration.

ACTING CHAIRPERSON NURSE: Thank you so much.

Not seeing any other members of the public who wish to testify regarding the Pre-Considered Land Use Item for a project known as 2149-2153 Pacific Street, Article XI. The public hearing is now closed, and the item is laid over.

And that concludes today's business. Thank you to everybody, Staff, and all people who testified. This meeting is hereby adjourned. [GAVEL]

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 November 25, 2025