

**Testimony of Kim L. Yu,  
Before the New York City Council Committees on Contracts  
January 27, 2026**

Good afternoon, Chair Restler and members of the Contracts Committee. My name is Kim Yu, and I am the Director of the Mayor's Office of Contract Services (MOCS) and City Chief Procurement Officer. Thank you for the opportunity to testify today on three bills related to procurement transparency, emergency contracting, and subcontractor reporting.

MOCS serves as the City's central procurement agency and oversees a procurement system that supports over \$42 billion in annual contracting activity across 41 mayoral agencies. Our mission is to ensure that City procurement is fair, transparent, efficient, and aligned with the Administration's priorities around accountability, vendor equity, and the timely delivery of essential services for New Yorkers.

At MOCS, our top priority remains strengthening the City's role as a reliable, responsive partner—particularly to the nonprofit providers that deliver essential services and anchor the well-being of our communities.

In that spirit, MOCS has made it a priority to work closely with Council on the discretionary funding process, including the discretionary grant pilot. The discretionary grant pilot offers a new way of engaging with small, community-based organization to ensure that they are able quickly receive funding that enables the work they are already doing to support New Yorkers.

As the City's central procurement agency, MOCS is committed to partnering with Council and our pilot agency partners to implement and responsibly expand the pilot to support streamlined workflows for both providers and agencies, resulting in faster, more reliable payments to awardees.

Over the last several years, MOCS has made significant progress in modernizing the City's procurement infrastructure and strengthening procurement governance across agencies. We have continued to expand PASSPort as the City's end-to-end procurement platform, enabling agencies to manage solicitations, evaluations, awards, contracts, amendments, and vendor performance in a single system. We have also launched PASSPort Public to provide greater public visibility into procurement activity, and we continue to improve data quality, reporting functionality, and system integration with partner agencies.

In parallel, MOCS has worked closely with agencies to improve procurement planning, reduce contract backlogs, and strengthen vendor engagement. Through tools like agency procurement plans, targeted technical assistance, and centralized oversight of high-risk procurements, we have helped agencies move more efficiently from solicitation to award and registration while maintaining appropriate fiscal and legal controls.

With respect to emergency contracting, MOCS coordinates with agencies and relevant oversight partners, as appropriate, to support timely procurement while maintaining required controls. Emergency procurement authority is generally used when urgent circumstances require rapid action to avoid disruption to critical operations or essential services and protect life, safety, and property.

When agencies seek to use emergency procurement authority, MOCS may provide general guidance and support, as appropriate and coordinate with other City offices as needed.

We have also strengthened internal controls around emergency contracting by standardizing agency guidance, improving documentation protocols, and reinforcing expectations around post-award review and reporting. These measures are intended to promote responsible, transparent, and fiscally sound use of emergency contracting authority.

Ensuring strong oversight and accountability in emergency contracting is a shared priority. MOCS remains committed to continuous improvement in procurement oversight, transparency, and interagency coordination, particularly in high-risk or time-sensitive contracting contexts.

We appreciate Council's continued engagement on procurement reform and welcome the opportunity to share our perspective on the three proposals before the Committee today.

### **Intro 0163-2026 Emergency Procurements**

This bill would amend the City Charter to limit the term of an emergency contract to no more than 30 days, permit renewals only in additional 30-day increments subject to approval by the Comptroller and the Law Department, and require emergency contracts to be submitted to the Comptroller for audit within 15 days of execution.

MOCS recognizes the Council's interest in strengthening oversight and accountability in emergency contracting. Emergency procurements are an extraordinary tool intended to ensure continuity of critical services and rapid response in urgent and unforeseen circumstances.

MOCS has also strengthened data governance and compliance protocols related to subcontractor reporting, including validation requirements, documentation standards, and coordination with agency ACCOs and program staff. These efforts are designed to improve data accuracy, support enforcement where needed, and reduce administrative burden on vendors, particularly small businesses.

We agree with the intent of this bill to deter false or misleading subcontractor reporting and to promote greater transparency in contracting. At the same time, the bill would expand reporting and compliance obligations for both vendors and agencies and would require additional systems development, data validation processes, and enforcement protocols. Moreover, the Law Department is still reviewing the bill for potential legal issues.

As with other procurement reforms, any new subcontractor reporting requirements should be carefully calibrated to align with existing PASSPort functionality, avoid duplicative reporting, and minimize unintended impacts on small businesses.

We welcome continued dialogue with the Council to refine this proposal in a way that strengthens subcontractor transparency and accountability while building on the City's current systems and enforcement frameworks.

### **Intro 0156-2026 Procurement Database**

This bill would require the City to create and maintain a public-facing procurement interface that aggregates information across the contracting lifecycle, including solicitations, awards, contracts, amendments, expenditures, subcontractors, and related performance data.

MOCS currently operates the City's centralized procurement platform, PASSPort, which serves as the backbone of the City's contracting system. PASSPort is the primary tool used by agencies and vendors to manage procurements from solicitation through registration and post-award contract administration.

Since its launch, MOCS has expanded PASSPort through a series of phased releases that introduced end-to-end procurement functionality, integrated vendor management, and post-registration features such as invoicing and payments. In 2024, the City completed the migration of human services contracts from HHS Accelerator into PASSPort, bringing more than 15,000 contracts and 30,000 budgets into a single system and consolidating human services, goods, and services contracting into one platform.

At the same time, we have significant operational concerns about the constraints imposed by this bill. A rigid 30-day cap on emergency contracts, combined with mandatory Comptroller and Law Department approval for each renewal, could substantially hinder agencies' ability to maintain continuity of essential services during extended emergencies. Many emergency conditions—such as prolonged shelter operations, infrastructure stabilization, or public health responses—do not resolve within a 30-day window and require sustained contracted services.

Additionally, the proposed 15-day submission deadline for audit may not be feasible in complex emergency scenarios where contract terms are evolving, documentation is still being finalized, or agencies are operating under severe operational strain.

MOCS looks forward to working towards a balanced path that strengthens reporting, documentation, and post-award oversight of emergency procurements without introducing administrative bottlenecks that could delay urgent service delivery or create legal and operational risk.

We welcome the opportunity to work with the Council on alternative approaches that preserve flexibility in true emergencies while enhancing transparency and accountability.

### **Intro 0164-2026 Subcontractor Information and False Statements**

This bill would require contractors to maintain and report detailed information on subcontractors, and would increase existing criminal penalties and establish new criminal penalties for providing false or misleading information in connection with bidding on City contracts.

MOCS supports the goal of improving transparency and accountability in subcontracting practices, particularly as it relates to compliance with subcontracting commitments. Ensuring accurate and timely subcontractor reporting is critical to effective oversight, enforcement, and vendor equity outcomes.

Over the last several years, MOCS has expanded subcontractor reporting and management functionality within PASSPort. The platform now supports subcontractor onboarding through PASSPort account creation, subcontract approval workflows, subcontractor payment validation, and enhanced data collection around subcontracting activity. These tools allow agencies to better monitor subcontractor utilization and help ensure that subcontracting commitments made at award are reflected in actual performance.

MOCS has also built out subcontractor management and payment capabilities, introduced a centralized document repository through PASSPort Vault, and continues to enhance the system based on regular feedback from agencies and vendors. These efforts are aimed at strengthening usability, consistency, and transparency across the procurement process.

To expand access to procurement data for both internal and external stakeholders, MOCS recently launched new reporting tools. MOCS Stat 1.0 is a Power BI application for agency leadership and chief financial officers that provides daily-refreshed dashboards on invoice volumes, processing times, aged invoices, budget activity, and advance and recoupment trends. In parallel, MOCS has launched a new Vendor Reporting module in PASSPort, which gives vendors and agencies access to standardized reports on invoices, contract budgets, advances and recoupments, and solicitation activity, with additional reports under development.

To complement these internal and vendor-facing system improvements, MOCS also operates PASSPort Public and PASSPort Navigator, which provides public access to procurement information across multiple stages of the contracting lifecycle. PASSPort Public offers searchable records, data visualizations, and downloadable datasets that allow the public, vendors, and oversight entities to better understand City procurement activity.

MOCS supports the objective of improving transparency and accessibility in procurement. At the same time, much of the information contemplated by this bill is already publicly available through PASSPort Public, Checkbook NYC, and existing agency disclosures, or is being actively delivered through new reporting tools and system enhancements.

We welcome continued dialogue with the Council on how best to further strengthen procurement transparency. Any new public-facing interface should be aligned with existing PASSPort functionality, current data governance standards, and ongoing modernization efforts. It is also important to preserve the flexibility needed for agile software development, so that the City can continue to iterate and improve systems without being constrained by inflexible or overly detailed legal requirements.

## **Conclusion**

MOCS appreciates the Council's focus on procurement transparency, accountability, and vendor equity. We share these goals and remain committed to advancing a procurement system that is fair, efficient, and responsive to the needs of New Yorkers.

At the same time, we believe it is essential that any new legislative mandates be grounded in operational realities, aligned with existing systems, and structured to preserve the City's ability to deliver critical services—particularly in emergency contexts.

We look forward to continuing to work collaboratively with the Committee on Contracts as these bills move forward and welcome further dialogue.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify. I am happy to answer any questions.



January 27, 2026

Testimony of Louisa Chafee, Director  
On behalf of New York City Independent Budget Office  
Submitted to the City Council Committee on Contracts

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I am Louisa Chafee, Director of the New York City Independent Budget Office (IBO), and I submit this written testimony in connection with the invitation from the Contracts Committee to participate in today's hearing. As you know, IBO is a nonpartisan, independent government agency mandated by the New York City Charter. IBO's mission is to enhance public understanding of New York City's budget, public policy, and economy through independent analysis.

In response to the Committee's invitation, IBO will address the three Local Law introductions under consideration at today's hearing:

- Intro. 2026-156, concerning a public procurement interface;
- Intro. 2026-163, concerning emergency procurement; and
- Intro. 2026-164, concerning subcontractor information.

### **Public Procurement Interface**

IBO was created when our City's voters adopted the proposals put forth by the 1989 Charter Revision Commission, and was a key component of a new commitment under that Charter to enhance access to information and transparency. The Charter guarantees IBO full access to virtually all data maintained by the City, so that IBO can both analyze that information and organize it for presentation, with the goal of enhancing understanding and empowering decision-makers and their constituents.

The City spends over \$40 billion each year through contracts. Fiscal responsibility requires the City to be vigilant in overseeing its contract process, to ensure that New Yorkers get real value, that the process is fair to the vendors who do business with the City, and that the public has full transparency into the process. IBO has recently worked with the Mayor's Office of Contract Services (MOCS) to obtain broader access to the underlying data stored in the MOCS PASSPort system, and is now in the process of beginning to analyze that data to look at such questions as timeliness of payments. MOCS describes PASSPort as an end-to-end workflow system for procurement and states that the goal of the PASSPort Public website is to provide "public access to data and analytics, while promoting transparency and a deeper understanding of NYC's procurement activities."



IBO – like many of you – has heard from many representatives of both City agencies and their vendors about their frustrations with the PASSPort system. IBO has also found that PASSPort Public, as now configured, falls short of providing real transparency into the workings of City procurement. Thus, while IBO does not have a position concerning the specific provisions of Intro. 156, IBO shares the goal of improving meaningful, real-time access to detailed information concerning the City's contracts, both those that have been implemented and those that are moving through (or somehow stuck in) the procurement process. IBO stands ready to assist the Council in achieving those goals.

### **Emergency Contracting**

IBO has been on the record since June 2024 in support of additional guardrails around the extended use of emergency contracts and has testified before three different Charter Revision Commissions on this point. As you know, emergency contracts are typically structured in very open-ended ways, resulting in high expenses. As became evident during the frenzy of emergency contracts for provision of services to asylum seekers, the extended use of emergency contracts – including some that were actually procured in response to completely unrelated emergencies – can result in both excessively high costs and in service delivery approaches fall short of meeting real programmatic needs.

IBO has previously testified that the Mayor and the Comptroller should be required to renew their joint decision to use emergency procurement every two years after original registration date. Intro. 163 would impose a shorter time frame. IBO has some concerns as to the potential unintended consequences of a time frame that is so short that it might not afford sufficient time for decisions in the face of truly unanticipated, catastrophic events. IBO is available to work with the Council, as well as the Comptroller and the Administration, to identify workable parameters for reform in this area.

### **Conclusion**

IBO has not previously examined the City's subcontracting data in any detail. As the Council is no doubt aware, the relevant data fields in the City's Financial Management System (FMS) tend to be incomplete and/or inaccurate in tracking this area. IBO welcomes further dialogue with the Council and other stakeholders concerning this topic, but takes no position at this time concerning Intro. 164.

IBO welcomes further dialogue with the Council on all of these topics. Thank you.



## Testimony to the New York City Council Committee on Contracts

January 27, 2026

Good afternoon Chair Restler and members of the Council Committee on Contracts. My name is Alex Camarda, and I am a Senior Policy Advisor for Reinvent Albany. Reinvent Albany is a watchdog organization that advocates for open and accountable government in New York.

Reinvent Albany supports all three bills before the Council today, with some recommendations to strengthen them. We also have one new proposal for your consideration.

There are multiple ongoing investigations into the Adams administration for its [\\$432 million emergency contract with DocGo](#) providing temporary housing for asylees, its payments to hotel operators, and several other contracts. It's possible that even more will come to light as time passes. We are glad to see the Council moving quickly to embrace its oversight role and move legislation to ensure transparency of contracts.

### 1. [Int. No. 156 \(Won\)](#) – Public Procurement Interface

We support Councilmember Julie Won's [Int. No. 156](#) that appears to take the long-overdue step of establishing the City's [PASSPort Public web portal](#) in law by requiring disclosure of contract-related information in "public procurement interfaces." PASSPort Public is the natural place to put this information as it already provides much useful information. Establishing PASSPort Public in the Charter will help ensure continued transparency. Yet there are several gaps in disclosure, and there is always the risk that the portal could be taken down since it is not codified.

While we support the legislation, we think Int. No 156 could be improved through the following amendments:

#### a. **Require that the portal publish contracts.**

The NYC Charter [already requires](#) that the City publish contracts available to the public, though PASSPort does not seem to include any contracts. As far as we can tell, published city contracts are scattered throughout [NYC.gov](#), such as through the [Office of Labor Relations](#) and the [Department of Design and Construction](#). The bill should add this

requirement and the Council should find out why contracts aren't being made more widely available.

**b. Require the city's "caution list" of vendors to be published and archived.**

Currently, this list is only available by Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) request. Reinvent Albany has received this list via FOIL and [per the OpenRecords portal](#). It is a commonly requested item – our search found 11 requests in 2025 alone for the caution list, and 89 requests since 2017 from the Mayor's Office of Contract Services. The list includes debarred entities and those found to be non-responsible by the City. The federal government publishes a database of debarred and/or non-responsible entities (called "exclusions") that is accessible within their System for Award Management (SAM) website. SAM provides datasets of current and past "exclusions" for [public download](#) that are updated twice annually, and an archive of lists from 2015 to present is available on the website with no sign-in required.

**c. Require that the portal be machine-readable and downloadable.**

Under this bill, the law will only require the portal being published and nothing more. The public will be able to better analyze the data if the Council mandates making the portal accessible for analysis by the public. We recommend making the data available in a machine-readable tabular format by adding the following definition:

*"Tabular format" shall mean a systematic organization of data into rows and columns for easy interpretation, including but not limited to a spreadsheet or csv file.*

And the following requirement:

*Data shall be published in machine-readable tabular format in a manner that permits quantitative analysis. The data shall be available for bulk download in tabular format, as defined in subdivision one of section four hundred thirty-three-b of this chapter.*

**d. The Chief Procurement Officer should examine existing portals and disclosure requirements before designing the public procurement interfaces.**

Section 1(c) should charge the City Chief Procurement Officer with reviewing PASSPort Public, the City Record, City agency procurement plans that forecast anticipated contracting for the next fiscal year (Local Laws 1 of 2013 and 63 of 2011), FISA (6-116.2.a of the Administrative Code), and section 6-131 of the Administrative Code. Some of the requested information in the bill is or should be in these existing sites, documents and systems, and the Chief Procurement Officer should try to organize and

integrate this information in the publicly facing interfaces. Without a strong mandate, government agencies often do the bare minimum when it comes to portal design, and more specific requirements would go a long way toward ensuring the portal is useful to the public.

**e. Require NYC’s Chief Procurement Officer to conduct a beta test of the portal disclosing the information in the bill with interested stakeholders to provide feedback.** After the Chief Procurement Officer has conducted a review of existing portals, systems and requirements, and disclosed contract information in PASSPort Public or other public interfaces, it should review its design with interested stakeholders before making the site public.

**2. [Int. No. 163 \(Menin\)](#) – Require joint approval of extension of emergency contracts**

This bill would require that the Corporation Counsel and City Comptroller must both approve the extension of an emergency contract after 30 days.

Reinvent Albany supports this bill and believes it would create better oversight of emergency contracts, a common way for executives to get around the law and curtail Comptroller review. We detailed in our October 2022 report, “[Empire State of Emergency](#),” how state governors use states of emergency to evade Comptroller review. Emergency contracts have been abused by past mayoral administrations as well.

We believe the bill would be stronger if it required that the Administration notify the public within 15 days of renewal of an emergency contract, rather than “as is practicable” in the bill. We propose adding a section 1-a to the bill that amends section 325 of Chapter 13 of the NYC Charter to require notice to the public via the City Record (deletion and additions by Reinvent Albany):

*d. The notice required by subparagraph a of paragraph three of subdivision a of this section shall not apply to contracts awarded on an emergency basis pursuant to section three hundred fifteen, provided that the agency shall, ~~as soon as is practicable~~, within 15 days publish notice that such a contract or renewal of a contract has been entered into, pursuant to rules of the procurement policy board, nor shall such notice requirements apply where the notice would disclose litigation strategy or otherwise impair the conduct of litigation by the city.*

**3. [Int. No. 164 \(Menin\)](#) – Maintain information on subcontractors and penalties for providing false information in contracting**

We support increasing the range of penalties to \$1,000-\$100,000 from \$100-\$1,000 for making false statements related to contracting. This will provide a stronger deterrent and greater consequences for misleading government.

We also generally support contractors providing more information on subcontractors to the government. This bill appears to require more detailed subcontractor information be included in the Financial Information Services Agency (FISA) database. Much of this information appears to be reported for another contracts database in the same section of law which may ease providing it in the FISA database.

The bill should also provide titles for unnamed sections of law 6-109, 6-111.1, 6-125, 6-128, and 6-144 of the Contracts and Purchases Chapter as it does for 6-116.2. This will help the public and others researching the law.

#### **4. Introduce new legislation placing doing-business campaign contribution limits on companies receiving emergency contracts**

The existing doing-business restrictions limiting campaign contributions exempt companies receiving emergency contracts (see section 18(a) of 3-702 of Chapter 7 of the City's Administrative Code and [the Campaign Finance Board's website interpreting the statute](#)).

This is a loophole in city law. The Council could address this by introducing legislation that removes this exemption from the definition of "business dealings with the city." It is also notable that companies winning contracts that are competitively bid are also not subject to lower campaign contribution limits under the City's doing business restrictions.

Thank you. We welcome any questions you may have.

**Testimony for New York City Council Committee on Contracts**  
**Lincoln Restler, Chair Tuesday, January 27, 2026**  
**by Paula Magnus**  
**Deputy Director of Northside Center for Child Development, Inc.**

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Good afternoon, Chairperson Restler & Committee.

My name is Paula Magnus, Deputy Director of Northside Center for Child Development, Inc.

For 80 years, Northside has provided high-quality mental health and educational services to New York City's most vulnerable children and families. Today, we serve more than 1,000 children daily across Manhattan, the Bronx, and Brooklyn through school-based mental health clinics, early childhood programs, and therapeutic services. We applaud Speaker Menin and Council Member Won for addressing inefficiencies in the City's procurement system, because delays in contracting and registration have direct, real-world consequences for the children and families we serve.

**The Chronic Underfunding Problem:** Chronic Underfunding and Its Connection to Procurement: While we strongly support reforms to prevent abuse of emergency contracting, we urge the Council to address a closely related structural issue: chronic underfunding, combined with procurement delays, forces providers like Northside to operate in a constant state of fiscal instability. Our operational reality includes:

- Serving more than 1,000 children daily through our main mental health clinic, 23 school-based mental health clinics, Head Start programs, and therapeutic services
- Operating contracts that consistently fail to cover the true cost of services
- Waiting months—sometimes over a year—for contract registration and payment
- Using reserves to cover payroll and operational gaps created by delayed payments
- Competing for limited funding while demand for children's mental health services has surged significantly since the pandemic

**How Procurement Delays Compound Underfunding:** The 30-day emergency contract limit proposed in the Speaker's bill is an excellent and important accountability measure. However, without reforms to the standard procurement and registration process, providers remain stuck in limbo. When contracts take eight to twelve months—or longer—to register,

and organizations must front services with no certainty of reimbursement, providers are forced into untenable choices:

- Do we reduce staff during payment delays?
- Do we turn away children in crisis?
- Do we repeatedly deplete reserves meant for innovation and long-term sustainability, undermining our financial stability?

**Transparency Recommendation:** We strongly support Council Member Won’s bill requiring a searchable, publicly accessible procurement interface. To make transparency truly meaningful for providers and the public, we believe this initiative should include:

- **Timelines:** How long each procurement stage actually takes
- **Cost data:** True administrative costs versus what's allocated
- **Provider impact:** How many organizations are waiting, for how long, and for how much

**Call to Action:** As the Council reforms emergency procurement, we respectfully urge you—working in coordination with the Mayor’s Office of Contract Services and relevant agencies—to also examine:

1. **Rate adequacy:** Are contracts actually funded at levels that cover service delivery costs?
2. **Registration timelines:** Can we streamline the process so critical children's services aren't delayed?
3. **Multi-year funding:** Can we establish multi-year contracts instead of the year-after-year cycle of time-consuming annual contract renewals?

The children served through City social service contracts—many coping with trauma, developmental delays, and serious emotional challenges—cannot wait for bureaucratic processes to catch up. We thank you for your leadership on procurement reform and welcome the opportunity to work with the Council on solutions that balance accountability with the urgent needs of New York City’s most vulnerable children and families.

Important to note working with Michael Sedillo the Executive Director for the Non-Profit Department of the City has been a breath of fresh air.....hire more staff like him.



**CITIZENS UNION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK**  
**Testimony before the City Council Committee on Contracts**  
**250 Broadway – January 27, 2026**  
**Procurement Reforms**

**Bills:**

- [T2026-0163](#) Approval for emergency procurements and submission of contracts for audit (Menin)
- [T2026-0164](#) Maintaining information on subcontractors and penalties for providing false information in contracting (Menin)
- [T2026-0156](#) A public procurement interface (Won)

Good afternoon, Speaker Menin, Chair Restler, and members of the Committee. My name is Ben Weinberg, and I am the Director of Public Policy for Citizens Union, a nonpartisan good government group working to ensure work to ensure honest and accountable government, fair and open elections, and a civically engaged public in New York City and State. I first want to congratulate this committee on its first hearing of the term, and thank Chair Restler for dedicating it to such an important topic.

This hearing comes at a critical moment for New York City government. The outgoing mayoral administration left behind a legacy tarnished by corruption scandals, weakened accountability, and eroded public trust. Restoring integrity to City Hall and to city government must be a top priority for both the new mayor and this City Council, which is why we appreciate Speaker Menin’s recognition, [in a recent interview](#), that the Council will look back at what happened over the past years and strengthen oversight mechanisms in response to those failures.

The three bills before the Council today represent an important step forward in that effort. They address two significant weaknesses that were exposed under the last administration: the use of emergency contracts and the overuse of subcontracting.

Emergency contracting authority and subcontracting are necessary tools to preserve the City’s ability to act quickly and to deliver programs effectively. But these areas are also riddled with gaps and insufficient enforcement that invite misuse of public funds, conflicts of interest, and, in some cases, outright corruption. These concerns are well documented in past reports by the [City Comptroller](#) and the [Department of Investigation](#), which have repeatedly [warned](#) about the lack of transparency and accountability in these spaces.

We thank Speaker Menin and Council Member Won for introducing these bills and for advancing reforms that would bring greater scrutiny, reporting, and oversight to emergency procurement and subcontracting practices. We look forward to seeing these measures move forward and strengthened where necessary to ensure they meaningfully address the risks that have come to light.

And there is more the Council can do as it reflects on the lessons of the last several years, and examines structural weaknesses that demand serious legislative attention.

One such area is conflicts of interest and cronyism in appointments. These problems have been enabled by insufficient ethical safeguards for incoming officials and by opaque, and in some cases secret, guidance from the Conflicts of Interest Board. New Yorkers deserve clear, transparent, and enforceable ethics rules that apply from day one of the official's service and that are not subject to behind-closed-doors interpretations.

Another area demanding scrutiny is the largely unregulated lobbying landscape in New York City. Insiders are able to evade contribution limits through bundling, trade campaign consulting services for lobbying access, and benefit from lax enforcement by the City Clerk's office. This environment undermines faith in government decision-making and reinforces the perception that access and influence are reserved for those with insider connections.

Many of these weaknesses have legislative solutions that have been proposed by council members, and we look forward to seeing them advanced.

Looking back at the last few years must also include protecting the City's oversight agencies from budget cuts and erosion of capacity. Independent watchdogs cannot fulfill their mission if they are underfunded, understaffed, or politically constrained. Ensuring stable funding and institutional independence for these agencies is essential to preventing future misconduct and restoring accountability. It also means establishing, for the first time, a mechanism to remove a mayor for serious misconduct, so that New Yorkers have crucial tool to hold the nation's most powerful mayor accountable. These two proposals were put forward by the Charter Revision Commission established by this Council. We encourage the Council to prioritize those proposals.

In closing, today's bills represent a meaningful and necessary response to real failures that have damaged public trust. They should be viewed as part of a larger project: learning from what went wrong, strengthening oversight, and rebuilding integrity across city government. We thank the Council for taking these issues seriously and for continuing the work of reform.

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 1/27/26

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: [Handwritten Signature]

Address: 125 Greenway

I represent: [Handwritten Signature]

Address: 2 NEW YORK, NY 10021

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

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in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

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Name: Alex Camarde

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: Reinvent Albany

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Ben Weinberg

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: Citizens Union

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Paula Magnus (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: Northside Center

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 11/27/26

Name: Charles Diamond (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 110 Horatio Street, NY NY 10014

I represent: Personal Capacity

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

**THE COUNCIL  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

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I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. \_\_\_\_\_ Res. No. \_\_\_\_\_

in favor  in opposition

Date: 11/27/26

Name: Christopher Johnson (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

I represent: SP11

Address: \_\_\_\_\_