

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON SANITATION AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

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April 28, 2011
Start: 10:43am
Recess: 10:49am

HELD AT: Council Chambers
City Hall

B E F O R E:
LETITIA JAMES
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Council Member Maria Del Carmen Arroyo
Council Member Robert Jackson
Council Member Michael C. Nelson

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

N/A

[background noise]

CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Good afternoon, everyone, and welcome to the hearing of the Committee--oh, good morning--on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management, I am Chair of the Committee, Council Member Letitia James. I've been joined to my far right by Council Member Jackson; to my immediate right, Council Member Maria Carmen Del Arroyo; and--and Council Member Sara Gonzalez all the way to my left, who's not there in, in physical form, but her spirit is there. [laughs] Today we will vote out of Committee Proposed Intro 287-A. This bill strikes a balance that will improve quality of life while preserving street cleanliness for many New Yorkers. It will allow local communities, as represented by their community boards, to determine the appropriate relationship between alternative side parking and street cleaning. I encourage my, my colleagues to vote yes, and I thank obviously the staff, Jarret Hova, who is fabulous; Daniel Avery, the Senior Policy Analyst; Kate Seely-Kirk, Senior Legislative Financial Analyst; and Nicole Kolinsky. I also want to

1
2 congratulate the community boards of, that I
3 represent, Community Boards 2, 3, 8 and 9, that
4 are all eligible to reduce their alternate side of
5 the street parking. Clerk, please call the roll.

6 CLERK: Kevin Pin, Committee Clerk.
7 Roll call on the Committee on Sanitation and Solid
8 Waste Management, Proposed Intro 287-A. Council
9 Member James.

10 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: I vote yes.

11 CLERK: Jackson.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye.

13 CLERK: Arroyo.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Daniel's
15 also fabulous. Aye.

16 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: [laughs]

17 CLERK: By a vote of three in the
18 affirmative, zero in the negative and no
19 abstentions, the item has been adopted. Members
20 please sing the Committee report.

21 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: So Council
22 Member Gonza--should be, we, should be joining us
23 back soon, and she wanted to give some comments, I
24 believe that she is the cosponsor of this
25 legislation. And I, and you are absolutely right,

1 Daniel is absolutely fabulous and courageous and
2 tall. [laughter]

3 [pause]

4 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And here is
5 Council Member Gonzales, hailing from the great
6 Borough of Brooklyn. And who I believe wants to
7 say a few--

8 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALES: [off mic]
9 Just to say that I didn't say on.

10 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And Council
11 Member Maria Carmen Del Arroyo did not say--

12 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

13 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: And here comes
14 Council Member [laughter] Mike Nelson from the
15 great Borough of Brooklyn. But before we get a
16 vote from Council Member Nelson, we're going to
17 hear from the cosponsor, Council Member Sara
18 Gonzalez.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Thank
20 you, Chair.

21 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: [laughs]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Good
23 morning. My name is Council Member Sara M.
24 Gonzales, and with Council Member Lander, my
25

1
2 colleague and I, we both teamed up on this bill.
3 When enacted will reduce alternate side parking to
4 two days if sanitation districts achieve a 90
5 percent cleanliness rating. I am aware that the
6 Uniform Sanitation Workers Union has concerns.
7 And I have spoken to Sanitation Union President
8 Harry Nespoli personally to address his concerns
9 and their concerns. Furthermore, I have expressed
10 support for my Sanitation brothers and sisters,
11 and I have indicated and said to them that we can
12 work with them, as well as Department of
13 Sanitation, the Commissioner, Administration, so
14 that hopefully they can look to expand garbage
15 pickup on routes along new and growing commercial
16 corridors, as well as utilize workers to augment
17 graffiti cleaning. Through this joint effort,
18 many community boards across the City, including
19 my own--Sunset Park, Board 7; and Red Hook, Board
20 6--will be able to reduce their alternative side
21 parking. I just want to say that not only that
22 parents come home, and they're driving around for
23 hours and hours, trying to get home, it takes
24 sometimes two hours to park your car. You have
25 children to attend to in the mornings and the

1
2 afternoons. It produces a lot of idle cars, which
3 means cars idling would mean emissions and
4 environmental problems. So I think this is a
5 quality of life issue, as well. And of course,
6 dealing with the idea that if a district is clean,
7 and the community board works with it, they can
8 also just have two days. And I think it's a
9 wonderful thing moving forward. I'm very glad,
10 and I urge my colleagues to vote yes. Thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Councilman
12 Nelson.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: Yes, may I
14 be excused to explain my vote. I think this is a
15 terrific legislation. For too many years, people
16 have had to move their cars, causing great
17 inconvenience besides, and only to see no,
18 perhaps, no street cleaning mechanism going down
19 the street. Which is quite ironic. So, by doing
20 this, I think we're getting realistic, and it's,
21 it's less of a "gotcha" type of a ticket system.
22 So I think it's very good for the people of the
23 City of New York. I congratulate Sara and my, and
24 my other colleagues for pushing this forward. I
25 vote aye.

1
2 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you. Mr.
3 Clerk? Has the vote been amended? Or is it still
4 the same?

5 CLERK: The vote stands at four in
6 the affirmative, zero in the negative, no
7 abstentions.

8 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Thank you.
9 We're going to continue to hold the roll open and
10 we are--No? We close. That adjourns this--

11 MALE VOICE: [off mic] Adjourned.

12 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Okay.
13 Committee adjourned. Thank you. There's, isn't
14 there someone else?

15 MALE VOICE: Gennaro.

16 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Gennaro. We
17 can't hold it open for Council Member Gennaro?
18 So, please--he's not coming?

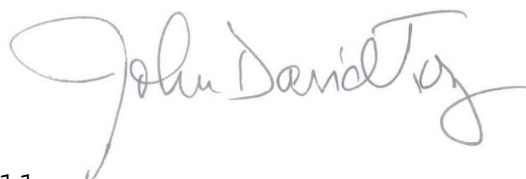
19 MALE VOICE: - - he's not coming.

20 CHAIRPERSON JAMES: Okay, so let's
21 close the roll. And this hearing is adjourned.
22

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, JOHN DAVID TONG 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

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John David Tong". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned to the right of the printed word "Signature".

Date May 11. 2011