

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON RECOVERY AND RESILIENCY

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July 23, 2015
Start: 10:34 a.m.
Recess: 10:56 a.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E:
MARK TREYGER
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Rosie Mendez
Margaret S. Chin
Donovan J. Richards
Carlos Menchaca
Eric A. Ulrich
Steven Matteo

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

2 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: Good morning. We
3 are convened today for a second hearing and vote on
4 Proposed Int. 425-A. This bill, of which I am the
5 prime sponsor, has received the support of a super
6 majority of council members, but is also a product of
7 the stories and advocacy of the members of this
8 committee as well as members of the public that we
9 have heard from in recent years. The Council has
10 previously created plans for food resiliency and fuel
11 distribution after emergency events; now we are
12 addressing a third critical area -- communications.

13 During Hurricane Sandy, when there was an
14 emergency situation, we were told to call 911; others
15 of us were worried about loved ones, so we tried to
16 use our cell phones or our landlines; still, others
17 just wanted basic information on the storm, yet when
18 the power went out and when fallen trees and
19 corrosive salt water damaged wires, our
20 telecommunications went out too; we saw then how
21 vital a resilient telecommunications infrastructure
22 is and that lesson has not been forgotten. With this
23 bill we will ensure that as the climate changes we
24 will also have the information needed on how best to
25 adapt our telecommunications infrastructure.

2 Int. 425-A will require the New York City
3 Climate Change Adaptation Task Force to evaluate the
4 potential impact of climate change on the city's
5 telecommunications infrastructure. To assist the
6 task force in doing so, the Department of
7 Information, Technology and Telecommunications and
8 representatives from the telecommunications industry
9 will be included as members of the task force.
10 Further, outreach will be conducted to
11 telecommunication service providers, including all
12 those with a franchise agreement with the City to
13 request their cooperation in obtaining needed
14 information, and might I add, that I believe that
15 telecommunications companies with franchise
16 agreements who use public land for their equipment
17 have an obligation to brief this Council on the steps
18 they are taking to protect communications
19 infrastructure so we could reach our loved ones
20 during critical emergencies; I believe this is of the
21 utmost importance. Finally, the task force's report
22 will now be required to include short and long-term
23 recommendations for improving the resiliency of
24 existing public and private telecommunications
25 infrastructure.

2 I wanna thank my fellow committee members
3 for their support on this legislation, I would like
4 to also thank our staff here, Counsel Brad Reid,
5 Laura Popa, Matt Gewolb, Jeff Baker and Ed Atkin, our
6 Policy Analyst Bill Murray, our Finance Analyst
7 Jonathan Seltzer and Ethan, my Legislative Director
8 for all their efforts to advance this bill.

9 I just wanna recognize we've been joined
10 by Council Members Donovan Richards, Minority Leader,
11 Council Member Steve Matteo, Council Member Rosie
12 Mendez, and again, this committee is made up of
13 individuals who have worked tirelessly on behalf of
14 their districts who were heavily impacted by Sandy
15 and we're approaching three years and we're still on
16 the ground working very hard to get our neighborhoods
17 back up and running, but certainly this committee and
18 all these members and their staffs have done
19 outstanding work with regards to any recovery, so I
20 thank them for their leadership and for their
21 support. And with that I will now ask the clerk to
22 call the roll and final roll for this bill. Thank
23 you.

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: William Martin,
3 Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on Recovery
4 and Resiliency, Int. 425-A. Chair Treyger.

5 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: I vote aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Mendez.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: I vote aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Richards.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Congratulations
10 again, Chairman. I vote aye.

11 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: Thank you again.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Yes again.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 4 in the
15 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
16 the item has been adopted.

17 CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: Okay, I'll hold the
18 vote -- thank you to my colleagues -- I'll hold the
19 vote open for another... till 11 a.m.; some members are
20 on their way, and I thank my colleagues, so we'll be
21 here until 11 a.m.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Chin.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: I vote aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Vote on Int. 425-A is
25 now 5 in the affirmative.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Ulrich.

COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote in the
Committee on Recovery and Resiliency -- 6 in the
affirmative, 0 in the negative; no abstentions.

CHAIRPERSON TREYGER: This hearing 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 July 27, 2015