

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, RESILIENCY

AND WATERFRONTS 1

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION, RESILIENCY AND
WATERFRONTS

----- X

October 19, 2023
Start: 11:39 a.m.
Recess: 11:43 a.m.

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: James F. Gennaro, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Jennifer Gutiérrez
Robert F. Holden
Julie Menin
Sandy Nurse
Lincoln Restler

1 COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, RESILIENCY
AND WATERFRONTS 2

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Sound check for the
3 Committee on Environmental Protection. Today's date
4 is October 19, 2023. Being recorded by Danny Huang
5 (phonetic) in the Committee Room.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Welcome to today's New
7 York City Council hearing on the Committee for
8 Environmental Protection, Resiliency and Waterfronts.

9 Please silence all cell phones and
10 electronic devices.

11 Chair, we're ready to begin.

12 CHAIRPERSON GENNARO: Thank you, Sergeant.
13 [GAVEL] Good morning. I am Jim Gennaro, Chair of the
14 Committee on Environmental Protection, Resiliency and
15 Waterfronts.

16 Today, we'll be voting on Proposed Intro.
17 102-A sponsored by Council Member Brannan which would
18 require the Department of Environmental Protection to
19 include information about the location of green roofs
20 in an online map published by the Department. It
21 would also require the Department to include certain
22 information about each green roof including the type
23 of building it is located, the area of the roof and
24 the area covered by the green roof system, the
25 capacity of the green roof to absorb water, and other

1 function or functions of the green roof. We first
2 considered this bill on February 3, 2023.

3
4 Green roofs are an important tool in our
5 City's effort to increase climate resiliency. They
6 cool ambient temperatures which protects New Yorkers
7 from severe heat brought by climate change. Green
8 roofs also prevent contaminants from entering our
9 City's waterways by reducing the volume of combined
10 sewer overflows or CSOs. Every year, CSOs cause more
11 than 20 billion dollars of raw sewage and stormwater
12 runoff to enter the City's waterways. I will mention
13 that there's been probably like a 90 percent decrease
14 in CSO runoff in the last decade or so so great
15 strides have been made, we can always do better, 20
16 billion gallons is a lot of water, a lot of sewage.
17 Green roofs reduce the volume of CSOs by storing
18 rainfall which increases the effective capacity of
19 the City's wastewater infrastructure. A comprehensive
20 online map of green roof systems as required by this
21 bill could help the City conducted targeted outreach
22 to buildings that lack a green roof but may be a good
23 candidate for one, thus helping build a more
24 resilient city. That was the key paragraph right
25 there. That was the good one.

I would like to thank the terrific
Committee Staff who have done such great work over
the years, Committee Counsels Samara Swanston and
Claire MacLachlan, Policy Analysts Ricky Chawla and
Andrew Bourne, Financial Analyst Andrew Lane-Lawless,
and finally my great Legislative Director Nabjot Kaur
for all their hard work.

Let me recognize the Members who are here
with us. We have Council Member Holden, Council
Member Menin, Council Member Gutiérrez, Council
Member Nurse, Council Member Restler.

With that, no one wishing to make a
statement, the sponsor is not here, I ask the Clerk
to call the roll. The Chair encourages a yes vote on
this bill.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk.
Roll call vote Committee on Environmental Protection,
Resiliency and Waterfronts. Proposed Introduction
102-A. Chair Gennaro.

CHAIRPERSON GENNARO: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Holden.

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

Gutiérrez.

COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanks.

Menin.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Nurse.

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Restler.

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a
vote of six in the affirmative, zero in the negative,
and no abstentions, item has been adopted by the
Committee.

CHAIRPERSON GENNARO: Thank you, Billy.

Once again, I want to apologize to my Colleagues for
being delayed and messing up your day. That's on the
record now so I apologize on the record. Thank you.

With that, this hearing, with all my
apologies on the record, is 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 October 25, 2023