

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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March 9, 2009  
Start: 11:26am  
Recess: 11:33am

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E:  
MELINDA KATZ  
Chairperson

- COUNCIL MEMBERS:
- Council member Arroyo
  - Council member Avella
  - Council member Baez
  - Council member Comrie
  - Council member Dickens
  - Council member Garodnick
  - Council member Gioia
  - Council member Gonzalez
  - Council member Ignizio
  - Council member Jackson
  - Council member Katz
  - Council member Lappin
  - Council member Liu
  - Council member Mendez
  - Council member Oddo
  - Council member Seabrook
  - Council member Sears
  - Council member Vann

CHAIRPERSON KATZ: I'm going to try to go through the agenda quick. Councilman Comrie was kind enough to just walk into the room, so that I would have a quorum, and then he can go back and we can bring the other Finance folks in one by one. So, I'm going to go through it quick if I can. So that we can vote and get back to the business of the day. Are you--I meant the Finance Business. LU #931, is 1157 Fulton Avenue, it is in Council member Foster's district. It is a ULURP UDAP. LU #982 is in Council member Quinn's district. It is the Puerto Rican traveling theater company, and it is the disposition of property. LU #s 991 and 992 are related, they're the special Forest Hills district. It is an amendment to the zoning map, and an amendment to the zoning tax text. The amendment to the application is the height restriction of 150 feet, will now be 120 feet. And for the record there is a letter in the record that indicates that the grocery store, Key Food, that is on Yellowstone Boulevard and Queens Boulevard, will remain a grocery store of 15,000 square feet. LU #s 1000, 1002 and 1006 are related, Battery Maritime

1 Building. It is an amendment to the zoning map in  
2 Council member Gerson's district, as disposition  
3 and an authorization. Yeah, and authorization is  
4 to facilitate the redevelopment of Battery  
5 Maritime. LU #1001 is an amendment to the zoning  
6 map to preserve the build's character. It is  
7 Council member De Blasio's district. LU #s 1003  
8 and 1005 are both--hold on. That's the same--Oh,  
9 no, this is--363-365 Bond Street's a special  
10 permit and an amendment to the zoning map. And LU  
11 #1005 is an amendment to the zoning text. The  
12 landmarking of St. Nicholas of Myra Orthodox  
13 Church is in Council member Mendez's district.  
14 Landmarking of the Society House of the ASCE is in  
15 Council member Quinn's district. Council member  
16 Gennaro's district is the surrender of HHC  
17 Property at Queen's Hospital. LU #984 is Council  
18 member Arroyo's district. LU #984 it's a UDAP.  
19 Any discussion? Could you call on Council member  
20 Comrie since he was kind enough to come in here to  
21 make a quorum?

23 CLERK: William Martin, Committee  
24 Clerk roll call on the Committee on Land Use.  
25 Council member Comrie.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye on all.

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CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Thank you.

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CLERK: Katz.

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CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Avella.

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COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Madam Chair

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may I have just a moment to explain my votes? I

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vote yes on all items except on the Battery

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Maritime Building and the Toll Brothers' projects,

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those related items I vote no. Just quickly, with

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the Battery Maritime Building, while it's a good

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project, I think it could be better. Basically

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we're sticking a 3-4 story hotel on top of a New

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York City landmark, and I just think we could've

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done a better job of making sure that the hotel

17

fit in with the context of the landmark building.

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I think the two of them are two different styles,

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and it really is, when it comes down to it, a

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monstrosity in terms of architecture. In terms of

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the Bond Street application, I agree with the

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community--Can I have some--I agree with the

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community that this project should've been held

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off until the rezoning for the Guanias Canal moved

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ahead, which is only a few months away from going

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2 through the EULA process. And also there is an  
3 issue with height, there is an issue with the  
4 affordable housing component, whether or not it's  
5 actually going to be built. And that was the  
6 commitment, that was the reason why the community  
7 board voted for the project. So for those two  
8 reas--for those reasons, I vote against those two  
9 projects.

10 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: And on  
11 everything else?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: I said yes,  
13 I vote yes on everything else.

14 CLERK: Baez.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BAEZ: Aye.

16 CLERK: Gioia. [pause] Seabrook.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: Aye.

18 CLERK: Sears.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Aye.

20 CLERK: Gonzalez.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

22 CLERK: Arroyo.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

24 CLERK: Dickens.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

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CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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CLERK: Lappin. Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

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CLERK: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

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CLERK: By a vote of 13 in the

11

affirmative, zero in the negative and no

12

abstentions, all items have been adopted, with the

13

exceptions of LUs #1000, 1002, 1006, and items

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related to Bond Street--

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FEMALE VOICE: - -

16

CLERK: --preconsidered land use

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item 1003 and 1005, are adopted by a vote of

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twelve in the affirmative, one in the negative,

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and no abstentions. Council members please sign

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all committee reports. Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON KATZ: We're going to

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leave the vote open for about ten minutes, so that

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the folks that are next door can come in and vote.

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Council member Vann, how would you vote? Final.

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Thank you.

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CLERK: Council member Jackson.

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COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I vote aye

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on all.

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CLERK: [pause] - - Council member

6

Liu.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LIU: Yes.

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CLERK: Council member Oddo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

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CLERK: [long pause] Council

11

member Gioia.

12

COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: Thank you, I

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vote yes.

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CLERK: [pause] Final vote on the

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Committee on Land Use, now as stands all items are

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adopted by a vote of 18 in the affirmative, zero

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the negative, and no abstentions, with the

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exceptions of LU 1000, LU 1002, LU 1006,

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preconsidered land use item C090048ZSK, LU 1003,

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and LU 1005 are adopted by a vote of 17 in the

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affirmative, one in the negative, and no abste--no

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abstentions. All items are adopted. Thank you.

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MALE VOICE: Thank you. I would

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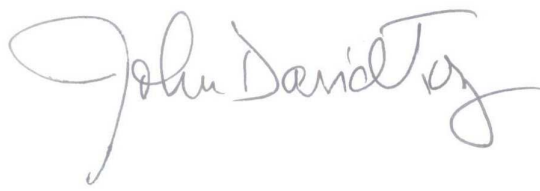
now like to adjourn this meeting of the Land Use

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Committee. [gavel]

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 \_\_\_\_\_

Date MARCH 18, 2009