

COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

1

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

----- X

April 10, 2025

Start: 12:00 p.m.

Recess: 12:02 p.m.

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Jennifer Gutiérrez, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Erik D. Bottcher

Robert F. Holden

Vickie Paladino

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Mic check, mic check, this is a mic check on Technology. Today's date is April 10, 2025, in the Committee Room, recorded by Walter Lewis.

SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and welcome to the New York City Council vote of the Committee on Technology.

At this time, can everybody please silence your cell phones.

Chair, we are ready to begin.

CHAIRPERSON GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you. [GAVEL] Good morning, I'm Council Member Jennifer Gutiérrez, Chair of the Committee on Technology. Today we'll be voting on the Supermajority Bill, Bill Intro. 978-A, sponsored by Dr. Council Member Williams, in relation to requiring the 3-1-1 Customer Service Center to provide certain resources in response to tree pruning related requests.

There are approximately seven million trees in New York City. All trees growing in the public right-of-way along streets and in parks and playgrounds are under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation. As part of their services, the Department prunes trees, removes dead

trees and wood debris, reviews building development plans for their possible effect on nearby trees and response to storms and other emergencies. The public plays a key role in helping the Department identify trees in need of maintenance by submitting service requests through the 3-1-1 system. Between 2020 and 2024, over 130,000 3-1-1 service requests for dying trees, illegal tree damage, or overgrown branches were submitted. This bill would require 3-1-1 in coordination with the Department of Parks to provide tree pruning related callers with links to the Parks Department's tree inspection map, pruning schedules, informational webpages, and any available resources on volunteer street tree pruning certification, thereby improving public access to tree maintenance, information and encouraging greater community involvement in urban tree care. This Committee heard the bill on February 19, 2025 and received and has evaluated testimonies from the Administration.

I would like to thank the Technology Committee Staff, our Policy Analyst; Eric Brown, Legislative Counsel, Irene Byhovsky; and my Chief-of-Staff, Anya Lear, for their work on this bill. I'd also like to recognize our Tech Committee Members,

1 COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

4

2 Council Members Bob Holden, Vickie Paladino, and Erik
3 Bottcher. Thank you for being here.

4 And I will now turn it over to the Clerk
5 to call the roll.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
7 you. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call vote,
8 Committee on Technology. Proposed Introduction 978-A,
9 Chair Gutiérrez.

10 CHAIRPERSON GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.
11 Congratulations, Nan.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Holden.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Great bill, long
14 overdue. I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Bottcher.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHER: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Won.
18 Paladino.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER PALADINO: I too think it's
20 a great bill. Aye.

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

25

1 COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY

5

2 CHAIRPERSON GUTIÉRREZ: Thank you.

3 Congratulations Queens, a lot of Queen support for
4 this bill. [GAVEL]

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

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 May 9, 2025