

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CONTRACTS

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December 17, 2013
Start: 1:12 p.m.
Recess: 1:17 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Hearing Room
16th Floor

B E F O R E:
Darlene Mealy
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Robert Jackson
Letitia James
Melissa Mark-Viverito
Michael C. Nelson

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

CHAIRPERSON MEALY: Good morning.

My name is Darlene Mealy. You ready? I'm the Chair of the New York City Council Committee of Contracts. Today, the Committee will be holding a vote on proposed Intro 193A, which would require city agencies to report their use of emergency procurement. I would like to recognize the other Council Members here are present today, Mike Nelson, Mark-Viverito, Robert Jackson, Letitia James. Emergency procurement--Tim Manasaw [phonetic], Sharon Mantigo [phonetic] and my staff Nora Danuse [phonetic]. Emergency procurement allows agencies to obtain goods or services quickly when agencies must respond to unforeseen dangers to life, safety, property, or provide a necessary service. Although the method is beneficial, it should be used sparingly, because emergency procurement does not follow normal contracting safeguards. With emergency contracts, agencies do not need to go through the usual competitive bidding process or provide timely public notice or comply with the host of local laws. Over a series of oversight

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2 hearings that the Committee held this year, we
3 learned that neither the Mayor's office of
4 contract services nor the office of management
5 and budget routinely reviews agency's use of
6 emergency procurement to ensure that it is
7 utilized appropriately. It appears that there
8 are no system-wide checks in place to make sure
9 that agencies use the method only when there is
10 a genuine emergency, not merely because they
11 fail to adequately plan for their contract
12 needs. Proposal Intro 193A will allow the
13 Council to take a closer look at the
14 circumstances surrounding emergency
15 procurement. This bill will give us an
16 opportunity to explore whether agencies might
17 better plan for their contract needs and avoid
18 restoring--resorting to the emergency method.
19 This bill is an important one, and I am happy
20 to co-sponsor. Do any of my colleagues have
21 any questions or comments? If not, I would
22 like the clerk to take the vote.

23 CLERK MARTIN: William Martin,
24 Committee Clerk. Role call vote Committee on
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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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Contracts, Introduction 193A. Council Member Mealy?

CHAIRPERSON MEALY: I vote aye on this great legislation.

CLERK MARTIN: Nelson?

COUNCIL MEMBER NELSON: I vote aye.

CLERK MARTIN: Jackson?

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I vote aye and request to be put on there as a signatory sponsor of this bill.

CLERK MARTIN: James?

COUNCIL MEMBER JAMES: Aye.

CLERK MARTIN: Mark-Viverito?

COUNCIL MEMBER MARK-VIVERITO: I vote aye and please add my name to--[off mic]

CLERK MARTIN: By a vote of five in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no abstentions, item is adopted. Members, please sign the Committee Reports. Thank you.

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 there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is no interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date 01/02/2014