

COMMITTEE ON FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 1
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

OF THE

COMMITTEE ON FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
VOTE*

----- X

Thursday, April 10, 2025
Start: 11:15 a.m.
Recess: 11:19 a.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: Joann Ariola, Chair

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Carmen N. De La Rosa

Oswald Feliz

James F. Gennaro

Kevin C. Riley

Lynn C. Schulman

Susan Zhuang

COMMITTEE ON FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT

[BLANK PAGE]

2 SERGEANT LEVY: Testing, testing, this is a sound
3 test for the New York City Council Committee on Fire
4 and Emergency Management – recorded in the City Hall
5 Chambers on April 10, 2025 by Sergeant Ben Levy.

6 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Good morning, good morning,
7 welcome to the New York City Council vote on the
8 Committee on Fire and Emergency Management. At this
9 time, please silence all electronic devices and do
10 not approach the dais. I repeat, do not approach the
11 dais.

12 Chair, you may begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON ARIOLA: Good morning, I am Minority
14 Leader and Chair of Fire and Emergency Management,
15 Council Member Joann Ariola. We are here today to
16 vote on Introduction 807-A, sponsored by Council
17 Member and Majority Whip Brooks-Powers.

18 Introduction 807-A would require New York City
19 Emergency Management (NYCEM) to develop guidance for
20 safe evacuation before flash flood emergencies,
21 including information on when and how to safely
22 evacuate the locations to seek refuge during these
23 emergencies. NYCEM would also disseminate localized
24 emergency preparedness materials in locations that
25 are prone to flash floods, in order to increase

2 public awareness as to the appropriate responses by
3 members of the public to flash flood risks and to
4 increase registration to Notify NYC. Such efforts
5 would involve in person outreach as well as mass
6 mailings to targeted locations selected within the
7 consideration of the history of flash flood events;
8 and the prevalence of subgrade dwellings.

9 As we have seen time and time again, we as a
10 city must be prepared for and address severe weather
11 emergencies that produce flash flooding particularly
12 in vulnerable areas. I believe that this legislation
13 works towards a better approach to the horrific
14 consequences and human toll that flash flooding can
15 yield. It has recently been reported that the New
16 York City region could face tens of thousands of
17 homes being lost to flooding in the coming years,
18 compounding the continued burdens on families and
19 homeowners as well as exacerbate our city's housing
20 crisis.

21 A study conducted by the nonprofit Regional Plan
22 Association estimates that as many as 82,000 housing
23 units in the city, Long Island, and Westchester
24 County could be lost by 2040 with a number of
25 potentially ballooning to 160,000 by 2070. It is our

responsibility to protect those who may be affected by flash flooding and provide them with a safe evacuation plan.

I want to thank the committee members who are here today to vote on this important piece of legislation, Council Member Carmen De La Rosa, Council Member Zhuang, Council Member Feliz, Council Member Schulman. I want to thank all of you for coming to vote on this piece of legislation, and I want to thank Majority Whip Brooks-Powers for putting this legislation forth.

I will now on the Clerk to call the roll for the vote on Introduction 807-A.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning, William Martin, Committee Clerk; roll call vote Committee on Fire and Emergency Management; Proposed Introduction Number 807-A.

Chair Ariola?

CHAIRPERSON ARIOLA: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Riley?

COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: (ABSENT)

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Gennaro?

COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: (ABSENT)

COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Feliz?

1 COMMITTEE ON FIRE AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT 6

2 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: Aye on all.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member De La Rosa?

4 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Schulman?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye on all.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Zhuang?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: With a vote of 5 in the
10 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and no abstentions,
11 the item has been adopted by the Committee.

12 CHAIRPERSON ARIOLA: That concludes this meeting
13 for the vote on Fire and Emergency Management.

14 [GAVEL]

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