

COMMITTEE ON CONTRACTS

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CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON CONTRACTS

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December 4, 2025  
Start: 11:20 a.m.  
Recess: 11:34 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING  
ROOM 1

B E F O R E: Julie Won, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Sandy Nurse  
Althea V. Stevens  
Inna Vernikov

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone  
3 check for the Committee on Contracts recorded on  
4 December 4th, 2025, located in Hearing Room 1 by  
5 Nazly Paytuvi.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and  
7 welcome to today's New York City Council vote for the  
8 Committee on Contracts.

9 At this time, please silence all  
10 electronic devices.

11 No one may approach the dais at any time.

12 Chair, we are ready to begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON WON: [GAVEL] Good morning,  
14 and welcome to this meeting of New York City's  
15 Council Committee on Contracts. Today is December  
16 4th, 2025. My name is Julie Won, and I have the  
17 privilege of Chairing this Committee.

18 Before we begin, I would like to  
19 recognize my fellow Committee Members, Inna Vernikov,  
20 as well as Althea Stevens.

21 At today's hearing, the Committee will  
22 consider two procurement reform measures. First,  
23 whether to recommend the override of the Mayor's Veto  
24 of Introduction Number 1248-B in relation to an  
25 Office of Contract Services, as well as whether to

recommend that the Mayor's Veto Message M0193-2025 be filed, and second, Proposed Introduction 1392-A in relation to quarterly payments to vendors under certain contracts within the Department of Homeless Services and the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice, and to establish a pilot for quarterly payments to vendors under contracts with other agencies.

Introduction 1248-B, sponsored by the Council Speaker Adrienne Adams, addresses a critical challenge, the lack of clear authority and accountability in a procurement system. While the Mayor's Office of Contract Services currently exists, its powers and responsibilities are not codified in the City Charter. This bill formally establishes MOCS in the Charter with enumerated powers and duties, creating a clear legal framework for procurement oversight. MOCS will have explicit authority to coordinate agency procurement, delegate certain functions to agency contracting officers, and conduct contracting audits.

Proposed Introduction 1392-A, also sponsored by Speaker Adams, takes the next critical step in procurement reform by addressing the payment delays that have forced non-profits to wait for

months or even years while waiting for reimbursement from the City. This bill establishes quarterly payments programs for DHS and MOCJ contracts, and creates a pilot program to test expanding this approach to other large City contracts in order to ensure timely payment for City vendors. Beginning July 1, 2027, contractors with DHS Temporary Housing, Street Outreach, and Low Barrier Beds contracts, as well as City-funded MOCJ contracts, will receive quarterly payments of at least 25 percent of their annual contract value at the start of each quarter. This means organizations serving homeless New Yorkers, crime victims, and justice-involved individuals will have predictable cash flow to focus on their mission instead of scrambling to make payroll. The bill will also establish a pilot program beginning July 1, 2029, for other contracts over 1 million, allowing MOCS to test quarterly payments more broadly, and to develop best practices before potentially expanding quarterly advance payments Citywide.

These two bills are part of a comprehensive reform package that emerged from Speaker Adams' 2025 State of the City Address to

focus on the chronic payment delays that have plagued non-profit services providers for years. These delays have resulted in devastating consequences, layoffs of critical staff, reduction or elimination of services, accumulation of unsustainable debt, and in some cases, the permanent closure of long-time organizations providing critical services to the New Yorkers who need them the most.

When we held our oversight hearing on these bills, we heard testimony from dozens of nonprofit advocates about the urgent need for procurement reform. The numbers tell a stark story. In Fiscal Year 2024, over 90 percent of non-profit contracts were registered late, meaning providers had already begun work before the City finalized payment. Some providers wait months or even years for reimbursement, forcing them to take expensive loans just to keep their doors open. This is not a bureaucratic problem, it's a moral failing that undermines the non-profits serving our most vulnerable New Yorkers.

Introduction 1248-B was carefully crafted through extensive negotiations. The bill includes important safeguards explicitly preserving mayoral

authority and ensuring nothing alters the authority of other procurement-related entities like the Procurement Policy Board and Franchise and Concession Review Committee. The bill creates lines of accountability while maintaining the flexibility the mayoral administration needs to manage procurement operations.

Similarly, the Proposed Introduction 1392-A was developed through carefully negotiated negotiations to ensure quarterly advance payments can be implemented effectively while protecting the City's contractors that desperately need the lifeline they provide. The bill includes strong safeguards like OMB oversight of any payment deferrals and annual reporting requirements so the City Council can monitor implementation and make improvements as needed.

The Mayor's veto of Introduction 1248-B disregards overwhelming evidence of the existing procurement system's failure and the urgent need for reform documented by this Council. His claim in his veto letter that no need for this entity to be identified ignores the testimony of dozens of non-profits, the documented crisis of late contracts

legislation, and his own Administration's 33 percent budget cut to MOCS that eliminated 14 critical positions. It is absurd that this Mayor claims to care about non-profit stability and effective City operations while vetoing a bill that would provide the very tools needed to address the chronic dysfunction in our contracting system. The non-profits that serve our most vulnerable neighbors deserve a procurement system that works. City agencies must be held accountable for timely contract registration and payment processing. This legislation provides the authority, accountability, and perhaps most importantly, the permanence of executive orders simply cannot deliver.

I want to thank Speaker Adams for continued leadership on this issue and sponsoring this legislation. I want to thank Contracts Committee Senior Legislative Counsel Alex Paulenoff, Policy Analyst Alex Yablon, and Financial Analyst Owen Kotowski for their hard work on both of these bills.

The Speaker is not here to speak.

We will now be voting on the following items. First, shall we accept and file the Mayor's

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2 Veto Message and shall we pass Introduction 1248-B,  
3 the Mayor's Veto Message notwithstanding?

4 Second, shall we pass Proposed  
5 Introduction 1392-A?

6 And I'll ask the Clerk for a roll call.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
8 you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk.  
9 Roll call vote, Committee on Contracts. All items are  
10 coupled.

11 Chair Won.

12 CHAIRPERSON WON: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Bottcher.  
14 Nurse. Stevens.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER STEVENS: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Vernikov.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a  
19 vote of three in the affirmative, zero in the  
20 negative, and no abstentions, all items have been  
21 approved as described by the Chair, and the roll will  
22 be held open at request of the Chair.

23 CHAIRPERSON WON: Thank you.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:  
25 Continuation of roll call, Committee on Contracts.



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2 Council Member Nurse.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
5 you.

6 The vote is now four in the affirmative,  
7 zero in the negative, no abstentions. Again, all  
8 items have been adopted as described by the Chair.

9 CHAIRPERSON WON: Now, I hereby claim this  
10 Contracts Committee adjourned. [GAVEL]

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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 December 15, 2025