

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION

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April 15, 2026

Start: 1:21 p.m.

Recess: 1:27 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - 8TH FLOOR - HEARING
ROOM 3

B E F O R E: Ty Hankerson, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shekar Krishnan
Linda Lee
Christopher Marte
Frank Morano
Mercedes Narcisse
Sandy Nurse
Yusef Salaam
Pierina Ana Sanchez
Sandra Ung

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Phil Wong

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3 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone
4 check for the Committee on Parks and Recreations.
5 Today's date is April 15, 2026, being recorded by
6 Tavell King (phonetic) in Hearing Room 3.

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good afternoon, and
8 welcome to today's New York City Council vote on the
9 Committee on Parks and Recreation.

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

12 No one may approach the dais.

13 Chair, you may begin.

14 CHAIRPERSON HANKERSON: All right. Good
15 afternoon. I'm Ty Hankerson, Chair of the Committee
16 on Parks and Recreation. Today, the Committee will
17 vote on four pieces of legislation, part of the
18 Council's package. Each of these bills were
19 considered before this Committee on April 1, 2026.

20 Intro. 740, sponsored by myself, would
21 require Parks along with the Departments of
Environmental Protection, Transportation, and other
relevant agencies to conduct a study to identify at
least the top 10 community districts that have the
least green space and to make recommendations to the

Mayor and Council on how to increase green space, including parkland, in such areas.

Next up, Intro. 577-A, sponsored by my Colleague, Council Member Gennaro, would require the Parks Department to post on its website a map of trails located in each park or property under Parks' jurisdiction. Parks would be required to update the map upon the completion of any project that improves an existing trail or creates a new one and would have to consider how any project that improves or creates a trail would improve public access to that trail.

Next, Intro. 805-A, sponsored by my Colleague, Council Member Wong, would build on legislation we passed last year, Local Law 152, on creating a Cool Pavement Pilot Program. The bill would require the Parks Department, along with other relevant agencies, to conduct a study and pilot program concerning the use and installation of cool pavement materials on Parks' property within, abutting, or directly adjacent to a playground, and at least one heat-vulnerable community in each borough. Parks would be required to post the results of the pilot program on its website and submit it to

2 the Mayor and the Speaker of the Council no later
3 than February 1st, 2031.

4 Finally, Intro. 806-A, also sponsored by
5 Council Member Wong, would create a Wildlife
6 Management Advisory Board to develop a citywide
7 wildlife management plan to analyze wildlife
8 management issues and recommend policies to preserve
9 and promote biological diversity and the humane
10 treatment of wildlife. All agencies would be required
11 to consider the effect of their actions on wildlife,
12 and an annual report would be released by the Mayor's
13 Office of Animal Welfare in consultation with the
14 Parks Department updating the status of ongoing
15 wildlife management problems.

14 I'm happy to vote in favor of each of
15 these bills, and I urge my Colleagues on the
16 Committee to support each of them as well.

16 Thank you, again, and I'd like to ask the
17 Clerk to please call the vote.

18 COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: William
19 Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call vote. All items
20 are coupled.
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3 CHAIRPERSON HANKERSON: I'm sorry. I'm
4 going to pass it to my Colleague, Phil Wong.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WONG: Yes. Hi. Thank you.
6 Yes, a quick statement on Intro. 805-A.

7 Where too many kids in my District have
8 complained for years that they've been playing on
9 black asphalt that's way too hot so when they play
10 without shoes, this is just unbearable. So, the
11 demand for cool pavements and playgrounds makes a lot
12 of sense and, in order to study the fiscal or the
13 environmental impacts, we need a study. The pilot
14 program makes a lot of sense. So, I urge Members of
15 this Committee to vote yes on Intro. 805-A.

16 And for 806A, same issue. So, dealing
17 with wildlife, five boroughs have stray wildlife that
18 we don't have a plan, we need a plan. So, this
19 management program developing the wildlife management
20 plan makes sense too. And I also respectfully ask
21 Members of the Committee to vote yes on Intro. 806-A.
Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON HANKERSON: All right. Let's
call the roll.

1 COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank you.

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William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call vote,
4 Committee on Parks and Recreation. All items are
5 coupled.

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Chair Hankerson.

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CHAIRPERSON HANKERSON: I vote aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Krishnan.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KRISHNAN: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Sanchez.

COUNCIL MEMBER PIERINA ANA SANCHEZ: Aye
11 on all except for 805 on which I abstain.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Lee. Marte.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Narcisse.

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COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: I vote aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Nurse.

COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Abstain on 805, and
17 aye on all the rest.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ung.

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COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye on all.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Salaam.

COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: Thank you. I vote
21 aye on all.

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3 COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

4 Santosuosso. Morano.

5 UNIDENTIFIED: Just one moment. He just
6 stepped away, I apologize.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MORANO: Thank you very
8 much. I'm going to vote. Thank you, Coco. I
9 appreciate that.

10 Hello, everyone. Thank you for allowing
11 me to participate remotely. I appreciate it. I would
12 enthusiastically vote aye on the legislation. My
13 thanks to the Chairman for his leadership and my
14 congratulations to Council Member Wong for some great
15 legislation. And obviously as the co-sponsor of the
16 Common Sense Caucus or the Co-Chair of the Common
17 Sense Caucus, it's no surprise to me that this
18 legislation is steeped in common sense. But I
19 enthusiastically vote aye on all. Thank you.

20 COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank you,
21 Council Member.

22 All items have been adopted today by the
23 Committee with a vote of nine in the affirmative,
24 zero in the negative, no abstentions, with

1 COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION

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Introduction 805-A being adopted by the Committee -
3 one second.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Council

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Member Lee.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

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COUNCIL CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank you.

Updated.

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All items have been adopted by the

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Committee today with a vote of 10 in the affirmative,

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zero in the negative, no abstentions, with Proposed

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Introduction 805-A being adopted by the Committee

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with eight in the affirmative, zero in the negative,

and two abstentions.

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CHAIRPERSON HANKERSON: All right. Thank

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you. Adjourned. [GAVEL]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

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World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing

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transcript is a true and accurate record of the

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proceedings. We further certify that there is no

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relation to any of the parties to this action by blood
or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome

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of this matter.

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Date June 15, 2026

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