

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

LAND USE COMMITTEE

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November 19, 2008  
Start: 11:00am, 1:25pm  
Recess: 11:05am, 1:28pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E:  
MELINDA R. KATZ  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Maria Carmen del Arroyo  
Tony Avella  
Maria Baez  
Charles Barron  
Gale A. Brewer  
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.  
Inez Dickens  
Simcha Felder  
Daniel R. Garodnick  
Eric N. Gioia  
Sarah Gonzalez  
Vincent Ignizio  
Jessica S. Lappin  
John C. Liu

## A P P E A R A N C E S

## COUNCIL MEMBERS:

James S. Oddo  
Miguel Martinez  
Rosie Mendez  
Annabel Palma  
Joel Rivera  
Helen Sears  
Albert Vann

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2 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: We're voting on  
3 the items that have already been sent up from the  
4 sub-committees. Land Use number 919 through 920  
5 is Harbor View. We're laying that over until the  
6 next meeting, hopefully in an hour or two, no, in  
7 two hours.

8 Land Use number 922 is follow up to  
9 the 125th Street. It is a 125th Street text on--  
10 let's have some order. 125th Street text  
11 amendment to the zoning resolution to modify the  
12 height and bulk regulations in Council Member  
13 Dickens district.

14 LU numbers 923 and 924 is the East  
15 Village, Lower East Side rezoning. They are two  
16 related actions, amendments to the zoning map and  
17 an amendment to the zoning resolution. It is in  
18 Council Member Mendez and Council Member Gerson's  
19 district.

20 LU number 921, 925 and 926 are all  
21 related. It is a special permit, site selection  
22 and an acquisition. It is three related actions  
23 to facilitate the construction of a sanitation  
24 garage.

25 927 is the Banshee Pub. It is in

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2 Council Member Lappin's district. It's a motion  
3 to file pursuant to withdrawal.

4 LU numbers 929, Maria Lopez Plaza.  
5 It is in Council Member Arroyo's district. It's a  
6 tax exemption, a reorganization of an HDFC to  
7 facilitate development of a project.

8 LU numbers 853 through 855. 853 is  
9 in Council Member Eugene's district, 38 Marteens  
10 Street. 854 is Council Member Eugene's district,  
11 72 and 74 Light Street and Council Member Gioia's  
12 district is 855, 39-22 29th Street.

13 Any discussion? Call the roll.

14 CLERK: Council Member Katz.

15 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Aye on all.

16 CLERK: Rivera.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

18 CLERK: Avella.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Aye.

20 CLERK: Barron.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote no  
22 on 921, 925 and 926 and aye on all the rest.

23 CLERK: Comrie.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Felder.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Did the  
3 Republicans vote yet?

4 CLERK: Gioia.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: Very, very  
6 briefly I want to explain my vote. I vote yes on  
7 all and I want to point out that in my district  
8 today, big change comes in incremental steps.  
9 Today we create four new units of affordable  
10 housing. I do say 4 not 400 or 40 but 4 new units  
11 of affordable housing in a building I understand  
12 that has been vacant for about 30 years. So big  
13 change comes in small steps and day by day so I  
14 vote yes. Thank you.

15 CLERK: Lui.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER LUI: Yes.

17 CLERK: Martinez.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTINEZ: Aye on  
19 all.

20 CLERK: Sears.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Aye.

22 CLERK: Vann.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

24 CLERK: Gonzalez.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on

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2 all.

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CLERK: Palma.

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

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CLERK: Arroyo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Yes.

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CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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CLERK: Lappin.

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[No response]

11

CLERK: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Baez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BAEZ: Aye on all.

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CLERK: Dickens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

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CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: With

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sincere congratulations to my colleague Mr. Gioia

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for his affordable housing units, four of them, I

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vote aye on all.

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CLERK: Felder.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yes.

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CLERK: Bye a vote of 19 in the

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affirmative, zero in the negative and no

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2 abstentions all items are adopted with the  
3 exceptions of LU items 921, 925 and 926 are  
4 adopted by a vote of 18 in the affirmative, 1 in  
5 the negative and zero abstentions.

6 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Please remember  
7 we're going to have to call back. The truth is  
8 although I'd love to say we always start our  
9 stated on time, high check. The truth is we might  
10 be able to push off on the theory that we might  
11 not start on time until closer to the 1:30. So I  
12 will do my best to do that and the sub-committee  
13 will do their best to do that as well. All right?  
14 So thank you very much for your patience and  
15 hopefully we will have an agreement before stated.

16 The meeting will be recessed.

17 Jessica Lappin.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

19 CLERK: Committee on Land Use  
20 Council Member Oddo.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

22 CLERK: Current vote on the  
23 Committee on Land Use now stands at 21 in the  
24 affirmative, zero in the negative and no  
25 abstentions with the exceptions of Land Use items

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2 921, 925 and 926 are now 20 in the affirmative, 1  
3 in the negative and zero abstentions. Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Okay. Let's  
5 call Land Use re-convening of Land Use Committee.  
6 We are still waiting for folks. We'll keep this  
7 open until 1:30. It's LU numbers 919 and 920,  
8 they are related. They are called the Harbor View  
9 Project. Believe it or not, it is simply two  
10 special permits to develop two residential  
11 buildings. My understanding is that there has  
12 been agreements made between the council member,  
13 the district and the city. We are now making a  
14 motion to approve. We're doing motion to approve?  
15 That's it? Any discussion. Council Member  
16 Brewer.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER BREWER: As a  
18 project in my district I won't belabor it because  
19 I spoke at the sub-committee and I will speak on  
20 the floor. But just for those of you who have  
21 nick Housing Authority developments in your  
22 district and who are on the list for projects to  
23 be bought and built in these communities, I'd like  
24 to say that this is a precedent setting. In  
25 addition, it was part of the Hudson Yards



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2 Agreement and that it took great commitment from  
3 the Speaker staff and certainly Community Board  
4 Four and many others to make it work. We will  
5 talk later at the full board about its  
6 implications and what's included. But I thank  
7 everyone involved and say that this was a great  
8 deal of work and I hope that in the end it's a  
9 good project. Thank you. I recommend yes.

10 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Thank you  
11 Council Member Brewer. Anybody else? Okay. Call  
12 the roll, please.

13 CLERK: William Martin, Committee  
14 Clerk. Roll call Council Member Katz.

15 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Aye.

16 CLERK: Rivera.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

18 CLERK: Avella.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Aye.

20 CLERK: Baez.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BAEZ: Aye.

22 CLERK: Comrie.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

24 CLERK: Lui.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LUI: Yes.

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CLERK: Gonzalez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Palma.

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

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CLERK: Arroyo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

8

CLERK: Dickens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

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CLERK: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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CLERK: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

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CLERK: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

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CLERK: Oddo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes.

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CLERK: By a vote of 14 in the

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affirmative, zero in the negative and zero

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abstentions, both items are adopted. Members,

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please sign the committee report. Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Thank you.

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We're going to keep this open for about three to

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four more minutes just to give people a chance to

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get here. Thank you very much everyone and I

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apologize for reconvening at the late time.

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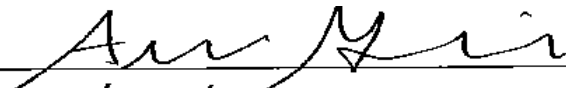
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Amber Gibson, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amber Gibson", written over a horizontal line.

Date December 11, 2008