

COMMITTEE ON SANITATION AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT 1
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON SANITATION AND SOLID
WASTE MANAGEMENT

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September 25, 2024

Start: 10:43 a.m.

Recess: 10:47 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - COMMITTEE ROOM, 16TH
FLOOR

B E F O R E: Shaun Abreu, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chris Banks
David M. Carr
James F. Gennaro
Julie Menin
Sandy Nurse
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Sandra Ung
Inna Vernikov
Susan Zhuang

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning. This is a
3 microphone check for the Committee on Sanitation and
4 Solid Waste Management. Today's date is September 25,
5 2024, located on the 16th Floor Committee Room,
6 recording done by Pedro Lugo.

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and
8 welcome to the New York City Council vote of the
9 Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management.

10 At this time, can everybody please
11 silence your cell phones.

12 At this time and going forward, no one is
13 to approach the dais. I repeat, no one is to approach
14 the dais.

15 Chair, we are ready to begin.

16 CHAIRPERSON ABREU: Good morning,
17 everyone. Welcome to the first of today's hearings
18 hosted by the Committee on Sanitation.

19 To minimize disruption, please place
20 electronic devices on vibrate or silent mode.

21 The purpose of this hearing is to hold a
22 vote on Introduction Number 736, sponsored by myself.
23 The Committee previously heard Intro. 736 at a
24 hearing on May 1, 2024, where it received the
25 testimony from representatives of the Department of

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2 Sanitation, animal protection advocates, and other

3 interested members of the public. The rat population

4 is explosive. We know from speaking with experts over

5 the past year that we can't kill our way out of this

6 crisis. We need all the tools in the toolbox to

7 tackle this issue, and rat contraceptives is one

8 promising addition to a robust pest management

9 strategy. Intro. 736 would require Department of

10 Health and Mental Hygiene in consultation with the

11 Department of Sanitation and an expert in rodent

12 control to establish a pilot program to deploy rat

13 contraceptives within 180 days of the bill's

14 enactment for a period of at least 12 months. DOHMH

15 would be required to establish two pilot program

16 areas, and at least one comparison area with similar

17 type of buildings. The pilot areas would be required

18 to be located within rat mitigation zones, with

19 majority residential buildings, and where majority of

20 buildings are required to set out waste in

21 containers. During the pilot program, DOHMH would be

22 required to perform monthly inspections of such areas

23 to track signs of rats. After the pilot period, DOHMH

24 would be required to report to the Mayor and Speaker

25

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2 findings and other information collected during the
3 pilot program.

4 I'd like to thank everyone on my team and
5 the Legislative Division for their work on this
6 legislation. I would also like to thank the Lights
7 Out Coalition for their work with my office on this
8 bill.

9 I will now turn it over to the Clerk to
10 take a vote on Intro. 736.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
12 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
13 vote, Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste
14 Management, on Proposed Introduction 73-A. Chair
15 Abreu.

16 CHAIRPERSON ABREU: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:
18 Salamanca. Council Member Salamanca.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
21 you, sir. Yeger. Gennaro.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
24 you. Menin.

25

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye, and
3 congratulations to the Chair on this great bill.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Nurse.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: I vote aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ung.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Banks.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Zhuang.

11 Carr.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: I vote aye, and may
13 this program be as successful as the Staten Island
14 Deer Vasectomy Program. Congratulations, Chair Abreu.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Vernikov.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER VERNIKOV: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Paladino.

18 My apologies, Council Member Zhuang.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ZHUANG: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
21 you. With a vote of 10 in the affirmative, zero in
22 the negative, and no abstentions, item has been
23 adopted by the Committee.

24 CHAIRPERSON ABREU: Thank you very much,
25 everyone. [GAVEL]

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 October 6, 2024