

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON AGING

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December 5, 2024  
Start: 11:39 a.m.  
Recess: 11:45 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Crystal Hudson, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Chris Banks  
Linda Lee  
Darlene Mealy  
Yusef Salaam  
Lynn C. Schulman

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Nantasha M. Williams

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Sound check for the  
3 Committee on Aging. Today's date is December 5, 2024,  
4 being recorded by Danny Huang in the Council  
5 Chambers.

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

9 Please silence all cell phone and  
10 electronic devices.

11 Please do not approach the dais.

12 Chair, we're ready to begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: [GAVEL] Good morning,  
14 everyone. I'm Council Member Crystal Hudson, Chair of  
15 the Committee on Aging. My pronouns are she/her.  
16 Today, the Committee is voting on the following  
17 legislation, Proposed Introduction No. 1022-A,  
18 sponsored by Council Member Jennifer Gutiérrez and  
19 myself, and Proposed Introduction No. 1054-A,  
20 sponsored by myself.

21 We are joined today by Council Members  
22 Schulman, Mealy, Banks, Lee, Salaam, and Williams.

23 In November, I was proud to announce my  
24 Age in Place 2.0 Legislative Package. After working  
25 with aging advocates, Council Members, and other key

2 stakeholders to identify issues facing older adults  
3 and brainstorm solutions, we successfully passed  
4 seven bills last session as part of our first Age in  
5 Place Legislative Package, including laws to expand  
6 right to counsel to all older adults, require  
7 universal design in all City-funded housing, expand  
8 access to telemedicine and telehealth devices, and  
9 expand culturally appropriate programming at older  
10 adult centers. Age in Place 2.0 represents the next  
11 step in ensuring that New York City is a place where  
12 older adults can thrive. Also in November, the  
13 Council enacted my bill, Introduction No. 1025-A, to  
14 ensure that older adults receive information and  
15 resources regarding employment and volunteer  
16 opportunities as well as workforce program  
17 opportunities through NYC Aging, and Introduction No.  
18 1053, which requires NYC Aging to conduct a  
19 feasibility study regarding the creation of older  
20 adult information points.

21           The bills we are voting on today will  
22 continue to build on our progress towards creating an  
23 age-friendly and inclusive city. Proposed  
24 Introduction No. 1022-A is a local law in relation to  
25 requiring a study and plan regarding naturally

2 occurring retirement communities, or NORCs, and aging  
3 in place. More specifically, this bill would require  
4 the Department for the Aging to conduct a three-year  
5 study to identify potential NORCs and neighborhood  
6 NORCs, assess the needs of older adults, evaluate  
7 necessary improvements, and collect data on  
8 demographic trends and health outcomes. Within two  
9 years of completing the study, the Aging Commissioner  
10 would be required to develop and implement a plan to  
11 support aging in place within these communities. This  
12 plan would include recommendations for officially  
13 designating identified communities, resource  
14 estimates for supportive service programs, training  
15 for community-based organizations, infrastructure  
16 improvements, and the establishment of a program to  
17 provide grant funding and other resources to support  
18 the operations of community-based organizations to  
19 provide services within such identified communities.

20 Proposed Introduction No. 1054-A is a  
21 local law to amend the Administrative Code of the  
22 City of New York in relation to a 10-year plan to  
23 support aging in place. This bill requires the Aging  
24 Commissioner, in consultation with coordinating  
25 agencies, to submit a 10-year aging in place plan.

2 The plan would focus on assisting older adults  
3 throughout New York City, including in NORCs, and  
4 would include proposed projects and recommendations.  
5 These bills will ensure a renewed focus within City  
6 government on older New Yorkers and meeting their  
7 long-term needs. A huge thank you to the advocates  
8 for their collaboration on these initiatives.

9 I now want to read a statement prepared  
10 by Council Member Gutiérrez, who could not be here  
11 with us for today's vote on Proposed Introduction  
12 1022-A, as we believe she is becoming a mother of  
13 two.

14 Today, we take a critical step toward  
15 ensuring that our older New Yorkers can age in place  
16 with dignity and support. The Expanding Naturally  
17 Occurring Retirement Communities Act is more than  
18 just a policy. It's a commitment to addressing the  
19 needs of our aging neighbors who have built and  
20 sustained our city. Currently, there are only 37  
21 designated NORCs across New York City, serving just a  
22 fraction of the 1.5 million New Yorkers aged 65 and  
23 older. Under the current system, an area can only  
24 qualify as a NORC if an existing non-profit, provided  
25 with non-comprehensive funding, has the capacity to

2 run and support it. This requirement has left many  
3 neighborhoods without NORC services simply because  
4 they lack stable non-profit infrastructure. This  
5 legislation changes that. It will allow us to  
6 identify additional communities with NORC potential,  
7 conduct comprehensive assessments of their needs, and  
8 provide the resources and support necessary to build  
9 aging-friendly neighborhoods. I'd like to thank Chair  
10 Hudson for her leadership and partnership in making  
11 this possible.

12                   And to Council Member Gutiérrez, I say  
13 you are very welcome, and it's been my pleasure. My  
14 thanks to Council Member Gutiérrez for her leadership  
15 on this critical legislation. Thank you to the  
16 Members of the Aging Committee who have joined us  
17 today.

18                   I would also like to thank my staff,  
19 Casie Addison and Andrew Wright, and Aging Committee  
20 Staff, Christopher Pepe, Chloë Rivera, Julia Haramis,  
21 and Saiyemul Hamid.

22                   I'll now turn it over to the Clerk to  
23 call the roll.

24                   COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
25 you. Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk.

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2 Roll call vote, Committee on Aging. Items are  
3 coupled. Chair Hudson.

4 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Lee.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank  
8 you. Mealy.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Schulman.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SCHULMAN: Aye, and I want  
12 to congratulate Chair Hudson for this amazing  
13 legislation, which I am proud to be a co-sponsor of,  
14 particularly as an elder adult. I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Banks.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye, and  
17 congratulations to Chair Hudson.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Salaam.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAAM: I vote aye, and  
20 congratulations.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Zhuang.

22 With a vote of six in the affirmative, zero in the  
23 negative, and no abstentions, all items have been  
24 adopted by the Committee.

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2 CHAIRPERSON HUDSON: Thank you all so very  
3 much. This meeting is now 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 7, 2024