

COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION

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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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Wednesday, May 4, 2022

Start: 3:10 p.m.

Recess: 3:20 p.m.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 1)

B E F O R E: Shekar Krishnan, Chair

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

David M. Carr

Eric Dinowitz

Robert F. Holden

Linda Lee

Christopher Marte

Julie Menin

Francisco P. Moya

Mercedes Narcisse

Lincoln Restler

Sandra Ung

Marjorie Velázquez

COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION

AP P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

[N/A]

SERGEANT BIONDO: Recording to the PC underway.

SERGEANT SADOWSKY: Cloud recording all set.

And, good afternoon, and welcome to today's remote New York City vote of the Committee and Parks and Recreation.

At this time would all council members and staff please turn on their video?

To minimize disruptions, please place all electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode.

Thank you for your cooperation. We are ready to begin.

CHAIRPERSON KRISHNAN: Thank you, so much, Sergeant. Uh, good afternoon, everyone. I am now going to start with a statement before we take the vote.

I am Shekar Krishnan, the Chair of this City's Council's Committees on Parks and Recreation. Today the committee will vote on proposed Intro. No. 173-A sponsored by me.

Proposed Int. No. 173-A would require the Parks Department of Parks and Recreation to issue a semi-annual report identify parks and playgrounds that have routinely failed inspections and submit a plan

1  
2 to the Council on how the issues at such parks and  
3 playgrounds will be corrected.

4       Regarding data from The Park Inspection Program,  
5 recent years saw a trend of overall conditions and  
6 cleanliness features averaging acceptable ratings in  
7 the high 80's and low 90's percentage wise. However,  
8 the most recent data indicates a slight drop since  
9 2019, which is concerning. I think this bill can  
10 help us go a long way in being able to identify the  
11 areas of our Parks system that are need in greater  
12 resources, and allow us the mechanism for targeting  
13 those resources to the areas with the greatest need.

14       As we have heard many times in, and discussed  
15 through our hearings as well, especially in our last  
16 hearing on Parks Equity, if we are to be a system  
17 where everyone has access to well-maintained, high  
18 quality green space, it requires ensuring at a very  
19 basic level, that all parks across our New York City  
20 Parks system are taken care of, that they have the  
21 resources to do so, and follow a timely schedule for  
22 maintenance and repair work.

23       This bill will ensure and help to achieve that  
24 goal, and as such it is a crucial component of

1  
2 ensuring equitable Parks maintenance and Parks access  
3 across our city.

4 I would like to thank colleagues who have co-  
5 sponsored this bill. I would like to urge all of my  
6 fellow committee members to support this legislation.

7 Now, I would like to invite the clerk to call the  
8 roll, thank you so much.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good afternoon all, William  
10 Martin, Committee Clerk roll call vote Committee on  
11 Parks and Recreation on Preconsidered Introduction  
12 173-A.

13 Chair Krishnan?

14 CHAIRPERSON KRISHNAN: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Marte?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: (NO RESPONSE)

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: I'm sorry, Council Member?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MARTE: Uh, aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, sir.

20 Council Member Lee?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: (NO RESPONSE)

22 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member Lee?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Oh, can you hear me?

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yes.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Oh, sorry about that. Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you very much.

Holden?

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Moya?

COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Dinowitz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DINOWITZ: Yes.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Menin?

COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Restler?

COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Ung?

COUNCIL MEMBER UNG: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Velázquez?

COUNCIL MEMBER VELÁZQUEZ: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

Carr?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: With congratulations to our  
3 chair, I vote aye.

4 CHAIRPERSON KRISHNAN: Thank you... (CROSS-TALK)

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

6 By a vote of 11 in the affirmative, 0 in the  
7 negative, and no abstentions, item has been adopted  
8 by the committee.

9 Uh, Chair Krishnan, uh, we have one council  
10 member outstanding.

11 CHAIRPERSON KRISHNAN: Sure, and if we can keep  
12 the vote open, uh, just, uh, for another 15 minutes,  
13 uh, ensure that the last council member can cast  
14 their vote, uh, I'd appreciate that.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Absolutely.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Congratulations, Chair  
17 Krishnan.

18 CHAIRPERSON KRISHNAN: Thank you all so much!  
19 Thanks to everyone who joined. Thanks for all of  
20 your support. I'm looking forward to working... to  
21 continuing to work together for our Parks and park  
22 equity across our city.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: That's great.

24 JOHANNA CASTRO: Okay, Billy, uh, we have Council  
25 Member Narcisse, can you call her for the vote?

2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council Member Narcisse, this is  
3 William Martin the Committee Clerk, uh, roll call  
4 vote on Proposed Introduction 173-A.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: One...

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: 173...

7 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: So, we're in the middle  
8 of a vote? Sorry, is that me?

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yes, whenever... Whenever  
10 you're ready.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Okay, give me a chance.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Sure.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: I just want to make...  
14 Is it 173-A?

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Yes. Yes, sorry, I had  
17 to make sure.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: No problem, thank you, Council  
19 Member.

20 Final vote [INAUDIBLE]... (CROSS-TALK)

21 CHAIRPERSON KRISHNAN: Thank you, Council Member  
22 Narcisse (LAUGHING)

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote now on Proposed  
24 Introduction 173-A is 12 in the affirmative, 0 in the  
25 negative, and no abstentions.



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Mr. Chair, that is a full committee. You can close at your convenience.

CHAIRPERSON KRISHNAN: Great.

The meeting is closed. Uh, thank you all so much.

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 July 2, 2022