

**Report and Advisory Board Review Commission**January 24, 2023

TO: Adrienne Adams, Speaker of the City Council
Michael McSweeney, City Clerk

FROM: Dan Steinberg, Director, Mayor’s Office of Operations
Dear Speaker Adams and Clerk McSweeney,

The Mayor’s Office of Operations is tasked with convening the Report and Advisory Board Review Commission (RABRC). This Commission reviews existing reporting and meeting requirements and makes recommendations to waive requirements that are no longer relevant. The Commission’s goal is to improve government efficiency and reduce the amount of City time and resources spent on reports and advisory boards.

The Commission, established by Charter Section 1113, is chaired by the Mayor's Office of Operations and includes representatives from the City Council, the Office of Technology and Innovation, the Office of Management and Budget, and the Law Department.

In accordance with Charter §1113(d)(4), I am writing to notify the City Council that the Commission held a meeting on January 11, 2023, and voted to approve waivers for eight reporting requirements:

1. Shipboard Gambling Report (Administrative Code §20-9017)
2. Report on Other Wholesale Markets (Administrative Code §22-269)
3. Seafood Distribution Areas/Fulton Fish Market Report (Administrative Code §22-226)
4. Monthly Report on Directory Assistance Calls (Charter §1075(c))
5. Monthly Report on Service Request Calls (Charter §1075(b))
6. Small Purchases Report (Charter §314(b))
7. Article 214 Closings Report (Administrative Code §28-214.1.6)
8. Neighborhood Slow Zones Report (Administrative Code §19-177(d)(2))

These candidates were gathered through extensive agency outreach and research. They were vetted by members of the Commission and discussed at length in public meetings throughout 2022. Operations is confident that these reports meet the criteria for waiver established in Charter §1113(e), and that waiving these requirements will reduce administrative burden on the affected agencies, allowing them to better serve New Yorkers by redirecting resources.

Attached are the waiver resolution from the Commission’s January 11th meeting, and the finalized waiver determination.

Sincerely,



Dan Steinberg

Director, Mayor’s Office of Operations

Chair, Report and Advisory Board Review Commission

**CC: Mayor Eric Adams**

**First Deputy Mayor Sheena Wright**

**RABRC Representatives**

Bradley Reid, On behalf of the Speaker of the City Council

Rose Martinez, On behalf of the Speaker of the City Council

Jack Storey, On behalf of the Speaker of the City Council

Julia Lichtenstein, On behalf of the Corporation Counsel

Stacy Gardener, On behalf of the Commissioner of Information Technology and Telecommunications

Deborah Cohen, On behalf of the Director of Management and Budget

**Resolution of the Report and Advisory Board Review Commission:**

WHEREAS, the Report and Advisory Board Review Commission is charged under section 1113 of the New York City Charter with the power to review all reporting requirements in the Charter, the Administrative Code, or elsewhere in local law, that mandate the issuance of periodic or multiple reports by city agencies, officers, or employees; and

WHEREAS, under such section the Commission has the power, subject to review by the New York City Council and the Mayor as provided under such section, to waive any such reporting requirement which will cause such reporting to cease to be required under law; and

WHEREAS, the Commission has reviewed reporting requirements within its jurisdiction to waive and has solicited the views of groups, organizations, or entities representing the interests of persons and entities that are the subject of or are otherwise affected or benefited by such reporting requirements and has held public hearings to solicit views on such reporting requirements on July 13, 2022 and September 28, 2022; and

WHEREAS, the Commission’s staff has produced a “Proposed Waiver Determination” recommending waiver of eight reporting requirements and setting forth the criteria justifying the waiver of each such requirement consistent with Section 1113 of the New York City Charter; and

WHEREAS, the Commission will hold a vote on January 11, 2023 to approve or disapprove waiver for each such reporting requirement and such votes shall be recorded on the “Vote Tally Sheet” (Exhibit A);

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Report and Advisory Board Review Commission, hereby approves the waiver of the reporting requirements in the Proposed Waiver Determination (Exhibit B) that have been approved for waiver by a majority of vote of the members present on January 11, 2023 according to the Vote Tally Sheet;

And be it further RESOLVED that the Commission hereby authorizes and delegates to the Chair and the staff the duty and power to produce a “Final Waiver Determination” containing the reporting requirements waived and/or retained by the Commission on such date and may also include non-substantive technical changes as the Chair deems appropriate, and to promptly file and publish such final determination with the City Council, City Clerk, the Mayor, and others as required by Section 1113 of the New York City Charter.

The forgoing resolution was adopted by the Report and Advisory Board Review Commission by a vote of \_\_\_7\_\_\_\_, with \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_ not voting.

DATED: 1-11-2023

EXHIBIT A

Vote Tally Sheet

Pursuant to Charter §1113, the Report and Advisory Board Review Commission held a public meeting on January 11, 2023 and voted to waive or retain the following Reports.

1. Shipboard Gambling Report (Administrative Code §20-9017)

Voted to waive \_\_\_7\_\_\_\_\_ Voted to retain \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_ Not voting \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_

1. Report on Other Wholesale Markets (Administrative Code §22-269)

Voted to waive \_\_\_7\_\_\_\_\_ Voted to retain \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_ Not voting\_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_

1. Seafood Distribution Areas/Fulton Fish Market Report (Administrative Code §22-226)

Voted to waive \_\_\_7\_\_\_\_\_ Voted to retain \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_ Not voting \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_

1. Monthly Report on Directory Assistance Calls (Charter §1075(c))

Voted to waive \_\_\_7\_\_\_\_\_ Voted to retain \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_ Not voting \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_

1. Monthly Report on Service Request Calls (Charter §1075(b))

Voted to waive \_\_\_7\_\_\_\_\_ Voted to retain \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_ Not voting \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_

1. Small Purchases Report (Charter §314(b))

Voted to waive \_\_\_7\_\_\_\_\_ Voted to retain \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_ Not voting \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_

1. Article 214 Closings Report (Administrative Code §28-214.1.6)

Voted to waive \_\_\_7\_\_\_\_ Voted to retain \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_ Not voting \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_

1. Neighborhood Slow Zones Report (Administrative Code §19-177(d)(2))

Voted to waive \_\_\_7\_\_\_\_\_ Voted to retain \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_ Not voting \_\_\_0\_\_\_\_\_

SIGNATURE PAGE FOLLOWS

Daniel Steinberg Julia Lichtenstein

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|  |  |  | Julia Lichtenstein |
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Chair Representative

Director, Mayor’s Office of Operations On behalf of the Corporation Counsel

Stacy Gardener

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Bradley ReidRepresentativeOn behalf of the Speaker of the City Council | Stacy GardenerRepresentativeOn behalf of the Commissioner of InformationTechnology and Telecommunications |
|  |  |  |  |

Deborah Cohen

Rose Martinez

Representative

Deborah Cohen

Representative

On behalf of the Director of Management and

Budget

On behalf of the Speaker of the City Council

Jack Storey

Representative

On behalf of the Speaker of the City Council

EXHIBIT B

Proposed Waiver Determinations



**REPORT & ADVISORY BOARD REVIEW COMMISSION – PROPOSED WAIVER DETERMINATIONS**

**NOTICE OF REPORT AND ADVISORY BOARD REVIEW COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS**

**CHAIR**

**Daniel Steinberg, Director MAYOR’S OFFICE OF OPERATIONS**

**REPRESENTATIVES**

**Bradley Reid**

**NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL**

**Rose Martinez**

**NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL**

**Jack Storey**

**NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL**

**Julia Lichtenstein**

**NEW YORK CITY LAW DEPARTMENT**

**Stacy Gardener**

**OFFICE OF TECHNOLOGY & INNOVATION**

**Deborah Cohen**

**OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT & BUDGET**

Pursuant to Charter §1113, the Report and Advisory Board Review Commission held a public meeting on January 11, 2023, and voted to waive the following Reports:

1. Shipboard Gambling Report (Administrative Code §20-9017)
2. Report on Other Wholesale Markets (Administrative Code §22­269)
3. Seafood Distribution Areas/Fulton Fish Market Report (Administrative Code §22-226)
4. Monthly Report on Directory Assistance Calls (Charter §1075(c))
5. Monthly Report on Service Request Calls (Charter §1075(b))
6. Small Purchases Report (Charter §314(b))
7. Article 214 Closings Report (Administrative Code §28-214.1.6)
8. Neighborhood Slow Zones Report (Administrative Code §19­177(d)(2))

A final copy of the waiver determinations will be filed with the City Council and is included below.

[**www.nyc.gov**](http://www.nyc.gov)



**REPORT & ADVISORY BOARD REVIEW COMMISSION – PROPOSED WAIVER DETERMINATIONS**

**Background**

In November 2010, New York City voters approved a Charter Revision Commission referendum proposal to review and assess the continued usefulness of reporting requirements and advisory boards established by the City Charter, the Administrative Code, or local law. The Commission is chaired by the Director of the Mayor’s Office of Operations and consists of representatives from the City Council, the Law Department (LAW), the Office of Technology and Innovation (OTI), and the Office of Management & Budget (OMB).

As part of its review, the Commission holds public hearings to solicit feedback from agencies, groups, and organizations that are the subject of, or are affected by, the reports and boards under the Commission’s purview. Following this process, the Commission may vote to retain or waive a reporting requirement, in whole or in part, or in the case of an advisory board, may vote to retain or dissolve it. The Commission must prepare formal determinations for all waiver recommendations. Thereafter, the City Council may vote either to approve or disapprove the Commission’s waiver and dissolution recommendations.

More information about the Commission is available at [https://www1.nyc.gov/site/operations/projects/report-advisory-board-review-commission.page](https://www1.nyc.gov/site/operations/projects/report-advisory-board-review-commission.page.).

**Waiver Determinations**

The Commission’s eight waiver determinations are provided, in their entirety, below:

**Shipboard Gambling Report, (Administrative Code §20-9017)**

**SUMMARY:** Administrative Code §20-9017 establishes a requirement for the New York city gambling control commission, now the purview of the Business Integrity Commission, to submit a report detailing its activities relating to shipboard gambling applications. It should cover the number of denials, issuances, presently pending applications, and revocations/suspensions for a license, certificate of approval, or registration, as well as fees collected and costs of enforcement. This report is required annually.

**DETERMINATION:** Waiver

**RATIONALE:** The Commission staff recommends the waiver of the Report based on a weighing of the criteria specified in Charter §1113(e)(1). Specifically:

1. **The report is irrelevant in light of changing circumstances, current information needs and technological advances.**

This reporting requirement was created at a time when it was anticipated that the City would receive a number of shipboard gambling applications. However, due to a number of factors including a substantial application fee, poor customer experience onboard small boats in open waters, and the increased availability of numerous other gambling options, the City has not received a single application for shipboard gambling in over 20 years. The Agency does not expect these circumstances to change materially in the future and thus does not expect an influx of applications. The reporting requirement is therefore antiquated and should be waived.

1. **Other relevant factors:**

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The Commission did not receive any public comments or testimony in opposition to the proposed waiver. Moreover, because any future applications will likely receive considerable media attention in any event, the benefits of a periodic report do not outweigh the resources needed to produce the report.

**SOLICITATION OF SUPPORT:** In accordance with Charter §1113(d)(2), the Commission sent e-mail notifications about the public hearing and potential waiver of this report to good government groups and organizations that the Commission reasonably determined were the subject of, or otherwise affected or benefited by the reporting requirement under review.

Reinvent Albany submitted testimony supporting waiver of this report. The organization’s full testimony is available on the following web page: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/operations/projects/report-advisory-board-review-commission.page>

No additional comments were submitted to the Commission in favor or in opposition of this waiver.

**Report on Other Wholesale Markets, (Administrative Code §22-269)**

**SUMMARY:** Administrative Code §22-269 establishes a requirement for the Department of Small Business Services to produce a report about public markets in New York City. These markets subsequently became jurisdiction of the Business Integrity Commission (BIC), which is currently responsible for this reporting requirement. The Commission is required to report on the number of criminal acts and violations, referrals made to state or federal prosecutors, applicants denied, photo identification cards issued, registrations and photo identification cards that have been suspended or revoked, parties pursuant to the section, as well as the amount of: fees relating to implementing provisions of the chapter and expenditures related to enforcement.

**DETERMINATION:** Waiver

**RATIONALE:** The Commission staff recommends the waiver of the Report based on a weighing of the criteria specified in Charter §1113(e)(1). Specifically:

1. **The report is irrelevant in light of changing circumstances, current information needs and technological advances.**

BIC’s mission is to eliminate organized crime and other forms of corruption and criminal activity from the industries it regulates. For over 20 years, BIC has aggressively fought against organized crime in the City’s wholesale markets, with the result that the incidence of organized crime in those markets is substantially reduced. BIC’s licensing and regulatory structure continues to ensure that organized crime’s historical grip on the wholesale food markets does not return. Given BIC’s successes in this area, the need for the information specified by this reporting requirement is markedly less than when it was enacted. The change in circumstances at the City’s wholesale markets suggests that the report would not be of much importance to the public or affected interest groups.

1. **The reporting requirement is partially duplicative of the subject matter of other mandated reports.**

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The reporting requirement is partially duplicative of data published in the Mayor’s Management Report, which contains the number of criminal violations issued at public wholesale markets. The Mayor’s Management Report contains additional information about the wholesale markets application process, and the percentage of violations issued at public wholesale markets that were admitted to or upheld at the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings.

**3. Other relevant factors:**

The Commission did not receive any public comments or testimony in opposition to the proposed waiver.

**SOLICITATION OF SUPPORT:** In accordance with Charter §1113(d)(2), the Commission sent e-mail notifications about the public hearing and potential waiver of this report to good government groups and organizations that the Commission reasonably determined were the subject of, or otherwise affected or benefited by the reporting requirement under review.

Reinvent Albany submitted testimony supporting waiver of this report. The organization’s full testimony is available on the following web page: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/operations/projects/report-advisory-board-review-commission.page>

No additional comments were submitted to the Commission in favor or in opposition of this waiver.

**Seafood Distribution Areas/Fulton Fish Market Report, (Administrative Code §22-226)**

**SUMMARY:** Administrative Code §22-226 establishes a requirement for the Department of Small Business Services to produce a report about Fulton Fish Market in New York City. The fish market and other public markets subsequently became jurisdiction of the Business Integrity Commission, which is currently responsible for this reporting requirement. The Commission is required to report on the number of criminal acts and violations, number of referrals made to state or federal prosecutors, listing of names and businesses, number of applications, number of photo identification cards issued, number of licenses/registrations/photo identifications suspended or revoked, parties pursuant to the section, number of vehicles, property, and equipment seized, amount of fees relating to implementing provisions of the chapter, and amount of expenditures related to enforcement.

**DETERMINATION:** Waiver

**RATIONALE:** The Commission staff recommends the waiver of the Report based on a weighing of the criteria specified in Charter §1113(e)(1). Specifically:

**1. The report is irrelevant in light of changing circumstances, current information needs and technological advances.**

BIC’s mission is to eliminate organized crime and other forms of corruption and criminality from the industries it regulates. For over 20 years, BIC has aggressively fought against organized crime in the City’s wholesale markets, including in the New Fulton Fish Market, with the result that the influence of organized crime in the New Fulton Fish Market is substantially reduced. BIC’s licensing and regulatory structure continues to ensure that organized crime’s grip on the wholesale food markets does not return. Given BIC’s successes in this area, the need for the

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information in this reporting requirement is markedly less than when it was enacted. Additionally, it should be noted that the Fulton Fish Market has gone through numerous changes over the years, including moving to an enclosed facility in the Bronx, as opposed to on public streets in lower Manhattan.

1. **The reporting requirement is partially duplicative of the subject matter of other mandated reports.**

The reporting requirement is partially duplicative of data published in the Mayor’s Management Report, which contains the number of criminal violations issued at public wholesale markets, though it does not break out the number of violations at the New Fulton Fish Market specifically. The Mayor’s Management Report contains additional information about the wholesale markets application process, and the percentage of violations issued at public wholesale markets that were admitted to or upheld at the Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings.

1. **Other relevant factors:**

The Commission did not receive any public comments or testimony in opposition to the proposed waiver.

**SOLICITATION OF SUPPORT:** In accordance with Charter §1113(d)(2), the Commission sent e-mail notifications about the public hearing and potential waiver of this report to good government groups and organizations that the Commission reasonably determined were the subject of, or otherwise affected or benefited by the reporting requirement under review.

Reinvent Albany submitted testimony supporting waiver of this report. The organization’s full testimony is available on the following web page: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/operations/projects/report-advisory-board-review-commission.page>

No additional comments were submitted to the Commission in favor or in opposition of this waiver.

**Monthly Report on Directory Assistance Calls, (Charter §1075(c))**

**SUMMARY:** Charter §1075(c) requires the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (now OTI) to submit a report regarding directory assistance calls received by the 311-citizen service center. The Charter section requires the report to cover the total number of directory assistance calls received for each directory assistance category by each agency. It is specified to be monthly in frequency and report on a monthly and fiscal year basis.

**DETERMINATION:** Waiver

**RATIONALE:** The Commission staff recommends the waiver of the Report based on a weighing of the criteria specified in Charter §1113(e)(1). Specifically:

**1. The report is partially duplicative of the subject matter of other mandated reports.**

This report’s required information is included in a publicly available data set which is updated daily on the NYC Open Data portal. This data has been viewed and downloaded tens of thousands of times, and 311 data in general is some of the most popular on NYC Open Data. Manually exporting this information once a month and sharing stale data on an additional [NYC.gov](http://NYC.gov) web page serves little additional purpose. OTI fulfills the spirit of the law by

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publishing a live data feed with an Application Programming Interface (API), robust data dictionary, and a variety of visualization tools built into NYC Open Data.

1. **The benefits and usefulness of the report do not outweigh the expenditure of public resources to produce it.**

While there may be public interest in this data, it is not an effective use of resources to generate a redundant and stale report that requires employee time to process and does not result in any other benefit to the City. When this reporting requirement was enacted, it was the main provider of this information; however, stakeholders that need directory assistance data can now access this information through the Open Data portal on a live data feed.

1. **Additional factors in support of a waiver.**

The Commission did not receive any public comments or testimony in opposition to the proposed waiver.

**SOLICITATION OF SUPPORT:** In accordance with Charter §1113(d)(2), the Commission sent e-mail notifications about the public hearing and potential waiver of this report to good government groups and organizations that the Commission reasonably determined were the subject of, or otherwise affected or benefited by the reporting requirement under review.

Reinvent Albany submitted testimony supporting waiver of this report. The organization’s full testimony is available on the following web page: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/operations/projects/report-advisory-board-review-commission.page>

No additional comments were submitted to the Commission in favor or in opposition of this waiver.

**Monthly Report on Service Request Calls, (Charter §1075(b))**

**SUMMARY:** Charter §1075(b) requires the Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications (now OTI) to submit a report regarding requests for service received by the 311-citizen service center. The Charter section requires the report to cover the total number of requests for service received by each category and agency, total number of such requests by resolution status category, and the average resolution time for each request for service by each category and agency. The report is specified to be monthly in frequency and report on a monthly and fiscal year basis.

**DETERMINATION:** Waiver

**RATIONALE:** The Commission staff recommends the waiver of the Report based on a weighing of the criteria specified in Charter §1113(e)(1). Specifically:

**1. The report is duplicative of other mandated reports.**

The information required in this report is included in a publicly available data set which is updated daily on the NYC Open Data portal. The report metrics can be calculated from this dataset. These data have been viewed and downloaded many tens of thousands of times, and 311 data in general is some of the most popular on NYC Open Data. Manually exporting this information once a month and sharing stale data on an additional [NYC.gov](http://NYC.gov) web page

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serves no reasonable purpose. OTI fulfills the spirit of the law by publishing a live data feed with an API, robust data dictionary, and a variety of visualization tools built into NYC Open Data.

1. **The benefits and usefulness of the report do not outweigh the expenditure of public resources to produce it.**

While there may be public interest in this data, it is not an effective use of resources to generate a redundant and stale report that requires employee time to process and does not result in any other benefit to the city. When this reporting requirement was enacted, it was the main provider of this information; however, stakeholders that need service request data can now access this through the Open Data portal. Due to this advancement in technology the benefit of the information being provided in a report does not outweigh the cost, anyone who needs this information may still readily access it and on a more regular basis.

1. **Other relevant factors:**

The Commission did not receive any public comments or testimony in opposition to the proposed waiver.

**SOLICITATION OF SUPPORT:** In accordance with Charter §1113(d)(2), the Commission sent e-mail notifications about the public hearing and potential waiver of this report to good government groups and organizations that the Commission reasonably determined were the subject of, or otherwise affected or benefited by the reporting requirement under review.

Reinvent Albany submitted testimony supporting waiver of this report. The organization’s full testimony is available on the following web page: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/operations/projects/report-advisory-board-review-commission.page>

No additional comments were submitted to the Commission in favor or in opposition of this waiver.

**Small Purchases Report, (Charter §314(b))**

**SUMMARY:** Charter §314(b) requires the Mayor’s Office of Contract Services to publish a report detailing each small purchase award. It must include the name of the vendor selected to fulfill the requirements of the small purchase award, the date and dollar amount of each such small purchase award, and the type of goods or services provided. This report is required on a quarterly basis. The data is also required to be reported in a database.

**DETERMINATION:** Waiver

**RATIONALE:** The Commission staff recommends the waiver of the Report based on a weighing of the criteria specified in Charter §1113(e)(1). Specifically:

**1. The report is partially duplicative of the subject matter of other mandated reports.**

The information required of the report can be found in both Checkbook NYC and PASSPort Public. Specifically, small purchase awards can be searched and found on PASSPort Public. Both Checkbook NYC and PASSPort Public can be used to conduct searches and filter results by procurement/award methods, which include the small

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purchase methods. This should fulfill the reporting requirement as it is specified that data should also appear in database format.

1. **The benefits and usefulness of the report do not outweigh the expenditure of public resources to produce it.**

This is a quarterly report which requires outreach and responses from all City agencies that spans the course of 1 month every quarter. It involves approximately 40 hours of MOCS staff resources as well as upwards of 10-15 hours of staff work from large agencies. Waiving this report would result in major time savings by MOCS and other agencies, which currently requires coordination across multiple internal teams and several City agencies prior to being sent to City Council. The report is extremely costly in terms of agency and City resources overall, and yet the results are duplicative of other resources. While the information reported is useful, it is not a productive use of City resources to occupy MOCS staff time to create a report where the information can easily be found online.

1. **Other relevant factors:**

The Commission did not receive any public comments or testimony in opposition to the proposed waiver.

**SOLICITATION OF SUPPORT:** In accordance with Charter §1113(d)(2), the Commission sent e-mail notifications about the public hearing and potential waiver of this report to good government groups and organizations that the Commission reasonably determined were the subject of, or otherwise affected or benefited by the reporting requirement under review.

Reinvent Albany submitted testimony supporting waiver of this report. The organization’s full testimony is available on the following web page: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/operations/projects/report-advisory-board-review-commission.page>

No additional comments were submitted to the Commission in favor or in opposition of this waiver.

**Article 214 Closings Report, (Administrative Code §28-214.1.6)**

**SUMMARY:** Administrative Code §28-214.1.6 requires the Department of Buildings to publish a report detailing building closures issued under Article 214 of the Administrative Code. It must include the number of closings made in the previous year, the locations of such closings, and the nature and use of the premises closed. This report is required on an annual basis.

**DETERMINATION:** Waiver

**RATIONALE:** The Commission staff recommends the waiver of the Report based on a weighing of the criteria specified in Charter §1113(e)(1). Specifically:

**1. The report is irrelevant in light of changing circumstances, current information needs and technological advances.**

Administrative Code §28-214.1.6 requires the Department of Buildings to submit a report on notices of seal, secure, and close orders made pursuant to Chapter 28 Article 214 of the Administrative Code. (It is not a requirement on

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closure orders generally, but only on order issued under Article 214.) DOB does not presently use Article 214 to issue orders to seal, secure, and close, and has not used Article 214 for these actions in recent history. Instead, DOB relies on provisions in Chapter 28 Article 216 to issue building closures. The Article 216 provisions are broader than the Article 214 provisions as they could apply to vacant buildings or otherwise compromised structures. The notice and hearing provisions under Article 214 are also more onerous for DOB to comply with when actions need to be taken to secure a building in the interest of public safety. Further, the Article 216 provisions allows DOB to direct the City to conduct the work to make a building safe if the owner does not conduct such work.

Because DOB does not regularly issue closures under Article 214, the Department regularly publishes a “nothing to report” letter to comply with this reporting requirement. This letter does not provide useful information to the public.

**2. Other relevant factors:**

The Commission did not receive any public comments or testimony in opposition to the proposed waiver.

**SOLICITATION OF SUPPORT:** In accordance with Charter §1113(d)(2), the Commission sent e-mail notifications about the public hearing and potential waiver of this report to good government groups and organizations that the Commission reasonably determined were the subject of, or otherwise affected or benefited by the reporting requirement under review.

Reinvent Albany submitted testimony supporting waiver of this report. The organization’s full testimony is available on the following web page: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/operations/projects/report-advisory-board-review-commission.page>

No additional comments were submitted to the Commission in favor or in opposition of this waiver.

**Neighborhood Slow Zones Report, (Administrative Code §19-177(d)(2))**

**SUMMARY:** Administrative Code §19-177(d)(2) requires the Department of Transportation to publish a report on neighborhood slow zones. The report is required to include a listing of the location of all neighborhood slow zones, a review of whether zones have minimized the risk of traffic crashes, critical injuries or death, and a determination of whether the department shall continue to establish seven neighborhood slow zones. The report is required annually.

**DETERMINATION:** Waiver

**RATIONALE:** The Commission staff recommends the waiver of the Report based on a weighing of the criteria specified in Charter §1113(e)(1). Specifically:

**1. The report is irrelevant in light of changing circumstances, current information needs and technological advances.**

Administrative Code §19-177(d)(2) requires the Department of Transportation to submit a report on neighborhood slow zones. Neighborhood slow zones were designated areas covering at least five blocks where speed limits were set at 20 miles per hour. The first pilot was launched in 2011 and the program expanded in 2013. However, the City successfully launched a Citywide 25 mile per hour speed limit in late 2014, which superseded the Slow Zone

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efforts. Vision Zero (VZ) priority corridors have replaced slow zones as areas of priority for street safety improvements. The outdated nature of the requirement makes this report irrelevant.

1. **The report is partially duplicative.**

While neighborhood slow zones have been discontinued, efforts to make streets safer have ramped up and there are several different reports that describe these efforts. Vision Zero priority corridors and interventions are described in detail within the VZ annual report and pedestrian safety action plans.

1. **Other relevant factors:**

The Commission did not receive any public comments or testimony in opposition to the proposed waiver.

**SOLICITATION OF SUPPORT:** In accordance with Charter §1113(d)(2), the Commission sent e-mail notifications about the public hearing and potential waiver of this report to good government groups and organizations that the Commission reasonably determined were the subject of, or otherwise affected or benefited by the reporting requirement under review.

Reinvent Albany submitted testimony urging RABRC to consult additional stakeholder groups for this waiver. The organization’s full testimony is available on the following web page: <https://www.nyc.gov/site/operations/projects/report-advisory-board-review-commission.page>

RABRC reached out to additional stakeholder groups on this waiver, including pedestrian safety advocate groups. No additional comments were submitted to the Commission in favor or in opposition of this waiver.

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