

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, RESILIENCY

AND WATERFRONTS 1

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION, RESILIENCY AND  
WATERFRONTS

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April 11, 2023  
Start: 10:49 a.m.  
Recess: 10:53 a.m.

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: James F. Gennaro, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Jennifer Gutierrez  
Kamillah Hanks  
Robert F. Holden  
Julie Menin  
Sandy Nurse  
Lincoln Restler

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Marjorie Velazquez

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, RESILIENCY  
AND WATERFRONTS

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2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning. This is a  
3 sound check for the Committee on Environmental  
4 Protection. Today's date is April 11, 2023. Located  
5 in Committee Room. Recorded by Steven Sadowsky.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and  
7 welcome to the New York City Council vote of the  
8 Committee on Environmental Protection.

9 At this time, could everyone please  
10 silence your cell phones? Thank you for your  
11 cooperation.

12 Chair, we are ready to begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON GENNARO: Okay. I'm ready. Is  
14 everybody else ready? Okay. Like now? Okay, fine.  
15 Both sides, we're good.

16 [GAVEL] Good morning. I am Jim Gennaro,  
17 Chair of the Committee on Environmental Protection,  
18 Resiliency and Waterfronts, and today we'll be voting  
19 on two pieces of important legislation, Intro. 606A  
20 by Council Member Aviles which would prohibit idling  
21 in or adjacent to any park under the jurisdiction of  
22 New York City Department of Parks and Recreation, and  
23 Intro. 239A sponsored by this guy Gennaro requiring  
24 the Department of Buildings to conduct targeted  
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2 outreach to educate building owners about the  
3 benefits of installing solar and green roof systems.

4           Regarding 606A, an idling vehicle  
5 releases harmful chemicals, gasses, and particulate  
6 pollution into the air contributing to ozone,  
7 regional haze, smog, whatever, and, of course, global  
8 climate change. Idling also reduces your vehicle's  
9 fuel economy, costs you money, and creates pollution.  
10 Sometimes some of the pollution when you're idling  
11 goes in the car and can hurt kids that are sitting  
12 inside the vehicles. That's a bad thing.

13           Regarding Intro. 239A, solar  
14 installations can help reduce energy usage, lowering  
15 our carbon footprint as well as energy bills while  
16 helping to create a more resilient distributed grid.  
17 Green roofs provide shade and insulation to  
18 buildings, keeping them cooler in the summer and  
19 warmer in the winter. Green roofs also help to store  
20 and filter stormwater, reducing the burden of our  
21 wastewater infrastructure and can even help the heat  
22 island effect.

23           Both pieces of legislation will help  
24 increase local resiliency, decrease our reliance on  
25 fossil-fuel-based energy generation, and improve our

1  
2 local air quality in New York City. I recommend a yes  
3 vote on both.

4 I would like to thank the terrific  
5 Committee Staff who did such great work over the  
6 years, Committee Counsel Samara Swanston, Senior  
7 Policy Analyst Ricky Chawla, Policy Analyst Andrew  
8 Bourne, Financial Analyst Andrew Lane-Lawless, and  
9 finally my Legislative Director Nabjot Kaur for all  
10 of their hard work.

11 Council Member Aviles is not here to make  
12 a statement, but we spoke about her bill and so,  
13 without further ado, unless anyone has anything that  
14 they want to put on the record, I'm going to ask the  
15 Clerk to call the roll.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good  
17 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call  
18 vote Committee on Environmental Protection,  
19 Resiliency and Waterfronts. Items are coupled. Chair  
20 Gennaro.

21 CHAIRPERSON GENNARO: Aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Holden.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:  
25 Gutierrez.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, RESILIENCY AND  
WATERFRONTS

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COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIERREZ: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanks.

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COUNCIL MEMBER HANKS: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank

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you, Council Member. Menin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENIN: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Nurse.

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COUNCIL MEMBER NURSE: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Restler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

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COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote

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of seven in the affirmative, zero in the negative,

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and no abstentions, both items have been adopted by

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the Committee.

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Mr. Chair, that is a full Committee.

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CHAIRPERSON GENNARO: Okay. I didn't do

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what I ordinarily do. Even though everyone's name has

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been called, I always feel it's important to

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recognize my good Members who are here. We are very

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honored and privileged to be joined by Council

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Members Menin, Holden, Restler, Gutierrez, Nurse, and

23

Hanks.

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Thank you for your participation. Full

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quorum. This is how we do it.

COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION, RESILIENCY AND  
WATERFRONTS

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This vote is 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 April 15, 2023