

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 1
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

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August 3, 2023
Start: 9:52 a.m.
Recess: 9:58 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Selvena Brooks-Powers, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Joann Ariola
David M. Carr
Amanda Farias
Ari Kagan
Farrah N. Louis
Mercedes Narcisse
Lincoln Restler
Carlina Rivera
Julie Won

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 2

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone
3 check for the Committee on Transportation and
4 Infrastructure located in Chambers, recorded on
5 August 3, 2023, by Nazly Paytuvu.

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

9 At this time, please silence all
10 electronic devices.

11 Chair, we are ready to begin.

12 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: [GAVEL] Good
13 morning and welcome to this hearing of the Committee
14 on Transportation and Infrastructure. I am Selvena
15 Brooks-Powers, the Chair of the Committee.

16 Today, we will be voting on Proposed
17 Introduction 289-A sponsored by Council Member
18 Carlina Rivera in relation to requiring the
19 Department of Transportation to develop a map of
20 bicycle infrastructure conditions.

21 Cycling is an important aspect of our
22 everyday life as New Yorkers. Besides it being great
23 exercise, it is also a vital mode of transportation
24 and delivery for New York City. Since 1980 when the
25 City first began collecting cycling ridership data,

2 cycling has rapidly expanded and improved. Between
3 2009 and 2019, the number of daily cyclists in the
4 city increased by 116 percent. Today, approximately
5 880,000 adult New York City regularly ride a bicycle
6 at least several times each month.

7 The rapid expansion of cycling is the
8 impetus for this bill. Proposed Introduction number
9 289-A would require the Department of Transportation
10 to create and update a searchable map that shows all
11 of the City's bike lanes with information about
12 obstructions caused by street construction,
13 maintenance, or repairs, and the location of
14 temporary bicycle lanes. The map would also contain
15 information about the location of Open Streets,
16 bicycle parking infrastructure, micromobility share
17 programs and stations, and information on how to
18 report bicycle lane issues.

19 I look forward to voting on this proposed
20 bill.

21 I will now allow Council Member Rivera to
22 speak on her proposed bill.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Good morning.
24 Thank you, Chair Brooks-Powers, for the opportunity
25

2 to deliver remarks on legislation I have before the
3 Committee today.

4 Introduction 289 will require the New
5 York City Department of Transportation to create a
6 searchable map of every bicycle lane in New York City
7 with information about bike network disruptions and
8 the location of temporary bicycle lanes. The map will
9 also have information about the location of Open
10 Streets, bicycle parking infrastructure,
11 micromobility share programs and stations, and
12 information on how to report bicycle lane issues.

13 New York has expanded its bike network to
14 over 1,500 miles of bike lanes including hundreds of
15 miles of protected lanes. Effective operation
16 including predictable routes and trips, detours, and
17 other provisions during disruption must be a critical
18 part of the City's strategy to build cycling into a
19 safe and more accessible means of getting around
20 town. The creation of a searchable map with useful
21 and regularly updated information will enhance
22 safety, quality of life, and the citywide bicycle
23 network. 18 bike riders were killed in the first six
24 months of 2023, putting New York on track to have the
25 second deadliest year to date for cyclists.

2 Additionally, on June 7th, the 100th New Yorker fell
3 victim to traffic violence, marking the earliest
4 occurrence of such a tragic event since 2014. Traffic
5 fatalities and injuries are still too common despite
6 efforts by government and communities to make streets
7 safer. Given record fatalities in the first and
8 second quarters of this year, we must dramatically
9 speed up street redesigns and use all of the tools at
10 our disposal to continue to bring safer streets to
11 New York City including but not limited to piloting
12 and implementing new technology and shared street
13 designs, pedestrianizing open spaces, and increasing
14 bus and bike lane networks. We cannot continue to
15 accept this level of traffic violence, and we must
16 meet this crisis with the urgency it deserves. New
17 York City's bike network is a transportation system
18 like any other, and cyclists deserve access to real-
19 time information that prevents a morning commute from
20 becoming a treacherous journey.

21 With that, I urge all my Colleagues to
22 vote aye. Thank you so much.

23 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you. I
24 will now ask the Committee Clerk to conduct a roll
25 call vote on the legislation and recommend that my

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 6

2 Colleagues vote yes on this important piece of
3 legislation.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
5 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
6 vote Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,
7 Proposed Introduction 289-A. Chair Brooks-Powers.

8 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: Aye and
9 congratulations, Council Member Rivera.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Rivera.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Louis.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Farias.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIAS: I vote aye, and I
16 would like to ask the Clerk to put me on as a co-
17 sponsor.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

19 Absolutely. Narcisse.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Restler.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye as well

23 happily.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Won.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: I vote aye.

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 7

2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
3 you. Carr.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ariola.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Kagan.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a
10 vote of 10 in the affirmative, zero in the negative,
11 and no abstentions, item is adopted by the Committee.

12 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you.

13 This Committee hearing 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 August 4, 2023