

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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December 17, 2024
Start: 12:14 p.m.
Recess: 12:18 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 BROADWAY - COMMITTEE ROOM, 16TH
FLOOR

B E F O R E: Rafael Salamanca, Jr., Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Shaun Abreu
Joseph Borelli
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers
Amanda Farías
Crystal Hudson
Francisco P. Moya
Kevin C. Riley
Carlina Rivera

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Mic check, mic check,
3 this is a mic check on the Committee on Land Use.
4 Today's date is December 17, 2024, on the 250, 16th
5 Floor Committee Room, recorded by Walter Lewis.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good afternoon, good
7 afternoon. Welcome to the New York City Council vote
8 on a hearing on the Committee on Land Use.

9 At this time, please silence all
10 electronics and do not approach your dais. I repeat,
11 please do not approach your dais.

12 Chair, you may begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: [GAVEL] All right.
14 Good afternoon and welcome to the Committee on Land
15 Use. I am Council Member Rafael Salamanca. I Chair
16 this Committee. I would like to welcome my esteemed
17 Colleagues who have joined us today. We've been
18 joined by Council Member Moya, Rivera, Chair Riley,
19 Brooks-Powers, Abreu, Majority Leader Farías, Council
20 Member Hudson, and Minority Leader Borelli.

21 As always, I would like to thank Chair
22 Riley and Chair Hanks for their work in leading our
23 two Subcommittees.

24 Today, we are voting on one item referred
25 by our Zoning Subcommittee. We will vote to approve

2 the pre-considered application number G 240065 GAX,
3 which is a request by the New York City Economic
4 Development Corporation, or EDC, for a favorable
5 resolution in support of an application for funding
6 through the State's Restore New York Communities
7 initiative in connection with the future
8 redevelopment of the Kingsbridge Armory site in
9 Council Member Sanchez's District in the Bronx.

10 Restore New York, as it is commonly
11 known, is a New York State grant program that enables
12 municipalities to seek financial assistance for
13 revitalization projects involving commercial and
14 residential properties. As Chair Riley noted at last
15 week's Zoning Subcommittee, I want to make it clear
16 that today's vote is one step in our process towards
17 realizing the great opportunity held by the armory
18 site. We are not making decisions today about what
19 the redevelopment will specifically look like, but
20 are focused solely on ways to secure any available
21 assistance from the State as this project continues
22 forward. Council Member Sanchez understands this and
23 is in support of the application before us. Council
24 Member Sanchez is unable to join us today and has
25 asked me to read the statement below on her behalf.

2 The Kingsbridge Armory represents the
3 vast potential of our community. With EDC and a
4 community working group, we led a nine-month
5 community engagement process that reached more than
6 4,000 people and culminated in a community vision
7 plan. The project is still in the midst of selecting
8 a developer, but today's Resolution is about setting
9 up any future efforts for financial success. I want
10 to be clear. Today's vote is not a determination on
11 any land use actions for the Armory's future
12 redevelopment. It is simply a vote on a resolution
13 that would allow EDC to pursue a 2-million-dollar
14 grant from the New York State. I support this effort
15 to make any future project financially sound. While
16 we do not yet know what the project will be, we do
17 know that past projects failed because they did not
18 have adequate financing. I remain committed to doing
19 everything possible to promote an Armory
20 redevelopment that comports with the community vision
21 plan, one, prioritize youth; two, welcome older
22 adults; three, foster intergenerational
23 relationships; four, create jobs and wealth for
24 existing workers and communities; five, grow a local

2 economy; six, put the Bronx on the map; and seven,
3 maximize community ownership.

4 Now I would like to acknowledge any of my
5 Colleagues who have any questions or comments.

6 Seeing none, I call for a vote with the
7 support of the local Council Member, Council Member
8 Sanchez, to approve the pre-considered LU items
9 related to a request from EDC for a favorable
10 resolution in support of its application for Restore
11 New York Round Nine grant funding in connection with
12 the future redevelopment project for the Kingsbridge
13 Armory. Will the Clerk please call the roll?

14 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
15 afternoon. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
16 vote, Committee on Land Use. Chair Salamanca.

17 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Moya.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: I vote aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
21 you, Council Member Moya. Rivera.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Riley.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.
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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Brooks-
3 Powers.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
6 you, Council Member. Abreu.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ABREU: Aye.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Farías.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I vote aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Hanks.
11 Hudson.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER HUDSON: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Sanchez.
14 Borelli.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BORELLI: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a
17 vote of nine in the affirmative, zero in the
18 negative, and no abstentions, item has been adopted
19 as described by the Chair.

20 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: Thank you, that
21 concludes today's business.

22 I would like to thank the members of the
23 public, my Colleagues, Land Use and Council Staff,
24 and the Sergeant-at-Arms for attending today's
25 meeting.

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2 This meeting is hereby 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 18, 2024