New York City Council

Memorandum in Support of Legislation

This memorandum is authored by the sponsor and explains the need for the legislation referenced below, in accordance with Rule 6.00(d) of the Rules of the Council.

Introduction Number:

Int. No.

Prime Sponsors:

Council Member Amanda Farías

Bill Title:

A Local Law in relation to ferry service to City Island

Submitted by:

Council Member Amanda Farías

Justification:

City Island is one of New York City's most unique waterfront communities and a popular destination for residents and visitors. However, despite its cultural and economic significance, the island has limited connections to the City's broader public transportation network.

This lack of connectivity can restrict access to jobs, services, and recreational opportunities for residents while limiting the ability of visitors to access City Island's small businesses, restaurants, and waterfront destinations. As New York City continues to expand transportation options and invest in waterfront infrastructure, ferry service presents an opportunity to improve access to City Island, support local businesses, reduce reliance on automobiles, and strengthen connections to the broader transit system.

This bill would require the Commissioner of Transportation, in consultation with the Department of Small Business Services, the Department of Environmental Protection, and the New York City Economic Development Corporation, to study and report on the feasibility of establishing ferry service to City Island. The study would examine potential landing locations, infrastructure needs, projected ridership, environmental considerations, and impacts on local traffic and businesses.

The Commissioner would submit the findings to the Mayor and Speaker of the Council within one year. If a suitable location is identified, the Commissioner would move forward with the planning, design, and construction of a ferry landing and commence ferry service upon completion.