



*THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF COUNCIL MEMBER DARLENE MEALY*

**1757 Union Street, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor  
Brooklyn, NY 11213**

## **Media Release**

**\*\*FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE\*\***

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Contact: Vincent James, 718-953-3097  
Please e-mail photo requests to: [vjames@council.nyc.gov](mailto:vjames@council.nyc.gov)  
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### **CITY COUNCIL VOTES TO OVERRIDE MAYOR'S VETO OF CRITICAL LEGISLATION SPONSORED BY COUNCIL MEMBER DARLENE MEALY IN HER ROLE AS CONTRACTS COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSON**

*The Outsourcing Accountability Act will safeguard city funds by increasing transparency in contracting decisions and enhancing city workers' ability to demonstrate their efficiency in providing public services.*

Brooklyn, NY- Yesterday, City Council voted to override Mayor Bloomberg's veto of the Outsourcing Accountability Act. The Contracts Committee first passed this critical legislation, sponsored by Council Member Mealy, in October. The bill went on to garner the unanimous support of City Council but was vetoed by Mayor Bloomberg in November. This Wednesday, the Contracts Committee met and determined that Int. No. 624-A should be re-passed over the Mayor's objections. City Council's full vote to override the veto yesterday ensures that this legislation will go into effect.

The Outsourcing Accountability Act was introduced to fulfill the promise of Local Law 35, a seventeen year-old law that required city agencies to conduct cost-benefit analyses of contracting decisions in some circumstances. Unfortunately, agencies interpreted that law extremely narrowly. As a result, cost-benefit analyses were rarely conducted while at the same time, city funds devoted to private contracts increased sharply. City spending on outside work has nearly doubled since 1996 and increased by \$3 billion during Mayor Bloomberg's tenure.

“In this time of economic crisis and high unemployment, many New Yorkers are struggling to make ends meet,” said Council Member Mealy. “The last thing they want to hear is that the city is not doing its due diligence to determine whether needed work requires the use of private companies or can be performed more efficiently by city workers. The Outsourcing Accountability Act will protect city funds and preserve public sector jobs that have been an important route to the middle class.”

Council Member Mealy has chaired the Contracts Committee since 2009.

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