

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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June 26, 2013
Start: 2:24 p.m.
Recess: 3:24 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway
Committee Rm, 16th Fl.

B E F O R E:
LEROY G. COMRIE, JR.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Maria del Carmen Arroyo
Council Member Charles Barron
Council Member Inez E. Dickens
Council Member Daniel R. Garodnick
Council Member Sara M. Gonzalez
Council Member Robert Jackson
Council Member Jessica S. Lappin
Council Member Rosie Mendez
Council Member Annabel Palma
Council Member Diana Reyna
Council Member Joel Rivera
Council Member Albert Vann
Council Member Brad S. Lander

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Council Member Stephen T. Levin
Council Member Mark S. Weprin
Council Member Jumaane D. Williams
Council Member Vincent M. Ignizio
Council Member Peter A. Koo

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

William Martin
Committee Clerk
New York City Council

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2 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: Okay, we are
3 opening the Full Land Use Committee for Wednesday,
4 June 26, 2013. We are joined by Council Members
5 Vincent Ignizio, Mark Weprin, Sara Gonzalez, Peter
6 Koo, Mark, Steve Levin, Jessica Lappin, Daniel
7 Garodnick, Annabel Palmer, Maria del Carmen
8 Arroyo, Inez Dickens, Al Vann, and Diana Reyna. I
9 said, I started, I want, yes, and Diego and
10 Andriano, yes. Today the Full Land Use Committee
11 will be voting on LU number 847,848 and 849 with
12 the modifications which will make up the
13 applications dealing with Madison Square Garden.
14 I want to congratulate the Subcommittee Chair,
15 Council Member Weprin who held a lengthy meeting
16 last week where many discussions and ideas were
17 vetted regarding the project along with thoughtful
18 testimony that was brought forth on the condition
19 of the special permits that MSG seeks, mainly with
20 regard to the term of the arena permit and the
21 type of signage to be permitted outside and the
22 need for a revamp station. And clearly it was a
23 substantive meeting with a lot of thought and a
24 lot of ideas that were bandied about during the
25 hearing. I want to thank everyone that attended.

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2 I want to reiterate also that as Council Member
3 Weprin said earlier that Madison Square Garden is
4 not responsible for Penn Station. They work with
5 the, they work with many people in trying to
6 create an opportunity which, would come out in the
7 hearing regarding the future of Penn Station
8 working with the, when they were planning the
9 future of Farley [phonetic] and are willing and
10 indicated their willingness to do whatever's
11 necessary to help and show that Penn Station can
12 be updated as it is in the interest to make sure
13 that there is a consistent and efficient
14 transportation hub in that area. They are
15 modifications which I'll go through quickly. The
16 term of the arena special permit has been reduced
17 to ten years. After many discussions and after
18 that the permit must go back through the Council
19 for, through a ULURP program. We did not feel it
20 was wise that the Council would subvert their
21 power to City Planning. With respect to the MSG
22 signage program they will allow Madison Square
23 Garden to install the two additional signs on 8th
24 Avenue façade, will allow the MSG to sponsor
25 advertising on the signs and will allow MSG to put

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2 up new signs without having to wait for Amtrak to
3 install new station signs. Lastly, the benches
4 that were suggested for the public plaza. They
5 have agreed to remove them. There, again, we are
6 going to be voting on, again as I said in the
7 beginning, we're going to couple Land Use Items
8 847, 848, 849, with modification and on a vote to
9 approve. I just want to inform Council Members
10 that the next Subcommittee Meetings will be heard
11 on July 22nd, if we ever leave here this evening
12 because we may be here until midnight and beyond
13 with the vote - - 'cause we were voting on these
14 overrides and Members are going to talk. So, I'm
15 betting midnight. I lay nickel on midnight.
16 Anyhow, so, with that and does anyone, would
17 anyone like to say anything on the application
18 that's being proposed? All right, seeing none, I
19 would recommend we call the roll and an aye vote
20 on the items with voting on Land Use 847, 848, 849
21 with modifications on a vote to approve.

22 MR. WILLIAM MARTIN: William
23 Martin, Committee Clerk, roll call vote, Committee
24 on Land Use, Council Member Comrie?

25 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: Aye on all.

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MR. MARTIN: Reyna?

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye on all.

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MR. MARTIN: Vann?

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COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye on all.

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MR. MARTIN: Gonzalez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye on

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8 all.

MR. MARTIN: Palma?

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COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Arroyo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Dickens?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Garodnick?

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Lappin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Koo?

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COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye on all.

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MR. MARTIN: Levin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.

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MR. MARTIN: Weprin?

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COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Ignizio?

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: By a vote of 13 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no abstentions, all items have been adopted, thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: All right, we're going to hold the roll open for those Members that are across the street at a press conference and they will be here and I think one other Member said they were on their way. So, we'll hold the roll open until we get an idea on if they're, until they arrive. With that we will adjourn the meeting, again, the next Subcommittees will be July 22nd. See you later this evening.

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[pause]

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MR. MARTIN: Council Member Mendez?

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: I vote aye

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on all.

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MR. MARTIN: The vote is now 14 in

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the affirmative. [pause] Council Member Barron?

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COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Well, the

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fact that Madison Square Garden doesn't pay the

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taxes that they ought to pay to the City and I

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know we have nothing to do with that, and I want

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2 to put that on the record as well but this is a
3 corporation that needs to be more corporate
4 friendly to the City before the City give it
5 breaks. And even though it will create jobs and
6 it will do some wonderful things for some people
7 I'm voting no until Madison Square Garden pays
8 their fair share of taxes to the City. They need
9 no more breaks from the City. With that, I say
10 no.

11 MR. MARTIN: The vote now stands at
12 13 in the affirmative, one in the negative and no
13 abstentions. [pause] Council Member Williams?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote
15 aye.

16 MR. MARTIN: The vote on the
17 Committee on Land Use is now 15 in the
18 affirmative, one in the negative, no abstentions.
19 [pause] Council Member Lander?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

21 MR. MARTIN: The vote now stands at
22 16 in the affirmative, one in the negative and no
23 abstentions. [pause] [off mic] Council Member
24 Rivera?

25 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: Thank you

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very much. I vote aye on all items on today's agenda.

MR. MARTIN: The vote currently stands at 17 in the affirmative, one in the negative, no abstentions. [pause] [off mic] Council Member Jackson?

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I vote aye on all.

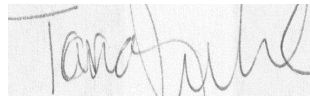
MR. MARTIN: Final vote on the Committee on Land Use is 18 in the affirmative, one in the negative and no abstentions, thank you. [pause]

MALE VOICE 1: So, this Zoning and Franchise Committee Hearing, [off mic] I'm sorry, this Land Use Committee Hearing of June 26, 2013 is hereby adjourned at 3:24 p.m.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Tara Juhl certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

Signature

A rectangular box containing a handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Tara Juhl".

Date 7/17/13