

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HOUSING

----- X

November 28th, 2016

Start: 1:21 p.m.

Recess: 1:29 p.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room-16th Fl

B E F O R E: Ritchie Torres

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Rosie Mendez
James G. Van Bramer
Laurie A. Cumbo
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.

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

2 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: The hearing is
3 coming to order. Good afternoon everyone. I am City
4 Council Member Richie Torres and I chair the
5 Committee on Public Housing. And I'm proud to be
6 joined by the majority leader; Council Member Jimmy
7 Van Bramer, Council Member Rafael Salamanca from the
8 Bronx, Council Member Rosie Mendez. And we are here
9 for the purposes of conducting a vote on two bills,
10 yes bills. These two bills will potentially,
11 depending on how this vote goes and how the vote at
12 tomorrow's stated meeting goes be the first two bills
13 out of the Public Housing Committee to be enacted
14 into law ever. As I previously mentioned at the
15 hearing on these bills back in June the city's vision
16 for improving public housing must extend beyond brick
17 and mortar. A truly comprehensive plan for not merely
18 preserving but transforming public housing means a
19 commitment to creating economic opportunity for
20 public housing residents. NYCHA is more than a
21 landlord; it is a city unto itself, home to 400,000
22 residents many of whom face deeply engrained barriers
23 to educational attainment and employment. The
24 question, the question of how to best break down such
25 barriers lies at the heart of these bills. Countless

2 public residents access city services and programs
3 designed to give families and individuals a fighting
4 chance at a better life yet we have very little
5 information about the effectiveness of those services
6 and programs. These bills seek to make that
7 information public so that the city can better serve
8 and support the residents of public housing. Proposed
9 intro number 1213A would require the mayor or an
10 agency designated by the mayor to publish an annual
11 report on the outcomes of services provided to public
12 housing residents including employment related
13 services, financial counseling or banking services,
14 income support services, adult education services,
15 and business related services. Propose intro number
16 1214A would require the city's center for economic
17 opportunity to review the jobs plus program which is
18 a national program designed to increase the earnings
19 and levels of employment of public housing residents
20 and make recommendations for its expansion. I'm proud
21 to sponsor both of these bills and encourage this
22 committee to vote in the affirmative. With that said
23 I ask the clerk to please call the roll.

24

25

1 COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HOUSING 5

2 MATTHEW DESTEFANO: Committee on Public
3 Housing Committee Clerk Matthew Destefano roll call
4 on intro 213A and intro 214A. Chair Torres?

5 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: I vote aye.

6 MATTHEW DESTEFANO: Mendez?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

8 MATTHEW DESTEFANO: Van Bramer?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

10 MATTHEW DESTEFANO: Salamanca?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye.

12 MATTHEW DESTEFANO: By a vote of four in
13 the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
14 abstentions the items have been adopted.

15 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: Thank you, we're
16 going to keep it open for Council Member Cumbo But...
17 yeah, thank you.

18 MATTHEW DESTEFANO: Continuation of Roll
19 Call; Council Member Cumbo.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Thank you,
21 permission to explain my vote?

22 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: Of course.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I want to thank
24 Council Member Torres for his leadership and for also
25 holding the vote open. I proudly support intro number

2 1213A and I believe that this annual report
3 documenting beginning in 2017 on the outcomes of
4 services provided to public housing residents will
5 have a huge impact in terms of everything from
6 employment to financial counseling and many other
7 aspects. I'm also in support of proposed intro 1214A
8 in terms of requiring the city center for economic
9 opportunity to review the jobs plus program. We heard
10 some incredible testimony in the hearings that was
11 very informative and I am very proud to support both
12 pieces of legislation and I proudly vote aye.

13 MATTHEW DESTEFANO: The vote now stands
14 at five in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and
15 no abstentions.

16 CHAIRPERSON TORRES: Thank you for those
17 kind words Council Member Cumbo. So with that said
18 the meeting... the hearing is adjourned.

19 [gavel]

20

21

22

23

24

25

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 20, 2016