

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON PARKS AND RECREATION

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April 4, 2017
Start: 10:27 a.m.
Recess: 10:51 a.m.

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

B E F O R E: MARK LEVINE
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Darlene Mealy
Fernando Cabrera
James G. Van Bramer
Andrew Cohen
Alan N. Maisel
Mark Treyger

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

2 [sound check, pause]

3 CHAIRPERSON LEVINE: Good morning
4 everybody. Welcome to the hearing of the City
5 Council's Committee on Parks and Recreation. We have
6 a very short agenda today consisting just of a vote
7 on Intro 1112-A whose lead sponsor is Minority Leader
8 Matteo. I was proud to co-sponsor this as well. I
9 think we have people on a tight schedule. So I'm
10 going to first ask the Clerk to call the roll, and
11 then I'll say a few words on this important bill that
12 we are considering today. So, please.

13 CHAIRPERSON LEVINE: Committee Clerk
14 Matthew Distefano, Committee on Parks and Recreation,
15 roll call vote for Intro 1112-A. Chair Levine.

16 CHAIRPERSON LEVINE: I vote aye.

17 CLERK: Cabrera.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

19 CLERK: Cohen.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: It takes all four
21 of us to pass this? [laughter] I've—I'll vote aye.

22 [background comments]

23 CLERK: Maisel.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: In favor.

25 CLERK: By a vote of—

2 CHAIRPERSON LEVINE: [interposing] I'll-
3 I'll just briefly explain that this bill is going to
4 have a big impact for New Yorkers who have been in
5 the dark until now about the schedule for street
6 pruning—street tree pruning on their block, the
7 schedule for stump removal on their block, the
8 ratings and schedule for fixing of cracked concrete
9 on their block. In an era when the Department of
10 Buildings posts on their website about building
11 inspection data, and when the Health Department posts
12 about restaurant grades, and many other city agencies
13 are making information available to the public about
14 their work, we think it was time that the Parks
15 Department follows suit by informing the public about
16 this important work on their block. And I'm pleased
17 that thanks to the leadership of Minority Leader
18 Matteo, the public is now going to have access to
19 this critical information on a regular basis, which
20 we think will ensure accountability and be a win for
21 all people who care about street trees and the street
22 landscape in general. So we're going to keep the
23 vote open now as our colleagues stream in to vote on
24 this outstanding bill, but I thank my colleagues who
25 have made quorum possible and have put us over the

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2 top on--once again on this important matter. Thank
3 you very much. [background comments] [pause]

4 CHAIRPERSON LEVINE: Open--open for 20
5 minutes. I know that Majority Leader Van Bramer is
6 expected momentarily.

7 CLERK: Thank you. Continuation of roll
8 call Committee on Parks and Recreation. Roll call on
9 Intro No. 1112-A. Council Member Van Bramer.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Because Mark
11 Levine is so wonderful, I vote aye.

12 CLERK: By a vote of 5 in the
13 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
14 the item has been adopted. [background comments,
15 pause] Thank you. Continuation of roll call,
16 Committee on Parks and Recreation. Roll call for
17 Intro No. 1112-A, Council Member Mealy.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: I vote aye.

19 CLERK: The vote now stands at 6 in the
20 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions.
21 [pause] The Committee on Parks and Recreation vote on
22 Intro 1112-A is 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 April 28, 2017