

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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November 27, 2018
Start: 1:02 p.m.
Recess: 1:24 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E: YDANIS A. RODRIGUEZ
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Fernando Cabrera
Costa G. Constantinides
Chaim M. Deutsch
Ruben Diaz, Sr.
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.
Peter A. Koo
Stephen T. Levin
Mark Levine
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards
Deborah L. Rose
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.

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

2 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Good afternoon,
3 everyone. Thank you for being here. We've been
4 joined by my colleagues Council Member
5 Constantinides, Menchaca, Deutsch, Miller, Diaz,
6 Cabrera, Levin and Salamanca. Today, we will be
7 voting on two bills, which I also would like to have
8 my name included to be able to recognize the
9 contributions of two important groups. One, the
10 Latino community with the Three Kings' days, and I'm
11 proud to be one of those born and raised in the
12 Caribbean, and also the other bill recognizing the
13 contribution of the Chinese and the Asian community.
14 The first proposed Intro 370-A introduced by Council
15 Member Salamanca will suspend alternative side
16 parking regulation on the Three Kings' Day.
17 [Speaking Spanish. So, I'm proud to add my name on
18 this bill with the great colleague Salamanca
19 recognizing the contribution in this case of the
20 Latino community, and again recognizing the
21 contribution of a particular group is recognizing the
22 contribution of the 8.5 million New Yorkers. So, as
23 someone born and raised also in-in the Caribbean, it
24 is a great day because different from the 1900 census
25 when the Latino we were not counted. Today's city

2 population has Latinos with 29% making, you know, the
3 second largest group in the city. The second
4 proposed, Intro 497-A introduced by Council Member
5 Koo was suspend alternative side parking regulations
6 on Lunar New Years if another important contribution
7 to the Asian community to all of us. I would like to
8 invite Council Member Salamanca, the sponsor of
9 Proposed Intro 370-A-dash A to deliver his opening
10 statement.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Thank you—
12 thank you Chair Rodriguez. Good afternoon to all.
13 Today, we are voting on Intro 370, which would
14 suspend alternate side parking regulations on Three
15 Kings' Day, a Christian holiday widely celebrated by
16 many Latino communities. For many of the Christian
17 faith, the Christmas season officially ends on this
18 day with parades, celebration and religious
19 ceremonies taking place all over the five boroughs.
20 Just as the city recognizes the vast number of
21 religious and cultural holidays and suspends
22 alternate side parking, many in the Latino community
23 request the same treatment. I urge my colleagues on
24 the community to join me in voting yes to approve
25 Intro 370, and send a message to the Christian and

2 Latino communities that your celebrations matter, and
3 that the city recognizes them. Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you and
5 Council Member Koo cannot be here, but again it was
6 because of his leadership that also we pass this bill
7 that will be also suspending alternative side parking
8 regulation on three-on-on the Lunar Day. On the
9 Lunar New-New Year's Eve. We are for cleaning our
10 streets. As someone that chairs this Committee on
11 Transportation with my colleague, we are all about
12 making our streets clean, our streets safe. By-by
13 adding this suspending on those two days as we've
14 done-as we also do for all the days, we believe that
15 this was an important recognition of this important
16 group, and also I would like to thank the Speaker
17 Corey Johnson, and our colleague for working with us
18 making these bills a reality. I now call for a vote
19 on Proposed Intro 370-A and 497-A. I recommend a yes
20 vote and I ask the Committee Clerk to please call-
21 call the roll, and again to add my name on those two
22 bills.

23 CLERK: Matthew DiStefano, Committee
24 Clerk, Committee on Transportation, roll call vote on

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2 Proposed Intro No, 370-A and Proposed Intro No. 497-

3 A. Chair Rodriguez.

4 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: A very proud aye.

5 CLERK: Cabrera.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

7 CLERK: Constantinides.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I vote

9 aye.

10 CLERK: Deutsch.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye and please

12 sign me onto 497-A.

13 CLERK: Levin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye, and

15 I'd also like to be signed onto 497-A, and 370-A as

16 well. Thank you.

17 CLERK: Menchaca.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I vote aye on

19 both, and thank you, Council Member Salamanca for

20 your leadership on this, and I want to be added to

21 497-A, and thank Council Member Koo for his

22 leadership on-on his bill.

23 CLERK: Miller.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I vote aye on

25 all. I would also like to congratulate my colleague

2 Salamanca and Council Member Koo on being a voice for
3 such an important part of our faith based and
4 cultural portions of our city, and—and add my voice,
5 and it is an honor to add my voice to this
6 legislation. Thank you.

7 CLERK: Salamanca.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

9 CLERK: Diaz.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Permission to—to
11 explain my vote?

12 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Thank you, Mr.
14 Chairman, and I'm—I'm really, really excited today
15 because Council Member Salamanca has introduced a
16 bill that is so important for all Christians. The
17 Three Kings' Day is a celebration of the visit of the
18 three or three wise guys to baby Jesus, and they
19 brought a gift to Jesus, and in our culture and our
20 religion and in every Hispanic country December—
21 January 6 is the day that said—that we celebrate the
22 Three Kings' Day, and to second, I—I—every year I
23 celebrate that—that day, and that day we distribute
24 for our 1,000 toys to the children, for the needy
25 children in the South Bronx. Where other people do

2 Santa Claus, we do the Three Kings' Day, and
3 sometimes people get a ticket when they come to our
4 festivities because they bring their children and
5 they bring their—their families, and the auditoriums
6 are packed and now with this piece of legislation,
7 Salamanca is showing concern, which—which I
8 appreciate. I'm very happy and congratulate him
9 because of that, and this year we celebrate—even
10 though this year will be Saturday—this year the Three
11 Kings' Day will fall on Saturday. Oh, no, it's
12 Sunday this November—we—we're celebrating on
13 Saturday, it's the 6th—January 6, and we—I invite
14 everyone to join us that day giving out toys to
15 children in the—in the Bronx. So, Salamanca, thank
16 you very much. With the Chairman thank you for—for
17 this opportunity and I vote yes on all.

18 CLERK: Richards. [pause] Council Member
19 Richards.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I vote aye.

21 CLERK: By a vote of 10 in the
22 affirmative, 0 in the negative, and no abstentions,
23 the items have been adopted.

24 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: So we are going
25 to be asking the Administration to please give us

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2 another five minutes. So, we are going to be leaving
3 he vote open for five minutes, and I'm going to be
4 going across to vote on the committee, but five
5 minutes sharp, I will be here. Okay? [pause]

6 CLERK: Continuation of roll call,
7 Council Member Rose.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.[laughs] Thank
9 you.

10 CLERK: [Buzzing]-is Intro No. 497-A.
11 Council Member Reynoso.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I vote aye on
13 all. Thank you.

14 CLERK: Okay, the final vote 12 in the
15 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions.
16 [pause]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Alright, this
18 Transportation hearing is now 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 December 18, 2018