

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON SANITATION AND SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT

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December 19, 2018  
Start: 12:12 p.m.  
Recess: 12:17 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm.  
16<sup>th</sup> Fl.

B E F O R E: ANTONIO REYNOSO  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Fernando Cabrera  
Chaim M. Deutsch  
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.  
Paul A. Vallone

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

2 [sound check] [pause] [gavel]

3 CHAIRPERSON REYNOSO: Good morning. I am  
4 Council Member Antonio Reynoso, the Chair of the  
5 Committee on Sanitation and Solid Waste Management.  
6 Thank you for attending today's vote on Proposed  
7 Intro No. 1075-A sponsored by Public Advocate Letitia  
8 James in relation to an organic waste curbside  
9 collection pilot program. Proposed Intro 1075-A  
10 would create a pilot program for organic recycling in  
11 buildings including city agencies. The bill also  
12 lends its education and outreach to those buildings  
13 that will participate in the program. This is an  
14 important step towards New York City becoming a  
15 leader in organics recycling. I plan to work with  
16 DSNY to ensure that his pilot program is as  
17 successful as possible. There's no room to include--  
18 there is room to include more buildings than the bill  
19 mandates in the pilot program. This s a good  
20 opportunity for DSNY to demonstrate their commitment  
21 to organics recycling and learn the best way to  
22 educate people about source separating their food  
23 waste. I--I want to thank my committee members for  
24 being here, Cabrera, Espinal and Deutsch especially  
25 Cabrera that's come from the Bronx, and on a 24-hour

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2 notice. I really appreciate that, but I will ask the  
3 Clerk to call a vote.

4 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk,  
5 roll call vote, Committee on Sanitation and Solid  
6 Waste Management, Introduction 1075-A. Chair Reynoso.

7 CHAIRPERSON REYNOSO: I vote aye.

8 CLERK: Cabrera.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Permission to  
10 explain my vote?

11 CHAIRPERSON REYNOSO: Absolutely.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so  
13 much, Mr. Chair. First, I want to congratulate the  
14 Public Advocate for this wonderful bill, and want to  
15 wish her her—her best as she moves onto become  
16 Attorney General, but Mr. Chair, as you know, we had  
17 this discussion yesterday. If in the future for the  
18 sake of democracy not to have these votes with 24-  
19 hour notice. I went through the same situation in—in  
20 my committee this week with 48-hours and—and we moved  
21 on because, you know, just a little notice for people  
22 to know, and also for Council Members, our colleagues  
23 who have, you know, things that were scheduled. I  
24 had to move a whole bunch of stuff. So, if we could

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2 do that, please in the future be conscientious of  
3 that, but with that I vote aye.

4 CLERK: Deutsch.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: May I explain my  
6 vote.

7 CHAIRPERSON REYNOSO: Absolutely.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: So, off topic,  
9 actually. So, I just want to say before I vote that  
10 you're going to have two consecutive Tuesdays that's  
11 going to be—fall on a holiday, Christmas and New  
12 Years, which means that recycling won't be picked up  
13 probably for three weeks in most cases and probably  
14 all cases in many parts of the city. So, since the  
15 Chair is in a good mood this morning, and is in a  
16 spending mood, so I just want to say that we need to  
17 fight in this coming budget to make sure that there's  
18 enough funding in Sanitation that they're able to  
19 pick up the recycling following the holidays. So,  
20 this way people don't need to wait three weeks  
21 because like I said before, I don't have room in my  
22 bedroom to store recycling, and I don't thin anyone  
23 else does, and I thin this is crucial when we talk  
24 about zero waste, and we're constantly, you know,  
25 moving forward in this city to—to really address the

2 waste situation throughout the city, and this is  
3 crucial that we have enough money—funding in the  
4 budget to make sure that the recycling also the trash  
5 gets picked up following the holiday. With that, I  
6 vote aye on the bill

7 CLERK: Espinal.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I just want to  
9 thank Chaim Deutsch for reminding me that my  
10 recycling won't be picked up for the next two weeks.  
11 I made the mistake of not putting it out this  
12 morning. So, now it's three weeks for me but  
13 [laughs] with that, I vote aye.

14 CLERK: By a vote of 4 in the affirmative  
15 0 in the negative and no abstentions, the item has  
16 been adopted by the committee.

17 CHAIRPERSON REYNOSO: I want to thank the  
18 committee again for today. I just want to say I will  
19 be having a conversation with the commissioner so  
20 that Rafael Espinal's trash can be picked up within  
21 the next three weeks, but I think in general in the  
22 city of New York it is a problem, and we have  
23 consecutive days, and we want to make sure we have an  
24 answer for that, and I know you've been an advocate  
25 fighting for full funding of the Department of

1 Sanitation. It's something I would do, and I also  
2 want to say to Council Member Cabrera that I agree  
3 100% that there should be a—a significant amount of  
4 notice given to Council Members so they can  
5 deliberate and going through they bills so they can  
6 understand them more deeply and also allow for time  
7 to schedule an appropriate matter. So, I will be  
8 advocating with you on making sure that that happens.  
9 I want to thank everyone for being here today, and I  
10 think we're done. We're 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 January 18, 2019