

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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May 11, 2010
Start: 12:47pm
Recess: 1:05pm

HELD AT: 250 Broadway- Hearing Room
16th Floor

B E F O R E:
MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Julissa Ferras
James Vacca
Daniel Dromm
James G. Van Bramer

CHAIRPERSON MARK-VIVERITO: Sorry I'm starting late. Well, good afternoon everybody. I want to thank everyone for being here, to Chair this hearing. It's actually going to be a vote as well on this legislation, as we had the hearing a couple of weeks ago. I'm proud to chair the second hearing and vote on the proposed Intro 123-A. This bill has gone through several edits. And based on the testimony we heard here, prior, and the work undertaken by advocates, I want to thank all of those that have made this bill happen.

Most notably, I want to thank New Yorkers for Parks, New York City Park Advocates, the Natural Resources Defense Council, and New York Lawyers for Public Interest, for all the work they've done on this issue. And I'd like to obviously thank the members of the Committee for their insightful input on the bill, as well as the Committee Staff for their hard work, and the administration that has worked in partnership with us on this bill.

Intro 123-A is an important step in ensuring the continued maximum use of our parks,

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2 while also addressing the health, safety and
3 environmental risks posed by the use of artificial
4 turf and other surface materials. This bill will
5 ensure that the City is receiving independent
6 advice from leaders in relevant fields before
7 decisions are made as to what materials to use in
8 our playing fields and playgrounds. It will also
9 ensure that reports will be submitted by both the
10 Parks Commissioner and the committee that will be
11 formed, and that those reports will be quickly
12 made publicly accessible.

13 This bill will lead to greater
14 transparency, and we hope that the Parks
15 Department will consider the facts presented by
16 the advisory committee seriously, and take them
17 seriously when they make decisions regarding the
18 introduction of new surface materials into the
19 parks. I don't know if any of my colleagues have
20 any comments. If not, we will directly go--if
21 there are no other comments. I want to just thank
22 the Committee Members and ask the clerk to call
23 the roll call.

24 WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin,
25 Committee Clerk, roll call on the Committee on

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2 Parks and Recreation, introduction 123-A, Council
3 Member Mark-Viverito?

4 CHAIRPERSON MARK-VIVERITO: I vote
5 aye.

6 WILLIAM MARTIN: Vacca?

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

8 WILLIAM MARTIN: Ferreras?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: I vote
10 Aye.

11 WILLIAM MARTIN: Dromm.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye.

13 WILLIAM MARTIN: Van Bramer.

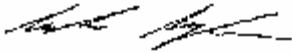
14 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

15 WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote of five
16 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no
17 abstentions, item is adopted. And members, please
18 sign the Committee report. Thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON MARK-VIVERITO: We'll
20 leave the record open for at least a half-hour, I
21 think, before we close. Okay, so 15 minutes.
22 We'll leave the roll call open for 15 minutes.
23 Thank you.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Erika Swyler, 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 _____

Date 5/21/10 _____