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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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May 12, 2021  
Start: 9:36 a.m.  
Recess: 9:48 a.m.

HELD AT: Remote Hearing (Virtual Room 1)

B E F O R E: Hon. Ydanis Rodriguez  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers  
Fernando Cabrera  
Ruben Diaz, Sr.  
Robert F. Holden  
Peter A. Koo  
Stephen T. Levin  
Mark Levine  
Carlos Menchaca  
I. Daneek Miller  
Antonio Reynoso  
Deborah L. Rose  
Helen Rosenthal  
Darma Diaz  
Karen Koslowitz

1  
2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Recorder to... Recorder to  
3 computer all set.

4 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Cloud is rolling.

5 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Back up is rolling.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and welcome to  
7 today's remote New York City Council hearing for the  
8 Committee on Transportation. At this time, would all  
9 panelists please turn on their video for verification  
10 purposes. And to minimize disruptions, please place  
11 all electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode.  
12 Thank you for cooperation. Chair Rodriguez, we are  
13 ready to begin.

14 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. Thank you,  
15 Sergeants and everyone in the tech field, the Council  
16 for allowing us to be... being hold in this hearing  
17 and to connect all New Yorkers to the best in our  
18 City Council.

19 Good morning. Thank you for joining the  
20 Committee on Transportations hearing to vote on  
21 Proposed Intro. Number 2061-A. It appears that I  
22 have a sponsor that would amend administrative code  
23 for the City of New York in relation to mark share  
24 system. I also want to give credit to Congressman  
25 Espallat with whom I been working for so many

1  
2 months.. months in this bill and Speaker Johnson, my  
3 colleague for being part in this initiative. In  
4 recent years, in particularly during the pandemic, we  
5 have seen an increase in the use of alternative modes  
6 of transportation within the city. Because of this,  
7 the Committee of Transportation has worked tirelessly  
8 to pass legislation to regulate this increasingly  
9 popular ways of getting around.

10 Notably in June of 2020, the Committee passed a  
11 package of bills that legalized a certain type of e-  
12 scooter and e-bikes within New York City. In  
13 addition to e-bikes and e-scooters, mopeds offer  
14 riders yet another way to travel through the city  
15 without vehicle.

16 Since mopeds can be registered within the DMV,  
17 they are already legal to ride on our streets as long  
18 as riders meet certain criteria and also the rules of  
19 the road. Companies like Revel and Lime uh enter  
20 this space and provide shared electrical motor  
21 services which have expanded access to these devices.  
22 Last summer, we saw a strain of mopeds crashes  
23 leading to the dead and serious injury in multiple  
24 New Yorkers. As the Chairman of the Transportation  
25

1  
2 Committee the safety of all pedestrian and cyclists  
3 and moped riders have been my top priority.

4       Currently, DOT lack the authority to regulate  
5 these services. I believe it is crucial that we  
6 balance our goal of expanding access to alternative  
7 motor transportation with consent for the safety of  
8 all New Yorkers. My bill does just that. From  
9 Intro. Proposal Intro. 2061-A will prohibit operation  
10 of moped share system without DOT approval.

11 Requiring moped share system operators to obtain a  
12 permit for each in their fleet, require DOT to  
13 promulgate rules and safety and riders compliance  
14 with local and state law including helmet use  
15 monitoring, limit moped share systems to mopeds  
16 incapable of exceeding 30 mile-per-hour and create  
17 penalty and provide for the improvements of  
18 authorized mopeds.

19       I'm very proud to be the sponsor of this  
20 important bill and happy that we are voting it out of  
21 Committee today. And again, thank you Congressman  
22 Espaillat. Thank you, Speaker Johnson. Thank you to  
23 my colleagues who'll be working with support of this  
24 bill. [SPEAKING IN SPANISH 03:40-4:10].

1  
2 I will now ask the Committee Clerk to conduct a  
3 roll call vote on the Proposed bill and recommend  
4 that my colleague vote yes on this important piece  
5 legislation.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning, William Martin  
7 Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on  
8 Transportation Proposed Introduction 2061-A. Chair  
9 Rodriguez?

10 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: I vote aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: I vote aye and I commend  
13 the Chair for this bill uh it's a timely bill. I'm  
14 concerned about uh the fact that uh this month is  
15 where our handle regulations. So, thank you uh for  
16 your leadership, uh Chairman Rodriguez. And uhm...  
17 and.. and this couldn't be in a timely manner now  
18 that we're approaching the summer and I see so many  
19 violations uh this month.

20 And so, I'm looking forward for technology to  
21 catch up with this. This is why - thank you so much.  
22 And with that, I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Council member Koo?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye.  
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COMMITTEE CLERK: Levin? Council member Levin?  
Okay, we will come back.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Council member Rose?  
COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: My apologies Council member?  
COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I said aye and  
Congratulations Chair.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.  
CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Council  
member.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Levine?  
COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I vote aye and also  
congratulations, Mr. Chair.  
CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thanks.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Menchaca?  
COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I vote aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller? Council member Miller,  
I believe you were muted.  
COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, sir.  
CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Council member  
and I missed you this morning. Yes.  
COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Yes.  
COMMITTEE CLERK: Dia... Ruben Diaz, Sr?

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COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ, SR: Aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Holden?

COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks-Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS-POWERS: Good morning. I  
vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. One moment.  
Council member Steve Levin?

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, sir. By a vote of  
the 11 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and  
no abstentions. Proposed Introduction has been  
adopted by the Committee. And Mr. Chair, we are  
waiting for one more member.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you to my  
colleagues and I will waiting for the lawyer to close  
this hearing. We will remain open for the next  
Council Member in another topic. I would like to  
encourage my colleague to vote to sign in in a bill  
that I am also introducing today together with  
council member... with Speaker Johnson and Borough  
President Eric Adams that will create the... the  
Mayor's Office of Any and Community Media of the City  
of New York.

1  
2 With that, I leave it open and the lawyer will uh  
3 close... close this hearing. Thank you.

4 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Members, just so you know, we  
5 are still live.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Sergeant, what time is  
7 the next vote and what Committee is that?

8 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Uh next up is Consumer Affairs  
9 at 10:00 a.m.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Beautiful, thank you.

11 SERGEANT AT ARMS: You got it.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Sergeant, uh this is  
13 Council member Reynoso.

14 SERGEANT AT ARMS: Yes. Uh they're gonna call  
15 you in uh, uh...

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning Council member  
17 Reynoso, roll call vote on Proposed Introduction  
18 2061-A.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I vote aye on all.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, sir. Final vote now  
21 on Committee of Transportation on Proposed  
22 Introduction 2061-A is now adopted by the Committee  
23 12 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no  
24 abstentions. Thank you everyone.



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SERGEANT AT ARMS: Alright, the live is ended.  
Thank you.

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 June 7, 2021