

by the city to place welfare recipients in jobs that pay a living wage with benefits;" and thus, there should be a hearing on these proposals to determine their benefit for the City of New York; and
Whereas, Mark Rosenthal, the President of Local 983 of District Council 37, which represents the parks workers, stated that the proposal is unfair to Parks Opportunity Workers who have contracted to work in their present program for eleven months; and
Whereas; The Parks Opportunity Workers are part of a career ladder program set up by the Parks Department to provide training and employment for welfare recipients to become independent and productive citizens, and, thus, should be continued; and
Whereas; The Parks Opportunity Workers make up two-thirds of the Parks Department's staff and three-fourths of its maintenance staff, and the employment of Parks Opportunity Workers has allowed the City to maintain our parks at a reasonable level of cleanliness and repair, despite the dramatic drop in Parks Department staff from nearly 5,000 in 1986 to 1,900 at present; now, therefore, be it
Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls upon the City of New York to maintain the wages of 3,500 Parks Opportunity Workers at \$9.38 an hour, with benefits, instead of transferring them to a program with wages of \$7.95 an hour, and calling for the appropriate committee of the Council to hold hearings on the implementation of a welfare-to-work program in City agencies at a living wage, with benefits.