



Legislation Text

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Int. No. 1451

By Council Members Cabrera, Holden, Van Bramer, Cornegy, Rosenthal, Powers, Cumbo, Miller, Ampry-Samuel, Rose, Grodenchik, Reynoso, Richards, Kallos, Louis, Chin, Gibson and Ulrich

A Local Law in relation to creating a task force to review the feasibility of creating a New York city museum of African American history

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

Section 1. New York city museum of African American history task force. a. The mayor shall establish a temporary task force to consider the feasibility of creating a museum dedicated to the history, significance, and documentation of African American life and culture in New York city.

b. The task force shall consist of 11 members, as follows: the commissioners of cultural affairs and parks and recreation or their designees, the chair of the landmarks preservation commission or his or her designee; five members to be appointed by the mayor; and three members to be appointed by the speaker of the council. Appointed members shall include representatives of institutions, organizations, corporations, or associations that are organized or operated primarily for historical, cultural, educational, religious, or charitable purposes and which are connected to African American heritage, history, or culture. The mayor, after consultation with the speaker of the council, shall designate a chairperson of the task force. Each member of the task force shall serve without compensation for a term of 12 months, to commence after the final member of the task force is appointed. All members shall be appointed within 60 days after the effective date of this local law.

c. No appointed member of the task force shall be removed except for cause by the appointing authority. In the event of a vacancy on the task force during the term of an appointed member, a successor shall be selected in the same manner as the original appointment to serve the balance of the unexpired term.

d. The task force shall meet at least quarterly and shall hold at least two public meetings prior to submission of the report required pursuant to subdivision f of this section to solicit public comment on the establishment of a New York city museum of African American history.

e. The mayor may designate one or more agencies to provide staffing and other administrative support to the task force.

f. The task force shall submit a report of its recommendations to the mayor and the speaker of the council no later than 12 months after the final member of the task force is appointed. In formulating its recommendations, the task force shall consider the following:

1. The feasibility of establishing a New York city museum of African American history;

2. Potential sites for the museum;

3. Systems that would be necessary for the museum of provide outreach to the five boroughs;

4. The level of coordination among appropriate city agencies and other relevant organizations that would be necessary to the implementation and operation of a New York city museum of African American history; and

5. Outreach and educational materials and efforts, including technological tools, that would be necessary to support the operation of a New York city museum of African American history.

g. The task force required pursuant to this section shall dissolve upon submission of the report required pursuant to subdivision f of this section.

§ 2. This local law takes effect immediately.

BM
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