

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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December 18, 2017
Start: 10:50 a.m.
Recess: 11:08 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm.
14th Fl.

B E F O R E: YDANIS A. RODRIGUEZ
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Daniel R. Garodnick
James Vacca
Margaret S Chin
Stephen T. Levin
Deborah L. Rose
James G. Van Bramer
David G. Greenfield
Costa G. Constantinides
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards

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

2 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: ...items,
3 Greenfield and that's it, and—and Koslowitz who is
4 leaving right now. Today for the first time we are
5 voting to establish a reporting on pedestrian
6 bollards in New York City. For months I have been
7 asking the city for the installation of safety
8 bollards on areas with—with a high volume of
9 pedestrians throughout the entire city. This bill
10 1658-A will mandate the city of New York to put
11 together a plan of installing all necessary
12 pedestrian bollards that will make our sidewalks
13 safer from potential terrorist attack. What we are
14 doing here is similar to legislation introduced by
15 Senator Gillibrand at the federal level to support
16 the city's planning to install bollards to enhance
17 pedestrian safety. New York is proud to be known as
18 a great walking city. Bollards play a key role in
19 preventing vehicles from being used as weapons in
20 crowded areas, which are so common throughout the
21 five boroughs. This legislation 1658-A will help the
22 New York City Council fulfill its oversight role, and
23 allow us to make sure that these vital tools are
24 being used effectively by the city to protect
25 vulnerable—vulnerable pedestrians. We have seen so

2 many of those bollards, but many in front of
3 important financial institutions. Introduced 1658-A
4 will require the Administration to report to the
5 Council every year about the installation of sidewalk
6 bollards throughout the whole City. Too often we
7 have seen how easily a terrorist or a reckless driver
8 can cause immense harm to many people very quickly
9 simply by driving a vehicle into the sidewalk. We
10 were exactly reminded of this on Halloween this year
11 when a terrorist drove into the Hudson River Greenway
12 killing 8 people and injuring 11 others. On the same
13 day on the same greenway ten years ago cyclist Eric-
14 Eric was killed by a drunk driver. In May, a young
15 lady Alyssa Elsman, 18 years old of Portland,
16 Michigan was killed in Times Square and many others
17 were injured when a man drove into an area packed
18 with pedestrians. Without the bollards, dozens of
19 people could be killed in Times Square. He eventually
20 hit a bollard preventing even more New Yorkers and
21 tourists to die in Times Square. We are going to
22 keep working hard to make sure that the installation-
23 installation of bollards in front of the schools,
24 plazas, theaters and Vision Zero corridors begin as
25 soon as possible in order to continue creating a New

2 York City safe for all. Today, we will be also
3 voting on two important pieces of legislation.
4 First, Proposed Intro 1397-A is sponsored by Council
5 Member Mathieu-Matteo who—who will set out various
6 requirements for the restoration of a protected
7 street whenever it is open street—opened. A street
8 becomes protected for five years after they have been
9 resurfaced or reconstructed. In order to maintain
10 our streets in good condition, it is vitally
11 important that they be restored properly after they
12 are opened for any reason, and this bill will help
13 ensure that that that happens. I would like to thank
14 the Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito for her support and
15 leadership on these bills, and all the members who
16 signed this bill, and I now call for the vote on
17 Proposed Intros 1397-A and 1658-A. I recommend a yes
18 vote, and I ask the Committee Clerk to please the
19 roll.

20 CLERK: Committee Clerk Matthew
21 DiStefano, Committee on Transportation. Roll call
22 vote on Intros 1397-A and 1658-A. Chair Rodriguez.

23 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

24 CLERK: Garodnick.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

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2 CLERK: Vacca.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote—I vote aye
4 on both, and I want to have my name added to 1397. I
5 think it's incumbent upon the City, though, if I can
6 comment to do more than make reports. I want to see
7 bollards installed, and I want those bollards
8 installed at appropriate locations soon, and although
9 I will not be on this Council, I'm stating for the
10 record now that when that report comes, I want to see
11 it. I want to know what they've done. The public is
12 entitled to know what they've done. Prior to the
13 report, there has to be oversight to make sure that
14 this is a work in progress. This Council should not
15 wait for that report. The next Council rather should
16 make sure that in the interim period between the
17 passage of—the passage of this legislation and the
18 deadline for compliance that there is incremental and
19 significant progress and site by site must be
20 analyzed by this body. Thank you.

21 CLERK: Chin.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: [off mic] Aye on
23 all.

24 CLERK: Rose.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye, aye.

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2 CLERK: Van Bramer.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

4 CLERK: Greenfield.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: [off mic]

6 Aye.

7 CLERK: Richards.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

9 CLERK: Menchaca.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Aye.

11 CLERK: By a vote of 9 in the
12 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
13 the items have been adopted. [pause]

14 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Yes, so [Speaking
15 Spanish] [pause]

16 CLERK: Continuation of roll call,
17 Committee on Transportation, roll call vote on Intros
18 1397-A and 1658-A. Council Member Levin.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.

20 CLERK: The vote stands at 10 in the
21 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Okay and at 11:09
23 a.m. the hearing 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 13, 2018