

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 1
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

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November 2, 2023
Start: 10:56 a.m.
Recess: 11:05 a.m.

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Selvena Brooks-Powers, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Joann Ariola
David M. Carr
Amanda Farías
Ari Kagan
Linda Lee
Farrah N. Louis
Mercedes Narcisse
Lincoln Restler
Carlina Rivera
Nantasha M. Williams
Julie Won
Kalman Yeger

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and
3 welcome to the New York City hybrid hearing on the
4 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

5 Please silence all electronic devices.

6 Chair, we are ready to begin.

7 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: [GAVEL] Good
8 morning and welcome to this hearing of the Committee
9 on Transportation and Infrastructure. I am Selvena
10 Brooks-Powers, Chair to the Committee.

11 Today, we will be voting on three pieces
12 of legislation, Intro. number 816 sponsored by
13 Council Member Lincoln Restler in relation to
14 suspending alternate side parking regulations on
15 Tisha B'Av and Intro. number 1191 sponsored by myself
16 in relation to taxicab license durations, and Intro.
17 1192, also sponsored by myself, in relation to
18 authorizing physician assistants and nurse
19 practitioners to conduct medical exams of taxi
20 driver's license applicants.

21 Equity is always at the forefront of this
22 Committee's work. Suspending alternate side of the
23 street parking on Tisha B'Av brings the city one step
24 closer to ensuring that the DOT's list of legal and
25 religious holidays is equitable and fair. Moreover,

2 it will ease a transportation burden for communities
3 that respect this day.

4 Intros 1191 and 1192 would make TLC more
5 efficient and help drivers by changing the duration
6 of taxicab licenses from one year to two years and
7 allowing applicants for a taxi driver's license to
8 obtain medical clearance from a physician assistant
9 or nurse practitioner. Nurse practitioners and
10 physician assistants are trained and licensed to
11 conduct medical examinations. Allowing TLC driver
12 applicants to obtain exams from these professionals
13 will remove a layer of red tape and expedite the
14 driver's licensing process.

15 I look forward to voting on these bills.
16 I will now allow Council Member Restler to speak on
17 his bill.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Thank you so
19 much, Chair Brooks-Powers, for your support and,
20 Speaker Adams, for her support.

21 Tisha B'Av is one of the most mournful
22 and tragic days in the Jewish calendar and, for
23 observant Jews, they are at shul from early in the
24 morning until late at night. They fast. They are
25 unable to worry about moving their car, and I really

2 feel that right now with antisemitism heightened at
3 extreme levels, it's really important that we show
4 respect for the cultures and traditions of the Jewish
5 community, and this is a small thing in a world
6 that's on fire, but it's an important one, and I
7 really want to thank, especially Council Member Yeger
8 for his partnership on this, and this was initially
9 introduced by Council Member David Greenfield 11
10 years ago, and so I'm really happy to have picked up
11 the baton and helped to get it over the finish line
12 so thank you to everybody who's supporting this and
13 thank you to my Colleagues.

14 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you for
15 that. I will now ask the Committee Clerk to conduct a
16 roll call vote on the legislation and recommend that
17 my Colleagues vote yes on this legislation.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
19 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
20 vote Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure,
21 items are coupled. Chair Brooks-Powers.

22 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: Aye on all.
23 Congratulations, Council Member Restler.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Rivera.
25 Yeger. Louis.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
4 you. Farías.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER FARIÁS: I vote aye on all.
6 Congrats.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Lee.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER LEE: Aye on all.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Narcisse.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye on all.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Restler.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER RESTLER: Aye.

13 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Williams.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Won.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WON: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Carr.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER CARR: Aye on all.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Kagan.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER KAGAN: Aye on all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Yeger.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: May I be excused to
23 explain my vote, Madam Chair?

24 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: Yes.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER YEGER: Thank you very
3 much. I want to thank very much my Colleague, Council
4 Member Restler, for Intro. 816 which has been a dream
5 of Members of the Council who were here long before
6 we were. Tisha B'Av is an incredibly important
7 observance day that commemorates and mourns the
8 destruction of the temples in Israel going back for
9 several thousand years, and that is a day of fast, it
10 is a day of prayer, it is a day of mourn, and it is a
11 day when the Jewish community in New York ought not
12 be bothered with having to worry about whether or not
13 they have to move their car. It's something that
14 Members who were here long before us have tried to
15 get done, and Lincoln Restler was able to get it
16 done. I'm very grateful, Madam Chair, to you for
17 allowing this hearing and this vote and moving this
18 bill forward, and I vote aye on all. Thank you.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
20 you. With a vote of 11 in the affirmative, zero in
21 the negative, and no abstentions, all items have been
22 adopted by the Committee.

23 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: We're going to
24 leave this open.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

3 Continuation roll call, Committee on Transportation
4 and Infrastructure on Introductions 816, 1191, and
5 1192. Council Member Rivera.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ariola.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: I vote aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Final
10 vote is all items have been adopted by the Committee
11 with 13 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and
12 no abstentions.

13 Madam Chair, that is a full Committee.

14 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: With that, the
15 vote is recessed. Thank you.

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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 November 7, 2023