

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HOUSING

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CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HOUSING

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March 26, 2025

Start: 10:25 a.m.

Recess: 10:52 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Chris Banks, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Alexa Avilés

Erik D. Bottcher

Justin L. Brannan

Darlene Mealy

Chi A. Ossé

Rafael Salamanca, Jr.

Pierina Ana Sanchez

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning, and
3 welcome to today's New York City Council vote for the
4 Committee on Public Housing.

5 At this time, we ask that you silence all
6 electronic devices, and at no time are you to
7 approach the dais.

8 Chair Banks, we're ready to start.

9 CHAIRPERSON BANKS: [GAVEL] I'm calling
10 this meeting to order. Good morning, everyone, and
11 welcome to this hearing of the Committee on Public
12 Housing of the City of New York Council. I'm Council
13 Member Chris Banks, the Chair of this Committee, and
14 I'm glad to be joined by my Colleagues, Bottcher,
15 Brannan, Avilés, Chi Ossé, and we have Salamanca on
16 Zoom, and Sanchez.

17 I'd like to thank you all for attending
18 this meeting to vote on two much-needed resolutions,
19 Resolution 730, calling on the New York State
20 Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign
21 legislation to conduct a thorough study on the RAD-
22 PACT program to assess the effects on the conversion
23 on residents and the program's impacts on tenants'
24 rights, security, community well-being, and
25 Resolution 731, calling on the New York State

Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign legislation to implement a more robust resident engagement voting process at each NYCHA development considering the RAD-PACT conversion.

As I'm sure everyone here is well aware, the RAD-PACT program converts NYCHA developments to private management. While NYCHA has made PACT a centerpiece of its plan for the future of public housing in New York City, residents continue to raise alarm about displacement, deteriorating conditions, and general mismanagement that they experience under the RAD-PACT. While advocating for greater agency to determine the future of their housing communities, given the life-altering impact of RAD-PACT conversions, we must demand greater oversight and transparency to ensure resident voices are heard and respected during the decision-making process. The two resolutions we are voting on today would provide critical reforms to the RAD-PACT program that NYCHA residents have been calling for as long as I've been Chair of this Committee and well before.

I'm calling this meeting to order.

Good morning, everyone, and welcome to this hearing on the Committee of Public Housing of

the New York City Council. I am Council Member Chris Banks. I'm the Chair of this Committee, and I'm glad to be joined by my Colleagues, Council Member Mealy, Bottcher, Brannan, Avilés, Chi Ossé, and we're joined by Zoom with Salamanca and Council Member Sanchez.

I'd like to thank you all for attending this meeting to vote on these two much-needed resolutions. Resolution 730 calls on the New York State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign legislation to conduct a thorough study on the RAD-PACT program to assess the effects on conversion on residents and the program's impacts on tenants' rights, security, and community well-being, and Resolution 731 calling on the New York State Legislature to pass and the Governor to sign legislation to implement a more robust resident engagement and voting process at each NYCHA development considering RAD-PACT conversion.

As I am sure everyone here is well aware that the RAD-PACT program converts NYCHA developments to private management. While NYCHA has made PACT a centerpiece of its plan for the future of public housing in New York City, residents continue to raise alarm about displacement, deteriorating conditions,

and general mismanagement that they experience under the RAD-PACT. While advocating for greater agency to determine the future of their housing communities, and given the life-altering impact of the RAD-PACT conversion, we must demand greater oversight and transparency to ensure resident voices are heard and respected during the decision-making process. The two resolutions that we are voting on today would provide critical reforms to the RAD-PACT program that NYCHA residents have been calling for as long as I have been Chair of this Committee and well before. Resolution 730 addresses the troubling lack of information about the impacts of RAD-PACT on its residents' rights and well-being. It calls for the State to commission a comprehensive study on the RAD-PACT, providing the data and insights necessary to allow residents and City and State officials to make an informed decision about the future of the program. But we also need safeguards in place to ensure that the residents' homes and communities are not stripped away or turned upside down without their say. That's why Resolution 731 calls on the State to impose more robust resident engagement procedures and to require NYCHA to hold a vote before any development is

converted to RAD-PACT. These resolutions are the direct result of the tireless advocacy of NYCHA residents, who have fought day in and day out to ensure that the voices of public housing residents receive the attention they deserve.

I'd like to give special thanks to the Tenant Association leaders at Linden Houses, the folks at Penn-Wortman Houses, Boulevard Houses, Brookline Houses, SAVE Section 9, Dr. Keisha Crawford, Keep Stuyvesant Gardens, and Section 9 Coalition, the resident leaders at Residence to Protect Public Housing, and also I would like to take the time to thank you and the Staff that made this happen, and I look forward to the continued partnership as we push for other crucial public housing reforms.

I'm proud to vote aye on both resolutions today and encourage my Colleagues to do so as well. I will now turn this over to the Clerk to call the roll.

COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call vote Committee on Public Housing. Both items are coupled. Chair Banks.

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2 CHAIRPERSON BANKS: Aye on all.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

4 Salamanca.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
7 you. Sanchez.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER SANCHEZ: Aye on all.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Thank
10 you. Brannan.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BRANNAN: Aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Avilés.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: Aye on all.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Bottcher

15 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Mealy.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: Aye on all.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ossé.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER OSSÉ: Aye on all.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Won. With
21 a vote of eight in the affirmative, zero in the
22 negative, and no abstentions, both items have been
23 adopted by the Committee.

24 CHAIRPERSON BANKS: Thank you. I would
25 like to thank my Colleagues for their patience.

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2 This meeting is 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 April 28, 2025