

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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March 24, 2009
Start: 11:50am
Recess: 11:55am

HELD AT: Committee Room
 City Hall

B E F O R E: DAVID I. WEPRIN
 Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
 Maria Baez
 Joel Rivera
 Peter F. Vallone, Jr.
 Diana Reyna
 Vincent Ignizio
 Lewis A. Fidler
 Helen Sears
 Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.
 James F. Gennaro
 James S. Oddo
 Eric N. Gioia
 Albert Vann
 G. Oliver Koppell
 Robert Jackson

A P P E A R A N C E S

Jeremy Waldrup
Assistant Commissioner
New York City Department of Small Business Services

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CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Good morning.

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And, welcome to today's Finance Committee hearing.

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This morning, the Finance Committee has only one

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item on its agenda. Let me introduce my

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colleagues that are here. We have Council Member

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Maria Baez from the Bronx, our Majority Leader,

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Council Member Joel Rivera from the Bronx, Council

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Member Peter Vallone, Jr. from Queens, Council

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Member Diana Reyna from Brooklyn and Queens,

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Council Member Vincent Ignizio from Staten Island,

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our Assistant Majority Leader, Council Member Lew

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Fidler from Brooklyn, Council Member Helen Sears

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from Queens, our Deputy Majority Leader, Council

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Member Leroy Comrie from Queens and I know we'll

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have other members joining us for a quorum very

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shortly.

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The Bedford-Stuyvesant Gateway BID,

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located in Council Member Albert Vann's district,

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is in the last stage of formation. On

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February 11th, 2009, this Committee had its first

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public hearing on Intro 906, which seeks to

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establish the BID. Such meeting closed without a

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vote. By law, the Committee must wait at least 30

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days after its first public hearing on the BID

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2 before it can, again, consider and possibly vote
3 to approve legislation to establish the BID. The
4 30-day period immediately after the public hearing
5 serves as an objection period, which gives a
6 property owner affected by this BID a chance to
7 formally object to its creation.

8 When considering Intro 906, the
9 Committee must answer the following four
10 questions. Number one, were all notices of
11 hearings for all hearings required to be held,
12 published and mailed as so required? Two, does
13 all the real property within the district
14 boundaries benefit from the establishment of the
15 district, except as otherwise provided by the law?
16 Three, is all real property benefited by the
17 district included within the district? And, four,
18 is the establishment of the district in the best
19 interests of the public?

20 If the Committee finds in the
21 affirmative on these four questions and the number
22 of objections required to prevent the creation of
23 such district are not filed, then the legislation
24 can be adopted. The objection period ended on
25 March 12th, 2009. I am told that no property

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2 owners objected to the creation of the BID. It is
3 to be noted that Council Member Albert Vann
4 supports this BID.

5 I am pleased to say that, with the
6 creation of this BID, New York City will now have
7 64 BIDs. The City has come a long way since the
8 first New York City BID was established in 1981.
9 New York City Comptroller, Bill Thompson, has
10 submitted a letter of support for the creation of
11 this BID and I will submit it for the record.

12 We've been joined by Council Member
13 Jim Gennaro from Queens.

14 And, Assistant Commissioner Jeremy
15 Waldrup, if you could come up. So, we're missing
16 one, right? [pause]

17 MALE VOICE: Yeah, he's ready.

18 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Commissioner
19 Waldrup.

20 JEREMY WALDRUP: Thank you. And,
21 good morning, Mr. Chairman and members of the
22 Finance Committee. I'm Jeremy Waldrup, an
23 Assistant Commissioner of the Department of Small
24 Business Services. As required by BID law, the
25 Bed-Stuy Gateway BID Steering Committee mailed the

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summary of the City Council Resolution to each owner of real property within the proposed district at the address shown on the latest City assessment roll or to such other persons as registered with the City to receive tax bills concerning real property within the district and to the tenants of each building within the proposed district. In addition, SBS arranged for the required publication of a copy of the summary of the Resolution in the City Record.

We are pleased to report on the results of the objections filed with the City Clerk against the establishment of the proposed Bed-Stuy Gateway Business Improvement District. At the conclusion of the objection period at 5 p.m. on March 12th, and taking into consideration any objections postmarked by that date, no objections were filed with the City Clerk.

The total assessed valuation of real property within the district is 56,135,858 and the total number of properties is 357, which are held by 267 property owners.

Our review concludes that the level of objection filed in terms of either number of

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2 property owners or percentage of assessed
3 valuation is within the acceptable threshold
4 needed to advance the bill for favorable
5 consideration by the full City Council.

6 SBS requests the City Council
7 approve the establishment of the Bed-Stuy Gateway
8 BID. The Department of Small Business Services
9 supports the establishment of the Bed-Stuy Gateway
10 BID and look forward to working with them to
11 improve business conditions, quality of life in
12 Bed-Stuy area and working to make it a good place
13 to live, work and visit. Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Thank you,
15 Commissioner. Any questions for Commissioner
16 Waldrup? Seeing no questions, I'm going to call
17 for a vote on the establishment of the Bedford-
18 Stuyvesant BID. Call the roll.

19 WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin,
20 Committee Clerk, roll call on the Committee on
21 Finance, Introduction 906. Council Member Weprin.

22 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Aye.

23 WILLIAM MARTIN: Rivera.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye.

25 WILLIAM MARTIN: Reyna.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Baez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER BAEZ: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Comrie.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Fidler.

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COUNCIL MEMBER FIDLER: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Gennaro.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GENNARO: Yes.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Sears.

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COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Vallone.

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COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Aye.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Ignizio.

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COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

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WILLIAM MARTIN: Oddo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ODDO: Yes - - .

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WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote of 11 in

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the affirmative, zero in the negative and no

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abstentions, item's adopted. Members, please sign

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the Committee Report. Thank you.

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CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Okay. I'm

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going to keep the roll open for a half hour until

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approximately 12:20 p.m. Other than that, we're

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adjourned.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member

Gioia.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIOIA: Thank you.

I vote yes.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Vote now stands at

12. Council Member Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Can I explain
my vote? I vote aye. I vote aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member

Koppell.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOPPELL: Yes.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Vote now stands at
14 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no
abstentions. Committee on Finance, Council Member
Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: I vote aye
on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Vote now stands at
15 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no
abstentions.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, DeeDee E. Tataseo certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

Signature

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "DeeDee E. Tataseo". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.Date April 10, 2009