

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE
CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

1

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND
INFRASTRUCTURE

----- X

June 11, 2025
Start: 9:56 a.m.
Recess: 10:13 a.m.

HELD AT: COMMITTEE ROOM - CITY HALL

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

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Joann Ariola
Chris Banks
Carmen N. De La Rosa
Amanda Farías
Farrah N. Louis
Mercedes Narcisse

OTHER COUNCIL MEMBERS ATTENDING:

Rita C. Joseph
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 2

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone
3 check for the Committee on Transportation and
4 Infrastructure. Today is June 11, 2025. The location
5 is the Committee Room, recorded by Squila Walker.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet down. Good
7 morning, and welcome to today's New York City Council
8 vote for the Committee on Transportation and
9 Infrastructure.

10 At this time, we ask that you silence all
11 electronic devices and at no time are you to approach
12 the dais.

13 Chair Brooks-Powers, we're ready to
14 begin.

15 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: [GAVEL] Good
16 morning, and welcome to this hearing of the Committee
17 on Transportation and Infrastructure. I am Selvena
18 Brooks-Powers, the Chair of the Committee.

19 Today, we will be voting on Proposed
20 Intro. Number 272-A sponsored by Council Member
21 Joseph in relation to reporting on previously
22 identified sites for public bathrooms which would
23 amend Local Law 50 of 2025 to require an update
24 regarding the status of each active or planned
25

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 3

2 capital project to install a public bathroom at a
3 site identified by Local Law 114 of 2022.

4 Proposed Intro. Number 1050-A sponsored
5 by Council Member De La Rosa in relation to limiting
6 the amount of personal injury insurance coverage that
7 the Taxi and Limousine Commission may require for
8 licensed vehicles. I will now allow Council Member
9 Joseph to speak on her Introduction.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER JOSEPH: Good morning,
11 Council Member Brooks-Powers, Chair, and Colleagues
12 of the Council. Today I'm pleased that you Members of
13 the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure
14 are voting on Intro. 272 which was introduced in
15 collaboration with Manhattan Board President Mark
16 Levine. Intro. 272 which is part of my Bathroom Bill
17 Initiative Package is a local law to amend the
18 Administrative Code of the City of New York in
19 relation to reporting on previously identified sites
20 for public restrooms in New York City. This bill
21 would amend the citywide bathroom strategy required
22 by Local Law 58 of 2025 which requires part of each
23 public bathroom strategic planning report an update
24 regarding the status of each of the planned capital
25 projects to install public bathrooms as a site

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 4

2 identified by Local Law 114 of 2022. Such update
3 would require information about the nature of the
4 project, estimate actual starting and completion date
5 for the project, and super excited about that, and
6 strategy for maintaining sanitary conditions,
7 operations, and locations of the project. Access to
8 clean and safe bathrooms in New York City is not a
9 luxury but a necessary service. By increasing the
10 number of public bathrooms in our city and making
11 them accessible and safe for everyone to use whenever
12 they need at any time of the day, we are telling New
13 Yorkers and visitors that we see them, we hear them,
14 and we value their safety. New Yorkers deserve much
15 better. They deserve clean, safe, accessible
16 bathrooms. And thank you for finally bringing this
17 bill to a vote. Again, thank you for everyone
18 involved, collaboration and hard work on behalf of
19 all New Yorkers to get the bill to the finish line.
20 Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you and,
22 yes, we finally got here.

23 I will now allow Council Member De La
24 Rosa to speak on her introduction.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Thank you,
3 Chair, and I want to thank you for your collaboration
4 and partnership in getting this bill to the finish
5 line.

6 Intro. 1050 is long overdue relief for
7 drivers of the for-hire vehicles in New York City who
8 have shouldered an undue financial burden for far too
9 long. The taxi and limousine industry has helped
10 generations of New Yorkers and immigrants gain
11 financial footing in our city. My District in
12 northern Manhattan along with the Bronx are home to
13 the majority of livery bases in our city, making
14 today's passage particularly important to our
15 constituents. This industry has put students through
16 college and led to the opening of many small
17 businesses, bolstering our economy for decades. My
18 family, like many working-class New York families,
19 includes several hard-working taxi drivers. This
20 industry is vital to the city's economy and identity,
21 and we must do what we can to rebalance the rising
22 cost keeping it running. Since 1998 under former
23 Mayor Rudy Giuliani, for-hire drivers have been
24 burdened with excessive personal injury protection
25 requirements. This mandated coverage far exceeds what

2 is required by State law and has forced drivers to
3 absorb exorbitant insurance costs in an industry
4 already marked by economic uncertainty. If American
5 Transit were to disappear from the insurance market,
6 around 60 percent of our FHV would immediately be off
7 the streets, and over 74,000 drivers would be left
8 without a recourse or work. We could not sit back and
9 do nothing. The long disregard for the crisis has led
10 us to this point, and Intro. 1050 begins to chip away
11 at the decades of stalling on this issue. Lowering
12 the PIP requirement allows other insurers to enter
13 the markets, reduces fraud claims that are attracted
14 by our high insurance requirements, and ultimately
15 will stabilize costs for passengers and lower the
16 cost for drivers. This change and today's compromise
17 on this bill will do little to impact safety while
18 removing duplicative requirements. I thank you for
19 your leadership on this, and I look forward to
20 getting this done today and to my Colleagues for
21 their support. Thank you.

22 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: Thank you, and
23 I will now ask the Committee Clerk to conduct a roll
24 call vote on the legislation.

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 7

2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
3 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
4 vote, Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.
5 Items are coupled. Chair Brooks-Powers.

6 CHAIRPERSON BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye on
7 all. I congratulate my Colleagues on passing two
8 really important pieces of legislation today. I know
9 that it's in the step in the right direction. While
10 there remains some conversation in the TLC FHV world,
11 this is a step to be able to provide some support to
12 our drivers, but we'll continue having conversation
13 and I'll continue working with Council Member De La
14 Rosa to make sure that we continue to shape and move
15 this conversation in the right direction. So again,
16 congratulations to both my Colleagues with their
17 votes today. Thank you.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Rivera.
19 Louis.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Aye on all.
21 Congratulations to all bill sponsors.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: De La
23 Rosa.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DE LA ROSA: Aye on all.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Narcisse.

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE 8

2 COUNCIL MEMBER NARCISSE: Aye on all.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Won.

4 Banks.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BANKS: Aye on all, and
6 congratulations to my Colleagues.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Farías.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER FARÍAS: I vote aye.

9 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Ariola.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER ARIOLA: Aye on all, and
11 congratulations.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: With a
13 vote of seven in the affirmative, zero in the
14 negative, and no abstentions, both items have been
15 adopted by the Committee.

16 And the roll will be held open at request
17 of the Chair. Members are free to go.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I would like to
19 thank the Sergeant-at-Arms and the public for this
20 hearing. We're now closing out the Committee on
21 Public Transportation. [GAVEL]

22

23

24

25

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 July 30, 2025