

**LOCAL LAWS  
OF  
THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
FOR THE YEAR 2026**

---

**No. 31**

---

Introduced by Council Members Bottcher, Krishnan, Ossé, Brannan, Hanif, Brooks-Powers, Narcisse, Holden, Banks and Morano.

**A LOCAL LAW**

**To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to the planting of vegetation on new medians separating bicycle lanes from motorized vehicle traffic**

*Be it enacted by the Council as follows:*

Section 1. Subchapter 1 of chapter 1 of title 19 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding a new section 19-159.9 to read as follows:

*§ 19-159.9 Vegetation on new medians separating bicycle lanes from motorized vehicle traffic. a. When designing a new median that separates a bicycle lane from motorized vehicle traffic, the department shall consult with the department of parks and recreation or other appropriate agency to determine the feasibility of planting trees and other vegetation on such median. In making such determination, the department shall prioritize the planting of trees and shall consider public safety, the suitability of the median for the growth of trees and other vegetation, the potential impact on underground infrastructure, the existence of a plan for long-term cleaning and maintenance, and other factors the department deems appropriate.*

*b. The department shall build such median to accommodate the planting of trees and other vegetation in accordance with the determination made pursuant to subdivision a of this section, unless such determination indicates that the planting of trees or other vegetation on such median is infeasible.*

*c. The department shall post on its website a list or map that identifies each such median built pursuant to subdivision b of this section, and identifies the agency or office responsible for the long-term cleaning and maintenance of the median.*

*d. The department of parks and recreation shall plant or permit to be planted trees on such median in accordance with the determination made pursuant to subdivision a of this section and with section 18-106. The department of parks and recreation or another agency authorized to plant vegetation or permit such vegetation to be planted shall also plant or permit to be planted other vegetation on such median in accordance with such determination.*

§ 2. This local law takes effect 270 days after it becomes law.

THE CITY OF NEW YORK, OFFICE OF THE CITY CLERK, s.s.:

I hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of a local law of The City of New York, passed by the Council on December 18, 2025 and returned unsigned by the Mayor on January 20, 2026.

MICHAEL M. McSWEENEY, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

CERTIFICATION OF CORPORATION COUNSEL

I hereby certify that the form of the enclosed local law (Local Law No. 31 of 2026, Council Int. No. 1233-A of 2025) to be filed with the Secretary of State contains the correct text of the local law passed by the New York City Council, presented to the Mayor, and neither approved nor disapproved within thirty days thereafter.

SPENCER FISHER, Acting Corporation Counsel.