



THE CITY OF NEW YORK  
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR  
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007

December 31, 2025

Hon. Michael McSweeney  
City Clerk and Clerk of the Council  
141 Worth Street  
New York, NY 10013

Re: **Disapproval of Introductory No. 1451-A**

Dear Mr. McSweeney:

Pursuant to Section 37 of the New York City Charter, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1451-A, which would amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York to require the NYPD “to provide the civilian complaint review board with direct access to officer body-worn camera footage and to establish related procedures.”

There are New York State statutes that require records in certain cases to be sealed. When a case is sealed pursuant to one of those statutes, the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB) cannot access unredacted records in the case, including body-worn camera footage, without a waiver from the defendant. In the absence of such a waiver, NYPD must first redact the defendant’s face, voice, and any other identifying information before providing that body-worn camera footage to CCRB. Giving CCRB direct access to all body-worn camera footage would make it impossible for NYPD to make the necessary redactions and therefore would effectively mandate that NYPD violate State sealing laws.

Because mandating NYPD give CCRB direct access to all body-worn camera footage would conflict with State law, Introductory No. 1451-A does not go into effect for two-and-a-half years. To comply with the bill, over that period, NYPD would need to overhaul its body-worn camera system — whatever the cost, whatever the burden — and find a way to grant CCRB direct access without violating State sealing statutes.

All this despite the fact that, according to CCRB’s published data, NYPD is regularly providing body-worn camera footage to CCRB in a timely manner and CCRB has testified before the City Council that it does not currently have the resources to manage a direct access review of body-worn camera footage and would require “significant” additional staffing to do so. There is no problem of access that this bill solves. Instead, Int. No. 1451-A unnecessarily compels NYPD to spend time and resources to overhaul its body-worn camera system, and it puts an enormous burden

on the City and NYPD's finances and resources in attempt to fix a problem that does not exist and that this bill would not actually remedy.

I cannot allow a bill that puts NYPD in this untenable position to move forward.

Accordingly, I hereby disapprove Introductory No. 1451-A.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eric Adams", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Eric Adams  
Mayor

Cc: Hon. Adrienne Adams, Speaker

Prop. Int. No. 1451-A

By The Speaker (Council Member Adams), the Public Advocate (Mr. Williams) and Council Members Cabán, Abreu, Hanif, De La Rosa, Restler, Brewer and Gutiérrez

A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring the New York city police department to provide the civilian complaint review board with direct access to officer body-worn camera footage and to establish related procedures

Be it enacted by the Council as follows:

1           Section 1. Title 14 of the administrative code of the city of New York is amended by adding  
2 a new section 14-194.1 to read as follows:

3           § 14-194.1 Body-worn camera footage for the civilian complaint review board. a. For the  
4 purpose of this section, the following terms have the following meanings:

5           Body-worn camera. The term “body-worn camera” has the same meaning as set forth in  
6 section 14-194.

7           Direct access. The term “direct access” means connectivity to a network server hosting  
8 digital material.

9           Remote user. The term “remote user” means an employee of the civilian complaint review  
10 board designated to view footage recorded by a body-worn camera.

11           b. The department shall provide any remote user with direct access to any footage recorded  
12 by a body-worn camera of the department. Such access shall be comparable to that granted to an  
13 employee of the internal affairs bureau of the department. Such access shall provide a remote user  
14 with the ability to: (i) access visual and audio recordings captured by body-worn cameras utilized  
15 by department personnel, except as otherwise limited by this section; (ii) conduct searches for  
16 specific footage based on keywords, dates, locations, or officer involved; and (iii) store and present  
17 body-worn camera footage as necessary to facilitate the investigation and adjudication of  
18 allegations of misconduct by the civilian complaint review board as authorized by chapter 18-A of

1 the charter.

2 c. Notwithstanding subdivision b of this section, the department shall not provide a remote  
3 user with direct access to any footage recorded by a body-worn camera of the department where  
4 state law prohibits the disclosure of such footage. Within 15 days of receiving a request from a  
5 remote user for any such footage, the department shall provide such remote user with a copy of  
6 such footage that has been redacted or modified to remove any personally identifying information  
7 or otherwise comply with state law, provided that, where the department is unable to provide any  
8 such footage within 15 days of receipt of such a request from a remote user, the department shall,  
9 within such 15 days, provide to such remote user a written explanation for the delay and the  
10 estimated date by which such footage will be provided.

11 § 2. This local law takes effect on July 1, 2028.

JDK 12/10/2025 5:22pm  
Int. 938-2023  
LS #2441/4874/4902/4915

I hereby certify that the above bill was passed by the Council of the City of

Thursday, December 18, 2025

New York on .....receiving the following votes:


Affirmative.....34

Negative.....9

Abstentions.....5

  
Michael M. McSweeney, City Clerk, Clerk of the Council.

**DISAPPROVED**

ON THE 31<sup>st</sup> DAY OF Dec 2025  
 MAYOR