

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES
Of the
COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HOUSING

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December 14, 2021
Start: 12:04 p.m.
Recess: 12:09 p.m.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 2)

B E F O R E: Alicka Ampry-Samuel
CHAIRPERSON

COUNCIL MEMBERS:
Dianna Ayala
Laurie Cumbo
Rubin Diaz, Sr.
Oswald Feliz
Vanessa Gibson
Mark Gjonaj
Carlos Menchaca
Kevin Riley
Rafael Salamanca, Jr.
Mark Treyger
Jimmy Van Bramer

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Recordings.

3 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Cloud up and running.

4 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good afternoon and
5 welcome to today's remote New York City Council
6 hearing for the Committee on Public Housing. At this
7 time, we ask that all Council members and Council
8 staff please turn on their videos for verification
9 purposes. To minimize disruptions, please place all
10 phones and electronic devices to vibrate or silent.
11 We thank you for your cooperation. Chair, we are
12 ready to begin.

13 CHAIRPERSON AMPRY-SAMUEL: Hello,
14 everyone, and thank you for coming. I am Council
15 member Alicka Ampry-Samuel, Chair of the Council's
16 Committee on Public Housing. I am joined today by
17 Council member Van Bramer, Council member Gjonaj,
18 Council member Riley, Council member Ayala, Council
19 member Salamanca, Council member Feliz, and Council
20 member Menchaca and if I did not say your name, I
21 apologize and we will make sure that you are noticed
22 and on record. We are here today to vote on two
23 resolutions: Reso number 1201, sponsored by Council
24 member Rivera, calling on Congress to pass and the
25 president to sign the Public Housing Emergency

2 Response Act and Reso number 1222, also sponsored by
3 Council member Rivera calling on Congress to pass and
4 the president to sign the Green New Deal for Public
5 Housing Act. Both pieces of federal legislation
6 would be instrumental in bringing much-needed federal
7 dollars in support to the nation's crumbling public
8 housing stock, especially NYCHA. Both would go a
9 long way in reversing the decades of disinvestment
10 from and neglect of public housing. NYCHA's last
11 physical needs assessment, completed 2017, estimated
12 \$31.8 billion in capital needs repair. We know the
13 true number is far greater. The federal bills that
14 these two resolutions support would help NYCHA to
15 make necessary capital repairs the correct mold,
16 replace boilers, abate lead, fix leaking roofs, and
17 repair elevators also creating many decent, well-
18 paying jobs. In the Green New Deal would help ensure
19 that those repairs can get done in the manner that is
20 in line with the city's ambitious yet achievable
21 climate goals. I would like to commend my colleague,
22 Council member Carlina Rivera, for sponsoring this
23 legislation and working to improve the lives of our
24 city's public housing residents. His Council member
25 Rivera here to speak on her bills?

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2 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Unfortunately,
3 she's not.

4 CHAIRPERSON AMPRY-SAMUEL: Okay. So she
5 is not here, so we will now ask the clerk to call the
6 role.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. And good
8 afternoon. This is the Committee on Public Housing.
9 Roll call vote on Resolutions 1201 and 1222. Chair
10 Ampry-Samuel?

11 CHAIRPERSON AMPRY-SAMUEL: I vote aye.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council member Van
13 Bramer?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Council
16 member Menchaca?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I vote yes.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council member

19 Salamanca?

20 COUNCIL MEMBER SALAMANCA: I vote aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council member Ayala?

22 COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council member Gjonaj?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Permission to

25 explain my vote? Is that a yes, Chair?

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2 CHAIRPERSON AMPRY-SAMUEL: Yes.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: Great. I just want
4 to thank you, Chair Ampry-Samuel, for your
5 leadership, for your friendship, and for the great
6 work that was able to be done under your leadership.
7 I am grateful to you for making New York City a
8 fairer and better city for all and the focus that you
9 have had on NYCHA has been incredible and note
10 worthy. So thank you and, with that, I vote aye.

11 CHAIRPERSON AMPRY-SAMUEL: Thank you.

12 And I want to note that we've also been joined by
13 Majority Leader Cumbo. Thank you so much, Council
14 member Gjonaj.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Council
16 member Riley?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: I vote aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Majority
19 Leader Cumbo?

20 MAJORITY LEADER CUMBO: I proudly vote aye
21 and, of course, I want to join the incredible chorus
22 of my colleagues singing the praises of Chair Ampry-
23 Samuel. We are so excited about your future and how
24 you are going to take this position to entirely new
25 heights that are unimaginable. God does not make

2 mistakes and he is moving in your life in incredible
3 ways and our communities are going to benefit
4 incredibly nationally because of the heights you are
5 going to rise to. And I'll be able to one day say,
6 "I served with Chair Ampry-Samuel". So, thank you so
7 much, my sister. I love you. I'm proud of you and
8 I'm going to look on so excitedly at what your future
9 is going to bring. Thank you.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Council member Feliz?

11 COUNCIL MEMBER FELIZ: I vote aye on all.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Chair Ampry-
13 Samuel, by a vote of nine in the affirmative, zero in
14 the negative, and zero abstentions, all items were
15 adopted.

16 CHAIRPERSON AMPRY-SAMUEL: Thank you so
17 much. We're not-- Okay. So that's it. This is the
18 close of the vote on Reso number 1201 and Reso number
19 1222. Thank you so much, everyone.

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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 January 27, 2022