

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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September 17, 2015  
Start: 10:48 a.m.  
Recess: 11:49 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E: JULISSA FERRERAS-COPELAND  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Ydanis A. Rodriguez  
James G. Van Bramer  
Vanessa L. Gibson  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Laurie A. Cumbo  
Corey D. Johnson  
Mark Levine  
I. Daneek Miller  
Helen K. Rosenthal  
Steven Matteo  
Ritchie J. Torres

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2 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Good  
3 morning and welcome today's Finance Committee  
4 hearing. I am Council Member Julissa Ferreras-  
5 Copeland and I am the chair of the committee. I hope  
6 everyone had a wonderful summer and great first week  
7 back to school. I watched a lot of Peppa Pig and PBS  
8 with my son and I hope you got to enjoy a lot of time  
9 with your families.

10 We've been joined by Council Members  
11 Miller, Van Bramer, Matteo, Johnson, Rodriguez and  
12 Torres.

13 Today we have two items on the agenda, a  
14 transparency resolution and a land use item. Let's  
15 start with the transparency resolution, which sets  
16 forth the new designation and changes in the  
17 designation of certain organizations receiving local  
18 aging and youth discretionary funding and funding  
19 pursuant to certain initiatives in the budget.  
20 Organizations appearing in the resolution that have  
21 not yet completed the prequalification process  
22 conducted by the Mayor's Office of Contract Services,  
23 the Council or another entity are identified in the  
24 attached chart with an asterisk.

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2 As with all transparency resolutions,  
3 council members will have to sign a disclosure form  
4 indicating whether or not a conflict exists with any  
5 of the groups on the attached list. If any council  
6 member has a potential conflict of interest with any  
7 of the organizations listed, he or she has the  
8 opportunity to disclose the conflict at the time of  
9 their vote.

10 As a reminder, please disclose any  
11 conflicts you may have with the proposed  
12 subcontractors that are used by organizations  
13 sponsored by discretionary funding. These  
14 disclosures must be made before the subcontractor can  
15 be approved. Wilhun [sp?] Grant from the General  
16 Counsel's Office can assist you with any questions or  
17 concerns regarding disclosures.

18 Next we have the land use item, which is  
19 a Tremont Renaissance located in Council Member  
20 Torres' district in the Bronx. This project will  
21 provide 225 units of housing to low- and moderate-  
22 income households and will receive a full 40-year  
23 property tax exemption through the city's HDFC  
24 Program. Council Member Torres supports the project  
25 and we'll have him say a few words, but I also wanted

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2 to acknowledge our former Finance Director, Preston  
3 Niblack, who's allowed back in the building.

4 [cheers] Welcome back. [applause] Council Member  
5 Richard... Torres, I'm sorry.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Thank you, Madame  
7 Chairwoman; just wanna underscore how strongly I  
8 support Tremont Renaissance; it's a project in which  
9 I feel deeply invested. For me it's a symbol of how  
10 far the Bronx has come from the days of disinvestment  
11 and how far the Bronx will go, and I'm particularly  
12 excited about the mixture of AMIs within the  
13 building, 'cause I think it fits into my vision as  
14 well as the Borough President's vision for fostering  
15 more economic diversity in the Bronx; I think that's  
16 critical to revitalizing the borough, so I'm strongly  
17 supportive -- 256 units, LEED certification and only  
18 15 minutes away from a metro door [sic], so it's an  
19 ideal location. So if you're looking to move to the  
20 Bronx, Tremont Renaissance is your best bet. Thank  
21 you.

22 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Great.  
23 Thank you very much, Council Member Torres.

24 These are the items for today; are there  
25 any questions regarding the items?

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2 Before I ask Billy Martin, the Committee  
3 Clerk to call the roll, I'd like to wish everyone who  
4 celebrated Rosh Hashanah earlier this week a L'shanah  
5 tovah and to all those celebrating Eid next week, an  
6 Eid Mubarak... barak; I hope I said that right. Work  
7 with me. Work with me.

8 Again, if there are no further questions,  
9 I will ask Billy, who may read the call.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: William Martin,  
11 Committee Clerk, roll call vote Committee on Finance.  
12 Chair Ferreras-Copeland.

13 CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: I vote  
14 aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Rodriguez.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Johnson.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Miller.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Matteo.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Aye.  
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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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COMMITTEE CLERK: By a vote of 6 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions; items have been adopted.

CHAIRPERSON FERRERAS-COPELAND: Thank you and we'll keep the roll open for another 15 minutes so staff, if your member is coming, they should make it here before 10:15... [background comment] 11:15.

[background comments]

[pause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation roll call, Committee on Finance. Council Member Levine.

[background comments]

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vote now currently stands at 7 in the affirmative.

[background comments]

[pause]

[background comments]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Committee Clerk Matthew D'Stefano [sp?], Committee on Finance, continuation of the roll call. Council Member Rosenthal.

COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Yes.

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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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COMMITTEE CLERK: 'Kay, the vote now stands at 8 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions.

[pause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation of roll call, Committee on Finance. Council Member Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Vote now currently stands at 9 in the affirmative.

[pause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation of roll call, Committee on Finance. Council Member Gibson.

COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: The vote now currently stands at 10 in the affirmative.

[pause]

COMMITTEE CLERK: Continuation of roll call, Committee on Finance. Council Member Cumbo.

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Final vote Committee on Finance is now 11 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions.

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COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I adjourn the  
meeting.

[gavel]



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 September 17, 2015