

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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May 13, 2015
Start: 10:25 a.m.
Recess: 11:10 a.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway- Committee Rm, 14th Fl.

B E F O R E:
YDANIS A. RODRIGUEZ
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

- ANTONIO REYNOSO
- CARLOS MENCHACA
- COSTA G. CONSTANTINIDES
- DANIEL R. GARODNICK
- DAVID G. GREENFIELD
- DEBORAH L. ROSE
- I. DANEEK MILLER
- JAMES G. VAN BRAMER
- JAMES VACCA
- MARGARET S. CHIN
- MARK S. WEPRIN
- STEPHEN T. LEVIN

[gavel]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Good afternoon and welcome to today's hearing of the New York City Council Transportation Committee. I'm Ydanis Rodriguez, chair of the committee, and I am joined by my colleague Council Member Vacca, Menchaca, Chin, Constantinides, Weprin, Van Bramer. Before we get started I want to ask my colleague to join me in a moment of silence to remember the victims of the last night's derailment in Philadelphia that claimed the lives of six individuals and injury almost 50 people.

[pause]

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. Today we will vote on a resolution calling for the United States Congress to pass and the President Obama to sign a major federal transportation bill known as Grow American Act. As our last hearing on this topic I spoke about congress in action and the... we face in transportation funding across this country but especially here in New York, in New York City. Our city's one of the largest beneficiaries of the transit funding in the US but Washington must understand this is a reciprocal relationship as our

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2 city also contribute to the growth of both our... and
3 national economy. Mayor de Blasio whens [phonetic]
4 in Washington D.C. with mayors, business leaders,
5 and transits advocate from across the country to
6 make the case for how important a long term funding
7 bill is in continuing to build upon our economy
8 recovery and strengthening our infrastructure for
9 the common decades. As has been widely discussed
10 New York is in dire need of transit funding with a
11 14 billion dollar gap in the MTA five year capital
12 plan. But in... today in support of a long term
13 federal transportation bill is a part of our effort
14 as our, as a committee to see these plan fully
15 funded. The Grow America Act... forward by Presidents
16 Obama will substantially increase transportation...
17 across the country and will increase funding for
18 public transit project especially by 70 percent
19 compare to current funding levels. This bill will
20 also a strengthen state and local control over what
21 projects receive funding further empowering local
22 communities. Our city and state Department of
23 Transportation as well as the MTA who use federal
24 resources to support a number of project is... trains
25 and strengthening transits to support economic

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2 growth. I would like to thank my committee staff
3 council, council Kelly Taylor policy analyst and
4 Johnathan Mossoranano [sp?], Gaffer Soloff [sp?],
5 and Russell Murphy as well as my chief of staff
6 Carmen del Rosa and my Communication and
7 Legislation Director Lucas Acosta. I now call for a
8 vote... I mean unless my colleague has anything to
9 say? No one? I now call a vote for a vote on a
10 resolution number 655, I'm sorry 562 and ask the
11 clerk to call the roll. I recommend a yes vote.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Kevin Penn
13 Committee Clerk roll call on the Committee on
14 Transportation Resolution 652 Grow America Act.
15 Council Member Rodriguez.

16 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Aye. And I also
17 like to take to this opportunity to congratulate..
18 first I want to thank my colleague Council Member
19 Weprin for his years of services at the council
20 especially in this committee and congratulation as
21 he join the Administration on Govern..

22 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Vacca.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote aye. And I
24 also want to congratulate Councilman Weprin. But

25

1
2 it, it is premature. He's still with us. I'll
3 congratulate you again later.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Chin.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Van Bramer.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I will save
8 my remarks about Council Member Weprin for tomorrow
9 but with that I vote aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Weprin.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Well thank you
12 for the remarks and I appreciate it. And we'll talk
13 more. But I vote aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Constantinides.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I vote
16 aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Menchaca.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I vote aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Miller.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Privileged to be
21 a part of this important resolution. I vote aye.

22 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Garodnick.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: [off mic]
24 Aye.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: By a vote of nine
3 n the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no
4 abstentions the item has been adopted.

5 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you. And
6 I, we will leave the vote open for the next 30
7 minutes.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Reynoso.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I vote aye.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Vote stands at 10
11 in the affirmative. Greenfield.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: May I
13 explain my vote? I'm joking. I vote aye. Thank you.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Vote stands at 11
15 in the affirmative. Rose.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Who's that? Oh... I
17 vote aye.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Vote stands at...

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thanks for
20 waiting.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Vote stands at 12
22 in the affirmative. Levin.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.
24
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COMMITTEE CLERK PENN: Final vote in the
Committee on Transportations, 13 in the
affirmative, zero in the negative, no abstentions.

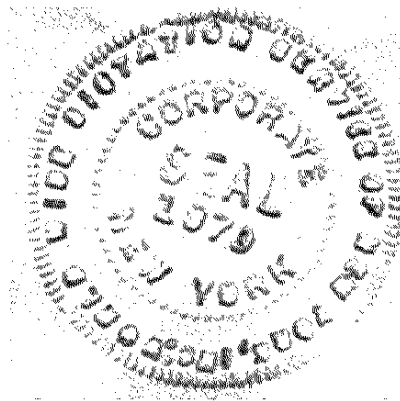
COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Hearing is
adjourned.

[gavel]

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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 May 14, 2015