

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON ZONING AND FRANCHISES

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July 22, 2014  
Start: 10:59 a.m.  
Recess: 11:08 a.m.

HELD AT: Committee Room  
City Hall

B E F O R E: MARK S. WEPRIN  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Vincent Gentile  
Ruben Wills  
Donovan Richards  
Antonio Reynoso  
Ritchie Torres  
Vincent Ignizio  
David G. Greenfield  
Daniel R. Garodnick  
Jumaane D. Williams

2 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Alright, could  
3 everyone find their seats, please?

4 [Pause]

5 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Thank you very  
6 much, Sergeant-at-Arms. Good morning, everyone.  
7 My name is Mark Weprin and I am the chair of the  
8 Zoning and Franchises Subcommittee and this the  
9 continuation of a recessed meeting that happened  
10 yesterday, where we heard two items, one that is  
11 two Land Use numbers; yesterday, had the hearings  
12 and we will be voting today. Those two items were  
13 the preconsidered M 770445, which is the IHOP  
14 restaurant International House of Pancakes in  
15 Council Member Inez Barron's district, and also  
16 Land Use numbers 98 and 99, which is the 49th  
17 Avenue rezoning in Council Member James Van  
18 Bramer's district.

19 We are joined this morning at the  
20 committee by the following committee members:  
21 Council Member Vincent Gentile; Council Member  
22 Ruben Wills; Council Member Donovan Richards;  
23 Council Member Antonio Reynoso, who we think has  
24 the star, although it's being reviewed by you know  
25 the stewards; there is some dispute; Council Member

1 Ritchie Torres and Council Member Vincent Ignizio,  
2 so we have a quorum and we are going to move  
3 directly to a vote. This meeting will be followed  
4 by the Land Use meeting, so please everybody stay  
5 around.  
6

7 Before we vote on Land Use number 98  
8 and 99, I have a statement from Council Member Van  
9 Bramer, who isn't here at the meeting this morning,  
10 but he is in the building. He asked me to read the  
11 following statement into the record. The statement  
12 says, "The project on 49th Avenue and the Zoning  
13 Subcommittee... that the Zoning Committee on Land  
14 Use will vote on today will continue the progress  
15 of Long Island City. The project will bring much  
16 needed affordable housing to the neighborhood. I  
17 am pleased to have worked with the developers to  
18 bring artists practice and rehearsal space to the  
19 buildings through an agreement with Spaceworks and  
20 I am pleased that the developer has signed an  
21 agreement with SCIU 32BJ to ensure union jobs and  
22 benefits for building workers as part of the  
23 project. Finally, the change in the zoning map  
24 will round out the Long Island City special  
25 district by making a small but meaningful change.

1 This is a good project and one that I am proud to  
2 support." And that was from Council Member Van  
3 Bramer, whose district this is, and we are joined  
4 by the chair of the Land Use Committee, David  
5 Greenfield, as well as certain members of the Land  
6 Use Committee, who are in the room today. So we  
7 are going to couple these three items, three Land  
8 Use numbers, Land Use number 98, 99 and then  
9 preconsidered IHOP restaurant expansion and we are  
10 going to ask Counsel Anne McCoy to please call the  
11 role.  
12

13 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Chair Weprin.

14 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member  
16 Gentile.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I vote aye.

18 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member  
19 Wills.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Aye.

21 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member  
22 Richards.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

24 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member  
25 Reynoso.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: May I please  
3 explain my vote?

4 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Mr. Reynoso to  
5 explain his vote.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you. I  
7 just wanted to acknowledge that the zoning that's  
8 going into this district is truly reflective of a  
9 mixed use and a more comprehensive and holistic  
10 approach to zoning and planning that we don't do  
11 all too well occasionally in the City of New York,  
12 and not necessarily us and I want to encourage that  
13 in manufacturing districts that we can find a  
14 balance where we can get some assistance for all  
15 this to low income housing and also maintain  
16 manufacturing, and in this case increase to a M5  
17 for more usage and this is what I want to continue  
18 encouraging this committee, is that we do look at  
19 the diversity and the opportunities that we have  
20 and I vote aye.

21 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Great and I'm sure  
22 we'd love to have you take the Pulaski Bridge and  
23 come visit anytime you want. We're also joined by  
24 a member of the committee, Dan Garodnick as well,  
25 and I go back to Anne McCoy.

2 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member  
3 Garodnick.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

5 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member  
6 Torres.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: I vote aye.

8 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Council Member  
9 Ignizio.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Yes.

11 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: By a vote of  
12 four... excuse me, by a vote of eight in the  
13 affirmative, no negatives and no abstentions, Land  
14 Use Items 98, 99 and preconsidered IHOP expansion  
15 application are approved and referred to the full  
16 Land Use Committee.

17 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Well, thank you  
18 very much. We are going to leave the rolls open  
19 until the beginning of the Land Use meeting, which  
20 follows this meeting directly, so the rolls will be  
21 left open and with that in mind, the Zoning and  
22 Franchises Subcommittee is now adjourned.

23 [gavel]

24 [Pause]

25

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2 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Can we please  
3 continue the Zoning Committee. That's fine. Mr.  
4 Williams, how do you vote?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: I vote aye.

6 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Williams.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you,  
9 Mr. Chair.

10 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: Final vote  
11 Subcommittee on Zoning, all items are adopted by a  
12 vote of nine in the affirmative, zero abstentions,  
13 zero negatives.

14 CHAIRPERSON WEPRIN: The Subcommittee  
15 on Zoning is now adjourned.

16 [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. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.



Date: 07/30/2014