

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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SEPTEMBER 13, 2021

Start: 1:12 P.M.

Recess: 1:21 P.M.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 1)

B E F O R E: RAFAEL SALAMANCA, JR., CHAIRMAN

COUNCIL MEMBERS: ADRIENNE E. ADAMS
DIANA AYALA
INEZ D. BARRON
JOSEPH C. BORELLI
SALVENA N. BROOKS-POWERS
RUBEN DIAZ, SR.
OSWALD FELIZ
VANESSA L. GIBSON
BARRY S. GRODENCHIK
PETER A. KOO
STEPHEN T. LEVIN
I. DANEEK MILLER
FRANCISCO P. MOYA
KEVIN C. RILEY
ANTONIO REYNOSO
CARLINA RIVERA
MARK TREYGER

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

SGT. LUGO: Cloud recording is done and I start the opening statement. Good afternoon everyone. Welcome to today's remote New York City Council Hearing of the Committee on Land Use. At this time would all panelists please turn on your videos. To minimize disruption, please place electronic devices to vibrate or silent. If you wish to submit testimony you may do so at landusetestimony@council.NYC.gov. Again, that's landusetetimony@council.NYC.gov. Thank you for your cooperation. Chair Salamanca we are ready to begin.

CHAIRMAN RAFAEL SALAMANCA: Thank you. Good afternoon and welcome to the Committee on Land Use. I am Council Member Rafael Salamanca. I am the Chair of this Committee. I would like to welcome my colleagues who have joined us today. We are joined by Council Members Adams, Ayala, Borelli, Diaz Sr., Feliz, Koo, Chair Moya, Reynoso, Chair Riley, Rivera and Council Member Brooks-Powers. I would also want to thank Chair Moya and Chair Riley for their work on Subcommittees. Today we will vote on a number of applications referred out from our Subcommittees. Before we begin I would like to recognize the Committee Counsel to review instructions in person.

COMMITTEE COUNSEL JULIE LUBIN: Thank you Chair Salamanca, I am Julie Lubin, Counsel to this Committee. Council members who would like to ask questions or make remarks should use the Zoom Raise Hand Function. The Raise Hand button should appear at the bottom of the participant panel. I will announce Council Members who have questions or remarks in the order that they raise their hands. Chair Salamanca will then recognize members to speak. We ask that you please be patient if any technical difficulties arise today. Chair Salamanca will now continue with today's agenda items.

CHAIRMAN RAFAEL SALAMANCA: Thank you Counsel. From our Landmarks Subcommittee we will vote to approve three applications submitted by the Landmarks Preservation Commission. The first is LU-829 the Landmark Preservation Commission designation of the New York Public Library, Harlem Branch as a historic landmark. The landmark site is located at 9 West 124th Street in Manhattan. In Council District represented by Council Member Perkins. This Library is one of 67 circulating libraries constructed for the City, three public library systems in the early 20th Century. Since its construction, the Harlem

Branch has served as an important civic space for the neighborhood with the majority of resources and programs as well as providing space for civic and cultural activities, which in the late 1930s included a community theatre. Intended by its designer to be easily recognizable as an important civic institution the Harlem Branch has continuously served in South Central Harlem Community as a place where educational resources, civic engagement and cultural enrichment. We will also go through approved LU-830 the Landmark Designation of the Aakawaxung Munahanung Archaeological Site. The site is located at 298-300 Satterlee Street in Staten Island in Council Member Borelli's District and is also within the City's Conference House Park. The site is associated with over 8,000 years of occupation by indigenous people. It contains the region's best preserved known cultural complex associated with indigenous presence in New York City. We will also vote to approve LU-831, the Landmark Preservation Commission designation of the Kimlau War Memorial as a Historic Landmark. The landmark site is located in Kimlau Square in the Manhattan Council District represented by Council Member Chin. The memorial honors Chinese-American

soldiers who died in action during World War II. It pays tribute to the Chinese-American patriots and has served as an important community monument for nearly 60 years. From our Zoning Subcommittees we will vote to approve the modification to LU-829 and 827 for the 840 Atlantic Avenue Rezoning. Seeking the Zoning Map Amendment and the related Zoning Text Amendment for property in Council Member Cumbo's District in Brooklyn. The proposal seeks a Zoning Map Amendment and a related zoning text amendment to facilitate the development of a new mixed youth residential development with commercial and community facility space. A modification would establish transition areas down from this unique corner site. The original proposed C6-3x zoning district will be maintained only at the corner of the two Y streets. Atlantic Avenue and Vanderbilt Avenue as this site is uniquely appropriate for higher density; further east along Atlantic from this corner site the east most 50 feet of the rezoning area will be modified to a C6-2A district to establish consistency with the M Crown Community plan framework developed in cooperation between Community Board A and the Department of City Planning. That framework calls for high density

specifically at the corner of Vanderbilt and Atlantic Avenue which is in close proximity to the high density specifically Park Development to the west along with the lower density going east along the Atlantic Corridor to match the medium density character of Bedford-Stuyvesant and Crown Heights. From Vanderbilt Avenue, the south portion of the rezoning area will be modified to a C6-38 district to establish or transition to the historic lower density character of Pacific Street and Vanderbilt Avenue to the south. Also in line with the M Crown Community plan framework. In addition the MI Amendment will be modified to strike option 2 and add option 1 and the deep affordability option. Council Members who have questions or remarks about these items should use the Raise Hand Button. Counsel, will you announce members in the order that they have raised their hands. (pause) Alright seeing none. I will call to a vote in accordance with the recommendations of the Subcommittees and local Council Members and vote and note that a vote of aye on all will be to adopt the following: To approve LU-829, 830, 831 and to approve the modifications I have described LU-826 and 827. Will the Clerk please call the roll.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Good afternoon. William Martin Committee Clerk. Roll call for Committee on Land Use. All items are coupled. Chair Salamanca?

CHAIRMAN RAFAEL SALAMANCA: Aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo.

PETER KOO: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Levin?

STEPHEN LEVIN: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Reynoso?

ANTONIO REYNOSO: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. Treyger?

MARK TREYGER: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Okay. Grodenchik?

BARRY GRODENCHIK: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Adams?

ADRIENNE ADAMS: I vote aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ayala?

DIANA AYALA: I vote aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Ruben
Diaz, Sr.

RUBEN DIAZ, SR: Si in total. Yes.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
you. Moya?

FRANCISCO MOYA: I vote aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Rivera?

CARLINA RIVERA: I vote aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Council
Member Riley?

KEVIN RILEY: I vote aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
you sir. Brooks-Powers?

SELVENA BROOKS-POWERS: I vote aye on
all.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
you. Feliz?

OSWALD FELIZ: Aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank
you. Borelli?

JOSEPH BORELLI: I vote aye. Thank you.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Barron?

INEZ BARRON: I vote aye on the Landmarks
and I vote no on the others.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

INEZ BARRON: Thank you.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Sorry, one moment, Gibson.

VANESSA GIBSON: I vote aye. Thank you so much. Thank you Chair.

WILLIAM MARTIN, COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you. One second please. Okay. All items on today's Land Use Agenda have been adopted by a vote of 17 in the affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions with the exception of Land Use items of 826 and 827 which are adopted by the Committee, 16 in the affirmative, 1 in the negative and 0 abstentions.

CHAIRMAN RAFAEL SALAMANCA: Thank you. So, Clerk, I would like to thank members of the public, my colleagues, Counsel, and Land Use staff for attending today's hearing. This meeting is hereby adjourned.

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 October 4, 2021