

CURRENT INTRODUCTION NUMBER:

[Int. No. 596](#)

INITIAL SPONSORS:

Council Member Richards

TITLE:

To amend the administrative code of the city of New York, in relation to requiring a study and mitigation of the impacts of methane gas emissions on city trees.

BILL SUMMARY:

This plain language summary is for informational purposes only and does not substitute for legal counsel. For more information, you should review the [full text of the bill](#), which is available online at legistar.council.nyc.gov.

The bill adds a new section 142 to Title 18 of the administrative code mandating that the department study and mitigate the impacts of methane gas emissions on city-owned trees.

The bill calls for the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR), in conjunction with the Department of Environmental Protection, to create or review and adopt maps showing fugitive methane gas emissions from gas mains in the city. Where maps of the canopy of trees under DPR's jurisdiction, when overlaid upon the maps of methane gas emissions from gas mains, indicate that such trees may be impacted by fugitive methane gas emissions, DPR would have to perform a field survey to determine whether the trees have been damaged by the emissions. Where the field surveys confirm damage to such trees, DPR must document the damage, take appropriate steps to notify the responsible utility and require mitigation or seek reimbursement as may be appropriate.

CODE SECTIONS AFFECTED:

- Amends Administrative Code Title 18 and creates a new section 18-142.

EFFECTIVE DATE:

Immediately

NOTE: When reading the [full text of the bill](#) online at legistar.council.nyc.gov, language that is enclosed by [brackets] is proposed to be removed, and language that is underlined is proposed to be added.