

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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May 23, 2024
Start: 10:54 a.m.
Recess: 11:07 a.m.

HELD AT: COUNCIL CHAMBERS - CITY HALL

B E F O R E: Amanda Farías, Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Alexa Avilés
Erik D. Bottcher
Jennifer Gutiérrez
Kevin C. Riley

2 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: This is a microphone
3 check for the Committee on Economic Development
4 located in the Chambers on date May 23, 2024, by
5 James Marino.

6 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Good morning and
7 welcome to the Committee on Economic Development.
8 This is a Council vote.

9 At this time, we are ready to begin,
10 Chair.

11 CHAIRPERSON FARIÁS: [GAVEL] Good
12 afternoon, and welcome to this meeting of New York
13 City Council's Committee on Economic Development. I
14 am Majority Leader Amanda Fariás, Chair of the
15 Committee on Economic Development. I'd like to thank
16 the Council Members present today, Council Members
17 Bottcher, Gutiérrez, and Avilés, and I'd like to
18 welcome the public. If you folks can keep it silent
19 as much as you can, we'd appreciate that.

20 Today we will be voting on Proposed
21 Introduction number 134-A, a bill that aims to ensure
22 transparency and accountability at the JFK Airport
23 Redevelopment Project. This legislation, sponsored by
24 Majority Whip Selvena Brooks-Powers, builds upon the
25 feedback we received from several stakeholders,

2 including the Economic Development Corporation and
3 community members during our oversight hearing on the
4 JFK Redevelopment Project last month. Proposed Intro.
5 number 134-A would require the Economic Development
6 Corporation to submit an annual report to key elected
7 officials, including the Speaker of the Council, the
8 Queens Borough President, and the Council Member
9 representing JFK. This report would provide critical
10 information on the progress of the JFK Redevelopment
11 Plan and the associated community benefits package.
12 The report would need to include details on the JFK
13 Redevelopment Project's scope, timeline, and budget
14 as well as actions taken by the Port Authority
15 related to the Redevelopment Plan. The goal here is
16 to ensure a comprehensive overview of the
17 Redevelopment Plan's progress and impact on the
18 surrounding community. By voting in favor of this
19 legislation, we are taking a significant step towards
20 ensuring that there is transparency and
21 accountability throughout the remaining term of the
22 JFK Redevelopment Project. This bill also sends a
23 clear message to the Port Authority that the
24 communities most impacted by their airport operations

2 must be kept informed and have their concerns
3 addressed throughout the process.

4 Before we proceed to the vote, I would
5 like to thank Council Member Brooks-Powers for her
6 leadership on this issue and her dedication to
7 ensuring that the JFK Airport Redevelopment Project
8 benefits all New Yorkers. I also want to express my
9 gratitude to the EDC and other stakeholders who have
10 engaged with us throughout this process. Finally, I
11 would like to thank the Economic Development team
12 here at the Council, Senior Counsel Alex Paulenoff,
13 Senior Policy Analyst William Hongach, and Finance
14 Analyst Glenn Martelloni for all their hard work
15 preparing for this hearing.

16 I will now ask the Clerk to call the
17 roll.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Good
19 morning. William Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call
20 vote Committee on Economic Development. Proposed
21 Introduction 134-A. Chair Farías.

22 CHAIRPERSON FARIÁS: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:
24 Salamanca. Riley. Avilés.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER AVILÉS: I vote aye.

1 COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Bottcher.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BOTTCHEER: Aye.

4 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN:

5 Gutiérrez.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GUTIÉRREZ: Aye.

7 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Vernikov.

8 With a vote of four in the affirmative, zero in the
9 negative, and no abstentions, the item has been
10 adopted by the Committee.

11 CHAIRPERSON FARIÁS: I'm going to leave
12 the vote open as Members are trickling in, and I'd
13 like to welcome WHIN Music Community Charter School
14 from Washington Heights in Council Member De La
15 Rosa's District with Ms. Abigail Edmonds. Hi, folks.

16 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: Roll call
17 vote Committee on Economic Development. Council
18 Member Riley.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER RILEY: Aye.

20 COMMITTEE CLERK WILLIAM MARTIN: The vote
21 is now currently five in the affirmative.

22 CHAIRPERSON FARIÁS: Goodbye, students.

23 Have a good day.

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1 COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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2 Thank you, Members, for waiting. With
3 that, the Committee on Economic Development vote is
4 now closed. [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 June 28, 2024