



CITIZENS UNION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Testimony before the City Council Committee on Rules, Privileges and Elections

Preconsidered Resolution T2025-4160

**Resolution to Amend the Rules of the Council to Improve Clarity and
Consistency with Council Practices and Precedent**

City Hall – September 22, 2025

Good morning, council members. My name is Ben Weinberg, and I am the Director of Public Policy at Citizens Union. Citizens Union is a nonpartisan good government group that works to ensure fair and open elections and accountable government in New York city and state.

Over the years, we have supported, advocated for, and helped achieve reforms to the Rules of the City Council that have made this body more democratic, open, transparent, and accountable. These include reforms that gave individual council members a more meaningful role in the legislative process, ensured greater equity in discretionary funding, improved bill drafting procedures, reduced ethics vulnerabilities (such as banning Lulus and outside income while increasing members' pay), and bolstered public participation.¹ We also provided an unbiased assessment of the Council's performance in the face of attempts to undermine its legislative role.² The Council's Rules are the primary vehicle for sustaining that progress and ensuring that this body is transparent, accountable, collaborative, and efficient.

The Council is now considering the most extensive package of rules changes since 2014. Most of the proposed changes are non-substantive amendments intended to clean up and better organize the Rules. One proposed change would directly improve transparency. One proposal, however, is designed only to weaken the power of the minority party. Other proposals include

¹ See for example, 2012 report, Creating a More Equitable and Discretionary Funding Process in New York City (https://citizensunion.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/CUReport_2006CouncilReform.pdf); 2006 report, Principles of Council Reform: Ideas for a More Democratic and Effective City Council (https://citizensunion.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/04/CU_Report_NYC_Discretionary_FundingFY2009-2012_May2012.pdf); 2014 proposal Proposing Substantial Improvements to Reforming the Council's Rules (<https://citizensunion.org/portfolio-item/1118/>)

² 2024 report, Do Public Safety Bills Receive Fewer Opportunities for Public Input in the New York City Council? <https://citizensunion.org/portfolio-item/citizens-union-report-finds-ample-opportunities-for-public-input-on-public-safety-bills-in-the-city-council/>

sensible updates intended to improve the Council's operations. Equally important are the omissions — key transparency measures that should be included in such a comprehensive overhaul of the Rules. Unlike 2014, when reforms followed a long process of public hearings and stakeholder input, this set of changes has been introduced with very little time for public review or engagement, giving the public essentially a single business day to review 44 pages of proposed changes.

Support for a Sponsor's Memo Requirement - Best Practice for Better Lawmaking

Citizens Union strongly supports the proposal requiring that bills be accompanied by a sponsor's memorandum in support explaining the legislative need and that such memoranda be updated whenever a bill is amended (Proposed Rule 6.00(d)). Citizens Union and other civic groups have long recommended requiring such bill memo, which is standard practice in the State Legislature. While plain-language summaries are helpful, they are insufficient for explaining complex bills or their underlying rationale.

Opposition to Raising the Motion to Discharge Threshold – Targeting the Minority Party

Citizens Union strongly opposes the proposal to raise the number of members required to move a bill to the floor when it lacks the support of the Speaker or a committee chair. Under existing Rule 7.130, seven members may bring a motion to discharge a bill out of committee to a Stated Meeting. The motion then requires a majority of the Council to succeed. Proposed Rule 8.220 increases that threshold from seven to eleven members. This change clearly targets the minority conference, which is currently at six members but could go up to seven in January after the next general election.

The logic of allowing rank-and-file members to advance legislation independently of the Speaker applies equally whether the members form a faction within the majority party or belong to the minority party. Preventing members of the minority party access to that option only hurts the voters who elected them.

The motion to discharge procedure is rarely used. The motion is filed seven days in advance and has to receive majority approval to pass. It is therefore unlikely that keeping the member threshold at seven would lead to substantial disruptions to the effectiveness of the Council. It could spur more debate on the Council floor, which is not a weakness but rather a strength of democracy. We strongly urge the Council to reject this proposed change.

Support For Reasonable Additions Related to Ethics, Oversight, and Operations

The proposal makes numerous substantive changes to the Rules that codify existing practice or clarify important guidelines. These would contribute to ethics standards, transparency, and the Council's operations and oversight capacity, and should be approved. Among them are proposals that:

- Codify Conflicts of Interest Board guidance, including the prohibition on members sponsoring bills or resolutions that would award them direct or indirect benefits (proposed 6.20(e)).
- Prohibit the use of personal email addresses for the conduct of Council business (proposed 10.50). The use of personal emails may limit access through FOIL and other laws.
- Allow anonymous testimony to protect immigrants and other vulnerable individuals at risk of retaliation (proposed 7.80(g)).
- Strengthen provisions to preserve decorum and minimize major disturbances during meetings.
- Clarify how the Minority Leader is elected (Rule 4.10).
- Grant the Speaker authority to establish policies and procedures to protect health and safety during declared states of emergency (Rule 2.160).
 - We urge the Council to narrow this provision to emergencies that directly affect the Council's ability to conduct its business, so that it cannot be misused to circumvent normal rules in other emergencies. New York State and New York City are frequently under some form of emergency declaration that has no bearing on the Council. Recent examples include emergencies related to asylum seekers, baby formula shortage, Rikers Island, and more.

What's Missing: Greater Public Notice, Transparency Over Nominations, Safeguards on Discretionary Funding

This extensive proposal, which includes hundreds of changes, focuses mostly on the Council's internal needs and not the needs of the public. It therefore misses opportunities for key improvements in transparency and accountability, which should be included in the next versions of this proposal. This Council has often stressed the importance of accountability safeguards, transparency measures, and strong oversight, and has even established a Charter Revision Commission solely intended to strengthen local democracy. As it embarks in the process of revising its own rules of practice, it should apply those very same principles. The way to do so is to implement the following reforms.

Provide Greater Public Notice Before Legislative Actions

Advocates have long called for stronger notice requirements that guarantee meaningful public notice and adequate time to prepare comments, beyond the current 72-hour rule for committee meetings, "where practical" (Rule 7.80(d)). The proposed rules do not make any improvements in that area, but instead make changes that preserve and codify a faulty public

notice system that is easily misused or ignored, undermining public input and participation. Specifically, the proposed rules would:

- Codify the bare minimum requirements of the New York State Open Meetings Law (OML) rather than exceed them (proposed 9.140). Unfortunately, OML provides public bodies with loopholes to avoid proper notice.
- Fail to require that an agenda or materials or notification of issues to be discussed be given in advance. It does not even codify the legal requirement that the records scheduled to be discussed at a meeting be posted online at least 24 hours before the meeting (OML § 103(e))
- For the first time, codify the practice of “preconsidered” items, which allows the Speaker to fast-track bills and resolutions through a committee hearing before they are formally introduced, with no guardrails or limits (proposed 6.30(c)). The practice undermines notice requirements and has been used in the past to advance controversial measures with little time for public input.

This very meeting illustrates this problem. The notice of the meeting went out on Wednesday, with no information on its agenda. The agenda item was a preconsidered resolution, meaning the public had no heads-up about its content, and materials were posted on Thursday afternoon, for a Monday 10:00 AM hearing.

Make Conference Meetings on Nominations Public

Existing Council Rules recognize the importance of transparency in the nominations process by requiring committees to “invite the public to be heard with respect to the qualifications of” individuals considered for appointment (Rule 7.80(b)). In practice, key nomination processes are delegated to secret party conference meetings or borough delegations, with no notice, recording of attendance or votes, or webcasting.

Meetings of council members vested with power to approve appointments should be made public, just as meetings of the Rules Committee are public. This is especially true for appointments to the Board of Elections. Past Councils have livestreamed conference meetings that selected election commissioners³; this Council has handled election commissioner nominations behind closed doors, making the decision to appoint someone public only after the fact.⁴ This lack of openness undermines confidence in appointments to critical bodies like the Board of Elections.

³ See for example, December 6, 2021 Meeting of Democratic Conference of the Council of the City of New York <https://legistar.council.nyc.gov/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=910266&GUID=E0E7B480-57E1-437A-BF98-F9AEFB637332>; November 17, 2021 Meeting of Minority (Republican) Conference of the Council of the City of New York <https://legistar.council.nyc.gov/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=905751&GUID=157F930E-12C5-4A4D-A2A1-F1975DFC76E1>

⁴ See for example, January 13, 2025 letter from the New York City Majority Leader to the Kings County Clerk on the appointment of Frank R. Seddio to become a Commissioner of the New York City Board of Elections.

Regulate the "Speaker's List" Discretionary Funding

Lastly, discretionary funding remains the same in structure under the proposed rules. Half of all discretionary expense dollars are allocated for a Speaker to distribute with near-total discretion over which members and districts receive this important support. These funds have at times been used unfairly against members who have opposed leadership in the past.

The disbursement of the Speaker's discretionary funding should be governed by clear criteria and goals to safeguard against its use as a form of punishment. The New Yorkers hurt by such practices are not the targeted council members but the residents of their districts.

Thank you for giving us the opportunity to address you today.

For further information, please contact Ben Weinberg, Director of Public Policy, at bweinberg@citizensunion.org.

Common Cause New York
Written Testimony before the New York City Council
Committee on Rules, Privileges, and Elections
September 24, 2025

Re: Proposed Revisions to the Rules of the New York City Council

Chair Powers, members of the Committee, thank you for the opportunity to submit testimony on behalf of Common Cause New York.

Common Cause New York objects to the manner in which revisions to the procedural rules of the New York City Council are being handled. On Thursday, September 18, 2025, the City Council announced a Rules Committee meeting, and simultaneously, the Council General Counsel released a 140-page report. Although the rulemaking review process began in December 2022, it was publicly reactivated only in September 2025. While we support regular re-examinations of any legislative body's rules of procedure, there is no justification for such a rushed schedule. If it took the General Counsel staff more than two years to prepare these revisions, the public and Council members deserve more than four days to review and provide feedback.

In addition to the rushed schedule and report release, there was no Zoom option available, which effectively limited public access and transparency. This raises serious questions about whether the public can meaningfully participate in and review significant proposals that will alter the checks and balances of the City Council. New Yorkers deserve adequate time to assess and comment on changes to the Council's governing rules.

Advancing this process at the end of a Council session, before a new Speaker will be chosen in the 2026 session, is simply over-reaching and risks undermining accountability and transparency. Such behavior is unacceptable and inappropriate. We call on the Council to withdraw these proposed changes from the calendar and allow the next Council and Speaker to address the Rules Committee in a deliberate, intentional, and open manner.

In submitting this comment, Common Cause New York reserves the right to submit comments on the substance of the proposed rules change in the future, once we have had a chance to thoroughly and thoughtful review the proposed changes.

Respectfully submitted,
Susan Lerner

PLEASE CONTACT SUSAN LERNER AT (212) 691-6421 WITH ANY QUESTIONS.



To the Members of the New York City Council:

On behalf of The Ali Forney Center and the LGBTQIA+ unhoused youth and staff we represent across New York City, we submit this testimony in strong opposition to the proposed changes to the City Council's internal rules that would consolidate more power in the Speaker's office at the expense of individual Council Members and, by extension, the communities they represent.

1. Weakening Council Member Independence

The proposed changes would strip away members' ability to act independently in advancing legislation. Eliminating the independent bill-drafting unit and making it harder for members to bring legislation to a vote without the Speaker's approval would silence the voices of New Yorkers whose Council Members seek to represent their needs. Communities deserve to know that their elected representatives can move legislation forward without being blocked by a single office.

2. Reducing Transparency and Accountability

Rules that limit committee chairs' authority over their own staff, and that weakens deadlines for bill drafting, reduce transparency, and make it harder for the public to follow and influence the legislative process. Our communities need more access to how decisions are made—not less.

3. Undermining Voter Power

The Speaker is not elected by voters citywide. Voters elect their individual Council Members to represent them and to actively legislate on issues that directly impact their lives. Centralizing more power in the Speaker's office removes power from voters and concentrates it in one office that is less directly accountable to the public.

4. Reversing Needed Reforms

Past reforms sought to correct a history of heavy-handed leadership that stifled member independence and delayed key legislation—like paid sick leave. Rolling back these reforms risks taking the Council backwards to a system where community-driven priorities can be buried for political convenience.

We urge the Council to reject proposed rule changes R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b). Instead, the Council should focus on strengthening democracy, transparency, and accountability to the people of New York. Grassroots organizations and everyday New Yorkers rely on a Council where every member can legislate, deliberate, and advocate freely for their communities.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nadia Swanson, LCSW
Director of Advocacy and Global Programs
nswanson@aliforneycenter.org



New York City Council City
Testimony Opposing Proposed Council Rule Changes
R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)
Wednesday, September 24, 2025

Written Testimony

Mohamed Q. Amin, Founder and Executive Director, Caribbean Equality Project

To the Members of the New York City Council:

My name is Mohamed Q. Amin, Executive Director of the Caribbean Equality Project (CEP), an immigrant rights organization that empowers, advocates for, and represents Afro and Indo-Caribbean LGBTQ+ people in New York City. For a decade, the organization has focused on advocacy for LGBTQ+ and immigrant rights, gender equity, racial justice, immigration, and mental health services through public education, community organizing, civic engagement, storytelling, and cultural and social programming to end hate violence in the Caribbean diaspora.

On behalf of the LGBTQ+ immigrant communities and Caribbean neighborhoods we have served and represented across New York City for a decade, we submit this testimony in strong opposition to the proposed changes to the City Council's internal rules that would consolidate more power in the Speaker's office at the expense of individual Council Members and, by extension, the communities they represent.

1. Weakening Council Member Independence

The proposed changes would strip away members' ability to act independently in advancing legislation. Eliminating the independent bill-drafting unit and making it harder for members to bring legislation to a vote without the Speaker's approval would silence the voices of New Yorkers whose Council Members seek to represent their needs. Communities deserve to know that their elected representatives can move legislation forward without being blocked by a single office.

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4. Reversing Needed Reforms

Past reforms sought to correct a history of heavy-handed leadership that stifled member independence and delayed key legislation—like paid sick leave. Rolling back these reforms risks taking the Council backwards to a system where community-driven priorities can be buried for political convenience.

We unequivocally urge the Council to reject proposed rule changes R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b). Instead, the Council should focus on strengthening democracy, transparency, and accountability to the people of New York. Grassroots organizations and everyday New Yorkers rely on a Council where every member can legislate, deliberate, and advocate freely for their communities.

Don't hesitate to contact me at Mohamed@CaribbeanEqualityProject.org or by phone at 347.709.3179 if you have any questions. To learn more about the Caribbean Equality Project, visit <https://www.caribbeanequalityproject.org>.

In Solidarity & Respect,



Mohamed Q. Amin
Founder & Executive Director
Caribbean Equality Project

From: [Jagpreet Singh](#)
To: [NYC Council Hearings](#); [Fahd Ahmed](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Reject Rule Changes R.7.60, 6.60(d) & (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b) – Preserve Council Member Independence
Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 12:35:22 PM
Attachments: [image.png](#)



Organizational Written Testimony Opposing Proposed Council Rule Changes

To the Members of the New York City Council:

On behalf of constituents we represent across New York City, we submit this testimony in strong opposition to the proposed changes to the City Council's internal rules that would consolidate more power in the Speaker's office at the expense of individual Council Members and, by extension, the communities they represent.

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The proposed changes would strip away members' ability to act independently in advancing legislation. Eliminating the independent bill-drafting unit and making it harder for members to bring legislation to a vote without the Speaker's approval would silence the voices of New Yorkers whose Council Members seek to represent their needs. Communities deserve to know that their elected representatives can move legislation forward without being blocked by a single office.

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The Speaker is not elected by voters citywide. Voters elect their individual Council Members to represent them and to actively legislate on issues that directly impact their lives. Centralizing more power in the Speaker's office removes power from voters and concentrates it in one office that is less directly accountable to the public.

4. Reversing Needed Reforms

Past reforms sought to correct a history of heavy-handed leadership that stifled member independence and delayed key legislation—like paid sick leave. Rolling back these reforms risks taking the Council backwards to a system where community-driven priorities can be buried for political convenience. We urge the Council to reject proposed rule changes R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b). Instead, the Council should focus on strengthening democracy, transparency, and accountability to the people of New York. Grassroots organizations and everyday New Yorkers rely on a Council where every member can legislate, deliberate, and advocate freely for their communities.

Respectfully submitted,
Desis Rising Up and Moving (DRUM)

Fahd Ahmed, Executive Director

From: [Nala Toussaint](#)
To: [NYC Council Hearings](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Organizational Written Testimony Opposing Proposed Council Rule Changes
Date: Wednesday, September 24, 2025 9:58:23 PM

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Working Together,

Nala Simone Toussaint

Pronouns: Goddess/ She/ Her/ They

Founder & Executive Director



Reuniting of African Descendants (ROAD) Inc. is a trans-led grassroots project invested in advancing the social and economic well-being of African Descendants, with an urgent focus on queer, same-gender-loving, transgender, and non-binary people, and, ultimately the entire community. Reuniting of African Descendants (ROAD) envisions a world shaped to foster the growth and fulfillment of all its members. ROAD seeks to provide programs that develop strengths, skills, and self-sufficiency in LGB/SGL/Queer and Trans people of African Descendants. In addition, each year, ROAD seeks to mobilize individuals to work collaboratively to transform queer and trans communities in Africa through cultural exchange and leadership development.

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Christopher Leon Johnson 9/22/2025

Brooklyn NY11213

To The Committee on Rules Privileges and Elections.

My name is Christopher Leon Johnson and I am submitting written testimony in addition to my Virtual testimony. I am showing opposition to a provision in the rules to where a member of the public can be barred for 30 days if they were to Call out a council member and or a member of the public. My statement is that this is censorship and I believe that the city council will be sued by some law group because they are going to censor the wrong person and that person will be most likely from those non-profits that is funded by Those huge donors such as the Ford Foundation/Open Society's. The provision is censorship and its retaliation to Raul Rivera And Myself due to the fact that those Videos are going viral and some of the members are sensitive. They know they cant retaliate the way they really want too because it's too many cameras in NYC so they retaliate with the rules. I know that these rules are going through because the members love to not hear people tell the public what's really going on and they only want bootlicks to appease them all the time and give them a pat on the back for a job not well done but this whole thing is censorship in a nutshell. The council made this rule in order to shut people like myself(Christopher Leon Johnson) and Raul Rivera(NYC drivers Unite). They want everyone to be on their knees and praise them all the time. The truth is that if the members doesn't like anyone to call them out for their injustices and corruption then they should resign from the city council. This class of council members are real sensitive and they don't like criticism. They want to be praised for all the work that they are doing wrong. As I said before. Will the council implement the same punishment to people like myself and Raul Rivera to the same nonprofits such as Vocal New York that is Ran by Jawanza Williams, New York Working Families Party, the People Plan NYC that is Ran by Zara or will those latter entities get a exemption because they run the progressive vote in the city council? I think not because the council knows what will happen if they do it to those orgs .as I said before, the council is going to do it to the right one with that 30 day ban rule and they will get litigated. As I said from the earlier that this is straight up censorship and the council will be selective on who they use this against such as myself and Raul Rivera and not the nonprofits/affialtes which gets discretionary funding that own the city council . Thank you.

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

As a New Yorker and constituent, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the City Council's rules that would concentrate more power in the Speaker's office and take independence away from individual Council Members. These changes would make it harder for everyday people like me—and the grassroots groups we are part of—to have a real voice in our city government.

1. Limiting Our Representation

As constituents, we elect our Council Members to represent our local communities and fight for the issues we care about. If the Speaker's office can stop bills from being drafted, or make it harder for Council Members to bring them to a vote, then my community's concerns may never even get debated. I am concerned that this reduces the voice of constituents and makes it harder for us to move legislation that addresses local needs.

2. Reducing Transparency

The proposed rules would weaken committee chairs' authority and remove deadlines for bill drafting, making the process less open and less accountable. As a New Yorker, I want more transparency in government, not less. I am also concerned that no clear deadlines for legislation will mean that local community priorities will get stuck in legislative purgatory if not politically expedient for the Speaker.

3. Taking Power Away From Voters

The Speaker is not elected by ordinary New Yorkers—we only get to elect our own Council Members. These proposed rules take power away from the people we actually vote for and give it to someone we don't vote for. That undermines the whole point of local representation.

4. Risk of Stalling Important Community Legislation

In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Zara Nasir

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Queens, NY 11372

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Christian Hansen

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Woodside, NY 11377

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Megan Taylor

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson Heights, NY 11372

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I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Nylien Martinez

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Howard Beach, NY 11414

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

As a New Yorker and constituent, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the City Council's rules that would concentrate more power in the Speaker's office and take independence away from individual Council Members. These changes would make it harder for everyday people like me—and the grassroots groups we are part of—to have a real voice in our city government.

1. Limiting Our Representation

As constituents, we elect our Council Members to represent our local communities and fight for the issues we care about. If the Speaker's office can stop bills from being drafted, or make it harder for Council Members to bring them to a vote, then my community's concerns may never even get debated. I am concerned that this reduces the voice of constituents and makes it harder for us to move legislation that addresses local needs.

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Jenna Capeci

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson Heights, NY 11372

The People's Plan NYC,

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Kat cleofe

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Long Island city, NY 11101

The People's Plan NYC,

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Alona Fryman

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Rego Park, NY 11374

The People's Plan NYC,

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Sarah Fajardo

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Long Island City, NY 11101

The People's Plan NYC,

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Colette Conlon

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Woodside, NY 11377

The People's Plan NYC,

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Eli Itzkowitz

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Rego Park, NY 11374

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Jessica Elsaesser

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11220

The People's Plan NYC,

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Jen Robinson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Astoria, NY 11106

The People's Plan NYC,

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Fredric Goldstein

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 11105

The People's Plan NYC,

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Bryan Fotino

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Astoria, NY 11105

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Rachel Weldon

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

BROOKLYN, NY 11221

The People's Plan NYC,

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[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Yonah Zeitz

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11225

The People's Plan NYC,

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Nick Gulotta

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson Heights, NY 11372

The People's Plan NYC,

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Na thirakomen

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11211

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4. Risk of Stalling Important Community Legislation

In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Jonathan Greenberg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson Heights, NY 11372-2509

The People's Plan NYC,

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Bright Limm

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jamaica, NY 11435

The People's Plan NYC,

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Meira Harris

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Woodside, NY 11377

The People's Plan NYC,

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Eric Vance

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Astoria, NY 11105

The People's Plan NYC,

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Kate McDonough

[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11216

The People's Plan NYC,

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Jamilah Elder

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Woodside, NY 11377

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Jennie Spector

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11201

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Lee Crawford

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11218

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Jeff Turrentine

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11218

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Robert Friedman

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11238

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Mayra Aldás-Deckert

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11218

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Bradley Alter

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11218

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Camila Rueda-Labrador

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10013

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Mohamed Q. Amin

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NEW YORK, NY 11420

The People's Plan NYC,

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Michael Madormo

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11226-3974

The People's Plan NYC,

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In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Lawanda Joyner

[REDACTED]

new york , NY 10029

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

As a New Yorker and constituent, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the City Council's rules that would concentrate more power in the Speaker's office and take independence away from individual Council Members. These changes would make it harder for everyday people like me—and the grassroots groups we are part of—to have a real voice in our city government.

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Jeanette A Lachman

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11220

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Marion Yuen

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11226

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William Farrell

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11226

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Johanna Dominguez

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10035

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Carlo Sica

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

KEW GARDENS, NY 11415

The People's Plan NYC,

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Leandro Moronta

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

new york, NY 10128

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Philip Traversa

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10035

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Diane Aronson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11218

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Sonar Farrow

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11226

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Jessenia Ramirez

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Briarwood, NY 11435

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smitha varghese

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

bellerose, NY 11426

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Bryan Ellicott-Cook

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Staten Island , NY 10306

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Andrea Castellano

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ridgewood, NY 11385

The People's Plan NYC,

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rosette d

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

brooklyn, NY 11231

The People's Plan NYC,

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Carla Seet

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson Heights, NY 11372

The People's Plan NYC,

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1. Limiting Our Representation

As constituents, we elect our Council Members to represent our local communities and fight for the issues we care about. If the Speaker's office can stop bills from being drafted, or make it harder for Council Members to bring them to a vote, then my community's concerns may never even get debated. I am concerned that this reduces the voice of constituents and makes it harder for us to move legislation that addresses local needs.

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In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Sabah Munawar

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Rego Park, NY 11374

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neil satija

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

new york, NY 10035

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Sierra Smigelskiy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Rosanne Clark

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11226

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Brittany Kaiser

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11226

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Olympia Kazi

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10032

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Tej Budhram

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

St. Albans, NY 11412

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Jack McClatchy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Flushing, NY 11372

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Abeer Hoque

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson Heights, NY 11372-5638

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Aliyah Ansari

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11203

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Shelley Barrow

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11203

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Lupe Hernandez

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York , NY 10013

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Emily Compton

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Astoria, NY 11103

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Joy Millman

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11238

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Roxanne Jacobson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11209

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4. Risk of Stalling Important Community Legislation

In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Anne Hager

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York City, NY 10014

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

As a New Yorker and constituent, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the City Council's rules that would concentrate more power in the Speaker's office and take independence away from individual Council Members. These changes would make it harder for everyday people like me—and the grassroots groups we are part of—to have a real voice in our city government.

1. Limiting Our Representation

As constituents, we elect our Council Members to represent our local communities and fight for the issues we care about. If the Speaker's office can stop bills from being drafted, or make it harder for Council Members to bring them to a vote, then my community's concerns may never even get debated. I am concerned that this reduces the voice of constituents and makes it harder for us to move legislation that addresses local needs.

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Glenis Martinez

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bronx , NY 10475

The People's Plan NYC,

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Daniel MILLMAN

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn - B17, NY 11238

The People's Plan NYC,

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Randy Cruz

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sunnyside, NY 11104

The People's Plan NYC,

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DEYCI YUQUILIMA

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10029

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Angella Harris

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Whitestone, NY 11357-3428

The People's Plan NYC,

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Corrin Eckert-Chu

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11210

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Melissa Broudo

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11238

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Carolina Villacis

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bronx, NY 10459

The People's Plan NYC,

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Kaliris Salas-Ramirez

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10029

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Dorothy Browne

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Arianna Arregui

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11207

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Joseph Pfister

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11218

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Camille Casaretti

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11231

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Deborah Carroll

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York , NY 10032

The People's Plan NYC,

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Angela Cervera

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Astoria, NY 11102

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

As a New Yorker and constituent, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the City Council's rules that would concentrate more power in the Speaker's office and take independence away from individual Council Members. These changes would make it harder for everyday people like me—and the grassroots groups we are part of—to have a real voice in our city government.

1. Limiting Our Representation

As constituents, we elect our Council Members to represent our local communities and fight for the issues we care about. If the Speaker's office can stop bills from being drafted, or make it harder for Council Members to bring them to a vote, then my community's concerns may never even get debated. I am concerned that this reduces the voice of constituents and makes it harder for us to move legislation that addresses local needs.

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The Speaker is not elected by ordinary New Yorkers—we only get to elect our own Council Members. These proposed rules take power away from the people we actually vote for and give it to someone we don't vote for. That undermines the whole point of local representation.

4. Risk of Stalling Important Community Legislation

In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Jodie Leidecker

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

brooklyn, NY 11212

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Nikita Boyce

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

BROOKLYN, NY 11237

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Allison Lew

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11210

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Scott Lamica

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11232

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Loray Hodge

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Manhattan, NY 10030

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Audrey White

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Ridgewood, NY 11385

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Mike Golofaro

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Amanda Rouse

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Kezie Thomas

[REDACTED]

The Bronx, NY 10457-3714

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Celina Siegel

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11226

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Tanesha GRANT

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10032-4371

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Raul Soto

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bronx , NY 10461

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Osariemen Michelle Elcock

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11212

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Alexis Smagula

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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4. Risk of Stalling Important Community Legislation

In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Ken Brower

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11209

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

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Christine Brower

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Sunaina Rao

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson Heights, NY 11372

The People's Plan NYC,

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Jay Shalakho

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Jeemin Cha

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Flushing, NY 11354

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Nat Buchbinder

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NEW YORK, NY 10003

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Michelle Chai

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11238

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Katie Rubin

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Elizabeth Soto-Cardona

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10029

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memo salazar

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Sunnyside, NY 11104

The People's Plan NYC,

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Sidney Huang

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Jenny Dubnau

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

JACKSON HEIGHTS, NY 11372

The People's Plan NYC,

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Sherry Chen

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10003

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Elvys Valerio

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

NEW YORK, NY 10035

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Leah McVeigh

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Long island city, NY 11103

The People's Plan NYC,

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Theo Swinford

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11204

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

As a New Yorker and constituent, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the City Council's rules that would concentrate more power in the Speaker's office and take independence away from individual Council Members. These changes would make it harder for everyday people like me—and the grassroots groups we are part of—to have a real voice in our city government.

1. Limiting Our Representation

As constituents, we elect our Council Members to represent our local communities and fight for the issues we care about. If the Speaker's office can stop bills from being drafted, or make it harder for Council Members to bring them to a vote, then my community's concerns may never even get debated. I am concerned that this reduces the voice of constituents and makes it harder for us to move legislation that addresses local needs.

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The proposed rules would weaken committee chairs' authority and remove deadlines for bill drafting, making the process less open and less accountable. As a New Yorker, I want more transparency in government, not less. I am also concerned that no clear deadlines for legislation will mean that local community priorities will get stuck in legislative purgatory if not politically expedient for the Speaker.

3. Taking Power Away From Voters

The Speaker is not elected by ordinary New Yorkers—we only get to elect our own Council Members. These proposed rules take power away from the people we actually vote for and give it to someone we don't vote for. That undermines the whole point of local representation.

4. Risk of Stalling Important Community Legislation

In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Brian Schneider

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Douglaston, NY 11362

The People's Plan NYC,

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shaindy weichman

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11218

The People's Plan NYC,

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Lauren Yaffe

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Joanna Smith

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Elliot Ismail

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Astoria, NY 11106

The People's Plan NYC,

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Lyndall Culbertson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10017

The People's Plan NYC,

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Sebastian Baez

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Astoria, NY 11103

The People's Plan NYC,

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Myrta Echevarría

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Ximena Frankel

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Forest Hills, NY 11375

The People's Plan NYC,

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Sarah Rosenblatt

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson Heights, NY 11372

The People's Plan NYC,

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Rebecca Garte

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10027

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Susan O'Brien

[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Elda Hvala

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215-3604

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Barbara Brasel

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10003

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Laura Ferguson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10023

The People's Plan NYC,

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4. Risk of Stalling Important Community Legislation

In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

JASON AGEE

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

BROOKLYN, NY 11215

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

As a New Yorker and constituent, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the City Council's rules that would concentrate more power in the Speaker's office and take independence away from individual Council Members. These changes would make it harder for everyday people like me—and the grassroots groups we are part of—to have a real voice in our city government.

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Adam Cooper

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10014

The People's Plan NYC,

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Andrey Chichagov

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10044

The People's Plan NYC,

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Danielle Kennedy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Arverne, NY 11692

The People's Plan NYC,

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Rose Moskowitz

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Ann Burk

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Nadine Godwin

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10075

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Anna Hurley-Echevarria

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Mary Whaling

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson Heights , NY 11372

The People's Plan NYC,

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Hilarie Ashton

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11205

The People's Plan NYC,

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Bill Bruno

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson Heights, NY 11372

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Tara Rana

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Evie Hantzopoulos

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Astoria, NY 11106

The People's Plan NYC,

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Caroline Aaron

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Natasha Jaffar

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Queens, NY 11372

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Lauren Clavin

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Kew Gardens, NY 11415

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

As a New Yorker and constituent, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the City Council's rules that would concentrate more power in the Speaker's office and take independence away from individual Council Members. These changes would make it harder for everyday people like me—and the grassroots groups we are part of—to have a real voice in our city government.

1. Limiting Our Representation

As constituents, we elect our Council Members to represent our local communities and fight for the issues we care about. If the Speaker's office can stop bills from being drafted, or make it harder for Council Members to bring them to a vote, then my community's concerns may never even get debated. I am concerned that this reduces the voice of constituents and makes it harder for us to move legislation that addresses local needs.

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4. Risk of Stalling Important Community Legislation

In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Joshua Fox

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

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Shino Tanikawa

[REDACTED]

The Bronx, NY 10467

The People's Plan NYC,

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marlene rossi

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

East elmhurst , NY 11369

The People's Plan NYC,

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Erich Winkler

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York , NY 10014

The People's Plan NYC,

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Nataschia Boeri

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11218

The People's Plan NYC,

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Nala Toussaint

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 11206

The People's Plan NYC,

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Justin Philipps

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Newark, OH 43055

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Jennifer Milligan

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York , NY 10012

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Myrna Tinoco

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Jackson heights, NY 11372

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Mirilla Zhu

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Anne Patricia Woods

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10016

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Amanda Naseem

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11233

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Steph Gorman

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11221

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Bianca Morán

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11233

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Brandon Roiger

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Long Island City, NY 11103-1729

The People's Plan NYC,

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4. Risk of Stalling Important Community Legislation

In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Meghan Dalton

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Flushing, NY 11373

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

As a New Yorker and constituent, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the City Council's rules that would concentrate more power in the Speaker's office and take independence away from individual Council Members. These changes would make it harder for everyday people like me—and the grassroots groups we are part of—to have a real voice in our city government.

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Beth Darlington

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Poughkeepsie, NY 12604-0323

The People's Plan NYC,

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Yulan Zhang

[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11231

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Nadia Saccardo

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11221

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Kara Smith

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11221

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LaTicia Thompson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bronx, NY 10459

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Lauren Berry

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11211

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Melissa Morrone

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11218

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Julman Tolentino

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 11230

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Sarah STRAUSS

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11215

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Elizabeth Kelly

[REDACTED]

Dalton, GA 30720

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Shawn Finlinson

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11238

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Susan Bittenwieser

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10001

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Neff Germany

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Bronx, NY 10475

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Todd Hunt

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11233

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cory parrish

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

New York, NY 10031

The People's Plan NYC,

To the Members of the New York City Council:

As a New Yorker and constituent, I strongly oppose the proposed changes to the City Council's rules that would concentrate more power in the Speaker's office and take independence away from individual Council Members. These changes would make it harder for everyday people like me—and the grassroots groups we are part of—to have a real voice in our city government.

1. Limiting Our Representation

As constituents, we elect our Council Members to represent our local communities and fight for the issues we care about. If the Speaker's office can stop bills from being drafted, or make it harder for Council Members to bring them to a vote, then my community's concerns may never even get debated. I am concerned that this reduces the voice of constituents and makes it harder for us to move legislation that addresses local needs.

2. Reducing Transparency

The proposed rules would weaken committee chairs' authority and remove deadlines for bill drafting, making the process less open and less accountable. As a New Yorker, I want more transparency in government, not less. I am also concerned that no clear deadlines for legislation will mean that local community priorities will get stuck in legislative purgatory if not politically expedient for the Speaker.

3. Taking Power Away From Voters

The Speaker is not elected by ordinary New Yorkers—we only get to elect our own Council Members. These proposed rules take power away from the people we actually vote for and give it to someone we don't vote for. That undermines the whole point of local representation.

4. Risk of Stalling Important Community Legislation

In the past, Council rules reforms made sure that bills supported by a majority of members could not be blocked forever. Rolling back those reforms risks returning us to a time when crucial issues—like paid sick leave—could be held up because leadership didn't want them to move.

I urge you to reject these rule changes [specifically R. 7.60, 6.60(d) and (e), 8.220, 6.20(e), 10.50(b)] and the representation of local constituencies and our issues. New Yorkers deserve a Council where every member can represent their communities freely, not one where decisions are controlled by a single leader not elected by constituencies across the city.

Claudia Schellenberg

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

East Elmhurst, NY 11369

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Carly Hugo

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Brooklyn, NY 11233

THE COUNCIL THE CITY OF NEW YORK

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. _____ Res. No. _____

☐ in favor ☐ in opposition

Date: _____

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: BEN WEINBERG

Address: _____

I represent: CITIZENS Union

Address: _____

▶ Please complete this card and return to the Sergeant-at-Arms ◀