

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES
Of the
COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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September 6, 2017
Start: 11:35 a.m.
Recess: 12:09 p.m.

HELD AT: 250 Broadway - Committee Rm.
14th Fl

B E F O R E: YDANIS A. RODRIGUEZ
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Daniel R. Garodnick
James Vacca
Margaret S. Chin
Stephen T. Levin
Deborah L. Rose
James G. Van Bramer
David G. Greenfield
Costa G. Constantinides
Carlos Menchaca
I. Daneek Miller
Antonio Reynoso
Donovan J. Richards

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

2 [sound check, pause] [gavel]

3 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Good morning

4 everyone, and thank you for—you all for being here at

5 today's hearing of the New York City Council

6 Transportation Committee. My name is Ydanis

7 Rodriguez, and I am the Chair of this committee.

8 Today, we'll be voting on a bill introduced by

9 Council Member Carlos Menchaca that will require the

10 study by the Department of Transportation and the

11 Department of Parks and Recreation on the value of

12 placing New York City Bike Share stations near city

13 parks. This bill Intro—Intro 401 aims—aim to

14 encourage cycling in more areas around the city

15 encouraging residents and visitors alike to hop on a

16 bike and explore our beautiful parks where cycling is

17 allowed. I am supportive of this bill because we as a

18 city need to do more to get out of our cars and find

19 new ways of commuting and having fun. I want to give

20 Council Member Menchaca an opportunity to speak on

21 this bill before vote, but now I would like to

22 acknowledge my colleagues who are here, Council

23 Members Vacca, Van Bramer, Richards, Constantinides,

24 Menchaca and Miller, and now, let's hear from my

25 colleague Council Member--and Dan Garodnick—Council

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

4

2 Member Carlos Menchaca and Council Member Miller is
3 here, too.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Muchas gracias,
5 Ydanis Rodriguez, our Chair of the Transportation
6 Committee and welcome everyone. Today, we're voting
7 on Intro No. 401-A, a one-time reporting item. I
8 want to thank my colleagues for their co-sponsorship
9 of this item. Our city's bike share system is, Citi
10 Bike, which I'm sure you've all heard about, seen or
11 gotten on the bike yourself, is operated by a
12 corporation called Motivate. They are now
13 successfully established, and they are serving tens
14 of thousands of users each month. The ridership is
15 growing like never before, not just for Citi Bike,
16 but for bike-bike users across the city. The planned
17 expansions of the service into new areas of the city
18 have pro-have proceeded at a pace, a good pace.
19 According to Citi Bike's recent June 2017 Operations
20 Report, which is public online for all of you who
21 want to see it, and I'm quoting here, but listen to
22 these numbers. On average there were 57,705 rides
23 per day in June with each bike used, 6.79 times per
24 day. 18,521 annual members, and 74,605 casual
25 members signed up or renewed during the month. Total

2 annual membership stands at 130,301 including
3 memberships purchased with New Jersey billing zip
4 codes. There were 608 active stations at the end of
5 the month. The average bike week last was 8,503 with
6 8,170-100-sorry, 8,107 bikes in the fleet of the last
7 day of the month. Citi Bike members purchased or
8 renewed 18,201 annual passes, over 60,000 single day
9 passes and over 7,000 three-day passes in June.
10 There were about 130,000 active annual members by the
11 end of June. These numbers are staggering. There
12 were 1.7 million trips in June with an average of
13 57,000 trips per day. The combined distanced
14 traveled for all trips was over four million miles.
15 The average trip lasted 14.6 minutes and covered
16 about 2.3 miles. This is an incredible
17 accomplishment of New Yorkers saying yes to bikes and
18 for Citi Bike to continue their expansion and their
19 promise of access. So, clearly Citi Bike has become
20 an integral component of New York City's
21 transportation system. It is a large and complex
22 system that requires careful management to maintain
23 stations and bikes and to rebalance moving bikes from
24 one location to another to make sure that everyone
25 has access, and these patterns of travel go into

2 consideration. Intro 401 would require data and
3 logistics analysis of Citi Bike stations, and
4 placements near our city parks. The value of this is
5 twofold: (1) it will promote more thoughtful and
6 effective interagency coordination between DOT and
7 Parks. We are ready for this interagency
8 conversation to happen around Citi Bike because our
9 ultimate goal is to have Citi Bike across the entire
10 city. (2) It will provide—provide data validating
11 success and pointing to areas for improvement on the
12 placement of bike stations near our parks. I'm a
13 proponent of—I am a proponent of Citi Bike. Not just
14 because I'm a member, but because of everything we
15 just heard today in every neighborhood in the city,
16 and I believe that we should look for every
17 opportunity to improve and expand its services
18 especially in the low-income communities of color and
19 public housing—public housing and Section 8 project
20 based housing like in Sunset Park where cycling can
21 be a healthy and cost-effective transportation
22 option. Citi Bike and its operators use data driven
23 management. This report will allow us to make that
24 happen. So, I want to say thank you to the Chair,
25 the members of this committee and the City Council as

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

7

2 it arrives before the floor. Thank you so much and I
3 urge you all to vote yes.

4 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you
5 [coughs] Thank you. Carlos for your leadership on
6 this issue as also you've been the leader in another
7 issue, but unfortunately it is ours and today
8 especially the immigrants, and you will be hearing
9 later in the hearing at 1:00 p.m., as we're going to
10 be expanding also the services for the immigrant
11 community. So, thank you again. I also want to
12 thank the committee and legislative staff that worked
13 on this bill, Committee Counsel Faizah Malik, Policy
14 Analyst Jonathan Masserano, the Gafar Zaaloff and
15 Emily Rooney, and now I call on the Clerk to call the
16 roll. I recommend a yes vote on this important
17 legislation.

18 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk,
19 roll call vote Committee on Transportation,
20 Introduction 401-A. Chari Rodriguez.

21 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Aye.

22 CLERK: Garodnick.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

24 CLERK: Vacca.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: Aye.

1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

8

2 CLERK: [coughs] Excuse me. Levin.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye.

4 CLERK: Van Bramer.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I vote aye
6 and I would like to be added as a prime co-sponsor of
7 Carlos Menchaca's terrific bill.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Richards.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I vote aye.
11 Congrats, Carlos.

12 CLERK: Constantinides.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: I vote
14 aye and please add me as a sponsor to the bill as
15 well.

16 CLERK: Menchaca.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: I vote aye.

18 CLERK: Miller.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

20 CLERK: By a vote of 9 in the
21 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
22 the item has been adopted by the committee.

23 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you,
24 everyone and we will leave the vote open for a few

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1 COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

9

2 more minutes so that my other colleagues can vote.

3 Thank you. [pause]

4 CLERK: Continuation roll call Committee
5 on Transportation, Introduction 401-A, Council Member
6 Greenfield.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I vote aye.

8 CLERK: By a vote of 10 in the
9 affirmative, 0 in the negative and no abstentions,
10 the item is still adopted by the committee.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: This
12 concludes the Transportation Committee for September
13 6, 2017, and the Transportation Committee is hereby
14 adjourned. [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 September 8, 2017