

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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June 25, 2009  
Start: 10:55 am  
Recess: 11:04 am

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E:  
MELINDA R. KATZ  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Joel Rivera  
Tony Avella  
Charles Barron  
Leroy G. Comrie, Jr.  
Simcha Felder  
Robert Jackson  
Helen Sears  
Albert Vann  
Annabel Palma  
Maria del Carmen Arroyo  
Inez E. Dickens  
Daniel R. Garodnick  
Jessica S. Lappin

## A P P E A R A N C E S

## COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Rosie Mendez  
Elizabeth Crowley  
Vincent Ignizio  
Lewis A. Fidler

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2 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: Let's call the  
3 meeting to order. This is the continuation of the  
4 last meeting, right?

5 FEMALE VOICE: Uh-huh.

6 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: This is a new  
7 meeting, and just so you know, if there's anybody  
8 else that you know of that isn't here, the meeting  
9 is going to be closed today so that we can send  
10 the proper paperwork. And the meeting that we  
11 have before the Council meeting will be a new  
12 meeting, it will be a new meeting, just so you  
13 know.

14 LU number 183 is the Cord Myer-  
15 Forest Hills rezoning, it's an amendment to the  
16 zoning map to ensure the predictability of scale  
17 of future development. It is in my district,  
18 Council Member Katz's district.

19 LU number 1084, amendment to the  
20 zoning text to refine--

21 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down,  
22 please, keep it down.

23 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: --to refine the  
24 existing controls in Council Member Gioia's  
25 district. It is the Special Long Island City

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2 District text amendment.

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Battery Park City Site 3, it's an amendment to the zoning text respecting curb cuts in Council Member Gerson's district. Carter objects.

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It is LU number 1118, Jamaica High School, landmarking of Jamaica High School.

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[Off mic]

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CHAIRPERSON KATZ: All right,

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that's it. That's it.

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Okay. LU number 1118 is in Council Member Gennaro's district, it's the landmarking at Jamaica High School. My father was a teacher at Jamaica High School, so I look forward to that being landmarked, it is a beautiful building.

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LU number 1119 is in Ignizio's district, Council Member Ignizio's district, it's the landmarking of a Rutan-Journey House.

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New York Botanical Garden Museum, Council Member Koppell's district, landmarking of that.

23

Hello. Here you go.

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LU number 1121, Amethyst House in Council Member Oddo's district on Staten Island,

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2 it's an HHC lease to facilitate the development--

3 [Off mic]

4 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: of a community--

5 huh?

6 [Off mic]

7 CHAIRPERSON KATZ: He wants the one

8 I have.

9 LU number 1124 in Council Member  
10 Fidler and Barron's district. It is an  
11 application by City Planning for an amendment to  
12 the zoning map, a Canarsie rezoning.

13 LU number 1125, Council Member  
14 Arroyo's district, landmarking of the New York  
15 Public Library, Woodstock Branch.

16 LU number 1126, New York Public  
17 Library, Hunters Point Branch in Council Member  
18 Arroyo's district, also a landmarking.

19 LU number 1128, Howland Hook Marine  
20 Terminal in Council Member Mitchell's district. A  
21 maritime lease for the Howland Hook Marine  
22 Terminal.

23 School siting of Middle School High  
24 School at LaGuardia Community College in Council  
25 Member Gioia's district.

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2 Any discussion on the items? Call  
3 the roll, please.

4 MR. WILLIAM MARTIN: William  
5 Martin, Committee Clerk. Roll call on the  
6 Committee on Land Use. Council Member Katz.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KATZ: Aye on all.

8 MR. MARTIN: Rivera.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote aye  
10 on all.

11 MR. MARTIN: Avella.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER AVELLA: Aye.

13 MR. MARTIN: Barron.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye on all.

15 MR. MARTIN: Sears.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER SEARS: Aye.

17 MR. MARTIN: Vann.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: A brief  
19 inquiry, did the new chairman, did he stand for  
20 election?

21 [Off mic]

22 COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Okay. I vote  
23 aye, good explanation.

24 MR. MARTIN: Palma.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Arroyo.

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COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Dickens.

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COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Garodnick.

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COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank

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you, I would just like to introduce everybody to  
two of my interns who are here: Marissa Lesthouse  
[phonetic] and Elinga Kulala [phonetic] who are  
sitting over there, and we thank them for all  
their hard work this summer.

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And I vote aye.

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MALE VOICE 1: They should stand

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up. Not everyone can see who they are. Huh?

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[Off mic]

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MALE VOICE 1: All right.

17

[Off mic]

18

MR. MARTIN: Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Mendez.

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COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye.

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MR. MARTIN: Crowley.

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COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Aye on

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all.

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MR. MARTIN: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

MR. MARTIN: Felder.

COUNCIL MEMBER FELDER: Yes.

MR. MARTIN: By a vote of 15 in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and no abstentions, all items have been adopted. Council Members, please sign the committee reports, thank you.

[Long pause]

CHAIRPERSON KATZ: This landmarking at 9:30 on June 30th, Zoning at 9:45, Land Use at 10 o'clock, that's the day of the Stated Meeting. We apologize for having the meetings clearly on the day of the Stated, but as you know, council members are working out things in their districts, so we are trying to help them do that. So 9:30 Landmarks, 9:45 Zoning, and Land Use at 10, June 30th.

We'll leave the vote open for 10 minutes while Carter and I go to our play date.

[Long Pause]

MR. MARTIN: Council Member Jackson.



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2 FEMALE VOICE: That's why I'm  
3 staying right--

4 COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Thank you,  
5 I vote aye on all.

6 MR. MARTIN: Vote now currently  
7 stands at 16 in the affirmative, zero in the  
8 negative, and no abstentions.

9 [Pause]

10 MR. MARTIN: Council Member Comrie.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: What are we  
12 voting on?

13 [Off mic]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: But I  
15 thought zoning was...

16 [Long Pause]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: All right.  
18 I'm clear that we're voting on everything that was  
19 approved from the calendar from the last couple of  
20 days. I humbly vote aye and I want to  
21 congratulate my alma mater, Jamaica High School,  
22 for becoming a landmark, and I hope that when they  
23 landmark it they rename it the Simcha-Comrie  
24 School of Jamaica.

25 [Off mic]

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.

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[Off mic]

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I vote on

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all.

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MALE VOICE 1: All right, Council

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Member Comrie, is this on the record?

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MALE VOICE 2: Yes.

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FEMALE VOICE: Yes.

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[Off mic]

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MALE VOICE 1: Okay. Council

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Member Comrie, do you forgive the \$1,500 that I

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owe you that I borrowed from you in January 2002?

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Yes,

15

Council--

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MALE VOICE: Thank you very much.

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Thank you.

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[Long Pause]

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MR. MARTIN: Final vote on the

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Committee on Land Use is now 17 in the

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affirmative, zero in the negative, and no

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abstentions. Thank you.

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[Off mic]

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COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: ...June

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25th--

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[Off mic]

MALE VOICE 1: Hold on, hold on.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Oh hold on?

MALE VOICE: Start over.

MALE VOICE 1: They're playing  
games with you, I'm telling you.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: Start over?

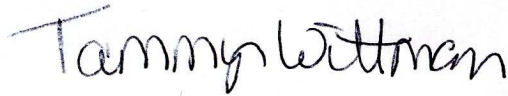
MALE VOICE: Yes.

FEMALE VOICE: Yes.

COUNCIL MEMBER COMRIE: I'd like to  
adjourn the Committee on Land Use meeting for June  
25th, and thank all of those who participated.  
The meeting is adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Tammy Wittman, certify that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. I further certify that I am not related to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that I am in no way interested in the outcome of this matter.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Tammy Wittman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'T'.

Signature\_\_\_\_\_

Date July 31, 2009\_\_\_\_\_