

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

SUBCOMMITTEE ON PLANNING, DISPOSITIONS AND CONCESSIONS

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December 14, 2011  
Start: 1:35pm  
Recess: 1:43pm

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E: STEPHEN T. LEVIN  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:  
Charles Barron  
Inez E. Dickens  
Sara M. Gonzalez  
Peter A. Koo

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

Carol Clark  
Assistant Commissioner  
NYC Housing Preservation and Development

2 CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Good afternoon.

3 Welcome to the Subcommittee on Planning,  
4 Dispositions and Concessions. We're going to have  
5 a very brief hearing today in the recess of the  
6 Landmarks Hearing. I'm Council Member Stephen  
7 Levin, Chair of the Subcommittee joined today by  
8 my colleagues, Charles Barron of Brooklyn and  
9 Peter Koo of Queens. We are hearing one item  
10 today, Land Use No. 499, a proposal subject to  
11 Council review and action pursuant to the Urban  
12 Development Action Area Act, Article 16, New York  
13 General Municipal Law at the request of the  
14 Department of Housing and Preservation and  
15 Development. This is non - - number 20125161 HAK,  
16 and includes a number of addresses in Brooklyn,  
17 that is 106 Hopkinson Avenue, 237 Sumpter Street,  
18 220 McDougal Street, 2019 Fulton Street, 728  
19 Madison Street, 766 Herkimer Street, 516 Crescent  
20 Street, all in the borough of Brooklyn in  
21 Community Districts 3, 16 and 5. The program is  
22 neighborhood stabilization and the Council Members  
23 for these addresses are Council Member Darlene  
24 Mealy and this Subcommittee's own Charles Barron.  
25 Testifying on these items Carol Clark Assistant

2 Commissioner at HPD and Peter Madden [phonetic].  
3 Commissioner Clark?

4 ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER CLARK: Good  
5 afternoon, Mr. Chairman and members of the  
6 Subcommittee. I'm joined by my colleague, Peter  
7 Madden, of the Office of Development and you  
8 noted, L.U. 499 is the proposed amendment of four  
9 city-owned vacant lots that are located at the  
10 addresses that you cited that were previously  
11 approved for disposition. This action also  
12 consists of amending a tax exemption that was  
13 previously approved for a series of vacant lots,  
14 and in total, these seven lots comprise the newly  
15 proposed project known as Hopkins and Sumpter.  
16 The sponsor Mutual Housing Association of New York  
17 proposes to construct seven buildings containing  
18 26 units of affordable rental housing. Council  
19 Member Barron has indicated his support. He has  
20 one of those lots in his district. The other six  
21 are still under discussion with Council Member  
22 Mealy. Thank you.

23 CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: We've also been  
24 joined by Subcommittee Member, Inez Dickens of  
25 Manhattan. Do any of my colleagues have any

2 questions on these items? Charles? Okay. We are  
3 actually going to not vote today on these items  
4 and we are going to adjourn the hearing, but prior  
5 to that I think Council Member Barron did want to  
6 make a remark. Do you want to make a remark?  
7 Before we close out the hearing..

8 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Oh,  
9 absolutely. Absolutely.

10 [laughter]

11 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I just  
12 wanted to say to Carol Shine I understand that you  
13 may be moving on and I just—you are moving. She  
14 is. She is moving on and this is her last meeting  
15 for this Committee, so I just wanted to say how  
16 much that I appreciate your stay here. I could  
17 tell the big secret now how we have similar  
18 politics. I could never mention that prior to  
19 this moment, so that she didn't get in trouble.  
20 Most of the outburst you heard from me, I got from  
21 Carol. On the real side, she is just a real  
22 person. We had a very real relationship and we  
23 disagree—agree most of the time. The few times we  
24 did disagree, it was very respectful, and so I  
25 want to wish you the best wherever you go, and

2 you're going to be missed.

3 [applause]

4 CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Council Member  
5 Dickens?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Carol, it  
7 has been a pleasure over the years of working with  
8 you. You're brilliant. You know how to tell the  
9 City Council Members they're wrong, and you make  
10 us think it came up from us. You're excellent at  
11 that, and we appreciate your hard work and your  
12 dedication. Whether we agreed or didn't agree  
13 with what your assessment was, the bottom line is  
14 you were truthful, you were honest, and you did it  
15 respectful regardless of what you had to do. I  
16 want to say thank you. I do salute you. I do  
17 wish you well. I think you've got a lot of nerve  
18 leaving us, but that's okay. We'll try to get  
19 along without you. I don't know if we will, but  
20 we will try to get along without you. Thank God  
21 we've still got Gail [phonetic]. So thank you,  
22 Carol.

23 [applause]

24 CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: I'm going to  
25 allow Council Member Koo to say a couple of words.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you.

3 I'm a new Council Member. I only know Carol for  
4 two years, but because our city has dedicated  
5 workers, civil servants like her, our city remains  
6 a great city in the world because elected  
7 officials come and go—four years, eight years.  
8 Even the mayor comes and goes—four years, eight  
9 years—

10 CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: [Interposing]

11 12.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: But they are  
13 here to provide a - - of city government. They're  
14 the backbone of government. So thank you, Carol.  
15 Thank you for your dedicated service for over 20  
16 years. 20 ½ years. That's a long time. So on  
17 behalf of my district, thank you for your  
18 wonderful service, dedicated service to our city  
19 that makes our city one of the greatest cities in  
20 the world. Thank you.

21 CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: I would just  
22 like to say how wonderful it's been to be able to  
23 work with Carol over the last two years. Carol  
24 has been with this Subcommittee since she was in  
25 third grade in 1994.

2 [laughter]

3 CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Not second  
4 grade, third grade. Her expertise and her  
5 willingness to show me the ropes and to tell me  
6 what is what has been invaluable to me and I will  
7 be forever grateful. For the record, I never have  
8 disagreed with you. I always agree with you.  
9 It's really just been a great joy for me to work  
10 with you and I want to thank you for really  
11 guiding me in this role, and for your kindness to  
12 my staff, responsiveness to any issue at any time.  
13 This city has been well served by you. The city  
14 is a better place for your service and so I want  
15 to thank you very much on a personal level, on a  
16 professional level and on behalf of my staff and  
17 the constituents that I represent. As a small  
18 token, we went out and got you some flowers.

19 [applause]

20 CHAIRPERSON LEVIN: Thank you very  
21 much, Carol, and you're going to tell me what to  
22 say. We're going to close the hearing and adjourn  
23 the meeting. Thank you very much, Carol.

24

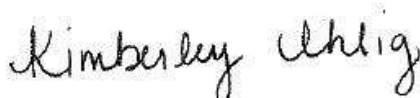
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C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Kimberley Uhlig 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.

Signature

Handwritten signature of Kimberley Uhlig in cursive script, written over a horizontal line.Date 1/4/12