

CITY COUNCIL
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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March 14, 2012
Start: 10:44am
Recess: 10:50am

HELD AT: 250 Broadway
Committee Room, 16th Floor

B E F O R E:
LEROY G. COMRIE, JR.
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Charles Barron
Daniel R. Garodnick
Sara M. Gonzalez
Robert Jackson
Jessica S. Lappin
Rosie Mendez
Annabel Palma
Diana Reyna
Joel Rivera
James Sanders, Jr.
Larry B. Seabrook
James Vacca
Albert Vann

A P P E A R A N C E S

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Brad S. Lander
Stephen T. Levin
Mark S. Weprin
Jumaane D. Williams
Daniel J. Halloran, III
Vincent M. Ignizio
Peter A. Koo

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2 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: Calling to
3 order the full Land Use Committee for Wednesday,
4 March 14th, 2012. We've been joined by Brad
5 Lander, Peter Koo, Sara Gonzalez, Daniel
6 Garodnick, Jessica Lappin, Charles Barron, Larry
7 Seabrook, Daniel Halloran, Annabel Palma, Robert
8 Jackson, Joel Rivera, Mark Weprin, Vinnie Ignizio,
9 and Diana Reyna. I think I got everybody. Today
10 we are voting on five related applications of
11 zoning text amendment, zoning map amendment, and
12 special permits to facilitate the development and
13 redevelopment of the Rudin West Village Project.
14 It's Land Use items number 559 through 563, which
15 are related, in Council Member Quinn's District,
16 Manhattan Community Board 12, known as Rudin West
17 Village. Manhattan Community Board 2, sorry. It
18 did say 2, Manhattan Community Board 2. Item
19 number C120029 ZM, and the related items, which
20 have already been previously listed. We have--
21 we've already heard the testimony at the
22 subcommittee meeting earlier today on all of the
23 amendments that were done. I'm not going to
24 repeat them other than to congratulate again all
25 of the parties that put time and effort into

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2 trying to make this a reality. Again, as I said
3 earlier, if everyone is unhappy, then we have a
4 project that will move forward. And we've had it.
5 We've done it in the typical New York style, where
6 we have people that have been able to express
7 their opinion and express their desires, and now
8 we have to move forward as a city. With that I
9 would recommend a yes vote, unless there are
10 additional comments from any of the members that
11 are--Council Member Lappin and Council Member
12 Barron.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: I just
14 wanted to say, I know there are many members of
15 the community here today. And I wanted to note
16 that the Chair of the Community Board, Brad
17 Hoylman is here today. There have been extensive
18 meetings and hours of discussion, and the
19 Community Board really did a wonderful job of
20 taking the input they received and shaping this
21 project, and I wanted to thank them for their
22 work.

23 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: Yes. I
24 thanked them during the subcommittee meeting. The
25 Community Board was a major element in this

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2 project and we congratulate you for making sure
3 the community was well aware of all the elements
4 of this project, and I don't envy you for your
5 position in this matter. Council Member Barron?

6 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I just want
7 to reiterate--I'm not talking about them building
8 a hospital--but this ER is totally inadequate. We
9 should not let them get away with this inadequate
10 representation of medical services for an under-
11 serviced community, a community that is going to
12 suffer. People could even die if we don't do
13 better with the medical services part. Even the
14 450 condos, they don't even have any affordable
15 housing. And when they talk about jobs, 1,200
16 jobs--construction jobs--400 permanent jobs, they
17 lost 3,500 jobs when the hospital shut down. And
18 I think we should not sit here and pass this. We
19 should make them do better. They have the money;
20 make them do better, especially around the medical
21 services. So, I just want to urge my Committee
22 once again that I know we think we got the best
23 out of this because of the Community Board and all
24 the hours. But sometimes the end results of all
25 of that work is inadequate for a community that is

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2 already medically under-serviced. And I think
3 when you have developers that have the financial
4 capability to do better, we should make them do
5 better by our community, and not go for an ER that
6 doesn't address some of the major medical crises
7 that this community could possibly be afflicted
8 by. So, I just didn't want--Chairman Weprin just
9 misconstrued my position. We know we're not
10 building a hospital, but they can do 1,000 times
11 better with the emergency experiment emergency
12 room that they're putting together now, because
13 it's not adequate at all. And I think they should
14 hear this community more. And even though there
15 was input from people, there are some people that
16 have, I think, legitimate criticisms of this
17 project, and we should service them by making this
18 company do better on the medical area, because
19 that to me is the most critical part of this, and
20 I am voting no. And I want to urge my colleagues
21 to vote no as well, and make them go back to the
22 drawing board--

23 CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: [Interposing]
24 Okay.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: --and do

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better by the community.

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: All right.
You've been heard. And I didn't interrupt you. I
didn't shake my head, all right?

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: You don't
have to say anything. I've been heard, we'll move
on. You don't have to tell me.

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: I just wanted
to give myself credit. That's all.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Like you
were supposed to.

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: I would ask
the Clerk to call the roll. I would recommend an
Aye vote on this application. And at this point,
Billy, could you call the roll?

WILLIAM MARTIN: William Martin,
Committee Clerk. Roll call vote in Committee on
Land Use. Council Member Comrie.

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: We've been
joined by Council Member Williams and Sanders. I
vote Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Rivera.

COUNCIL MEMBER RIVERA: I vote Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Reyna.

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COUNCIL MEMBER REYNA: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: May I be
excused to explain my vote?

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: No.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote no.
Resoundly no.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Jackson.

COUNCIL MEMBER JACKSON: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Sanders.

COUNCIL MEMBER SANDERS: On this
issue of the hospital rezoning, I abstain.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Seabrook.

COUNCIL MEMBER SEABROOK: I vote
Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Vann.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Gonzalez.

COUNCIL MEMBER GONZALEZ: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Palma.

COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Garodnick.

COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Lappin.

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COUNCIL MEMBER LAPPIN: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Weprin.

COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Williams.

COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Abstain.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Ignizio.

COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Halloran.

COUNCIL MEMBER HALLORAN: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: By a vote of 15 in
the affirmative, 1 in the negative, and 2
abstentions, items are adopted. Members, please
sign committee reports.

CHAIRPERSON COMRIE: The next
Committee meeting is on March 20th and March 22nd.
Has anyone heard from any of the members that are
not here? Then we can--quiet please. We are
going to--we're going to--Council Member Vacca is
on his way. We will hold the vote open for ten
minutes for Council Member Vacca. Meeting is

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adjourned. Thank you all for being here.

[END FILE 2]

[START FILE 3]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member

Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Vote now currently

stands at 16 in the affirmative, 1 in the

negative, and 2 abstentions.

[pause]

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member

Vacca.

COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: I vote Aye.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Council Member

Mendez.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Aye on all.

WILLIAM MARTIN: Final vote in the

Committee on Land Use is now 18 in the

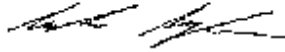
affirmative, 1 in the negative, and 2 abstentions.

COUNCIL MEMBER VANN: Okay, ready

to go. The meeting is adjourned.

C E R T I F I C A T E

I, Erika Swyler, 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

Date 3/29/12