



THE CITY OF NEW YORK
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN

GALE A. BREWER
BOROUGH PRESIDENT

**Testimony of Manhattan Borough President Gale A. Brewer
New York City Council Committee on Technology
Hearing on the Implementation of Local Law 103 of 2013
Requiring that All Public Meetings Be Webcast
February 24, 2104**

Good morning, my name is Gale A. Brewer and I am the Borough President of Manhattan. Prior to being elected Borough President, I served for twelve years in the City Council, including eight years as the Chair of this wonderful Committee. I was also the Primary Sponsor of Local Law 103 of 2013, which required that all public meetings be webcast.

I want to thank Chairman Vacca and the other Committee Members for holding this hearing on a topic that I believe is very timely. I also want to thank Cullen Howe, Counsel to the Committee, who worked with me to pass Local Law 103 last year. Local Law 103 will require that all public meetings by city agencies, committees, commissions, or task forces be webcast. This legislation will bring an unprecedented level of transparency to municipal government, by making public proceedings much more accessible for the public.

As we all know, the vast majority of public meetings take place during the standard workday, when many New Yorkers are working at THEIR jobs. By simultaneous webcasting or publicly posting video of important meetings, they will be able to view proceedings after the fact. This provides an important level of transparency and oversight, and should also lead to a better-informed electorate.

Although I believe strongly in the mission of webcasting all public hearings, this undertaking is not without its challenges. As Borough President, I am now responsible for my own small agency that must webcast its Borough Board meetings. There are three facets to the problem: video capture of the event, closed captioning of the event (required to conform to the ADA), and online video distribution of the event.

Neither our conference room at 1 Centre Street nor the conference room we will use in the State Office Building uptown were designed as television studios. With the fantastic assistance of the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, we are in the process of identifying the necessary equipment to successfully capture our public proceedings. The equipment is not cheap however, and my understanding is that many small agencies are struggling with whether to invest in expensive technology. In my case for example, we are looking at capital costs of about \$20,000 to purchase the necessary equipment to record our hearings.

I have to admit that when we first started working on Local Law 103, we envisioned many small agencies implementing simple webcasting arrangements where they would have one camcorder recording a hearing. We did not fully consider the audio and visual elements that were required to capture high-quality recordings that the public would actually want to watch. The proceedings here today, for example, again thanks to the great staff of the Mayor's Office of Media and the Speaker's IT Division, are high quality, with great sound. Not every agency has meeting rooms like this at their disposal however, which makes webcasting more difficult. Also, the equipment in this room, as well as at City Hall, was paid for with cable franchise money, another luxury the rest of us do not have.

As we move forward with the implementation of this Law, I would ask that the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MoME) and the Department of Information Technology & Telecommunications (DoITT) serve a more hands-on role working with the various agencies on implementation. I know that MoME has the expertise to assist with webcasting, but they are currently operating without a Commissioner, and I believe are stretched to their limits given their current staff levels and resources. Similarly, DoITT has a fantastic staff who I believe support the mission of webcasting, but they are dealing with their own logistical challenges. For example, we have been told that, as an agency on the City's internet connection, CityNet, we cannot live stream our hearings over this connection. Instead, we are being asked to procure a private broadband provider if we want to live stream. Again, the issue of stressed bandwidth is not unique to DoITT, but if NYC wants to continue to be a leader in the tech sector and municipal transparency, expanding our broadband capabilities strikes me as a wise investment.

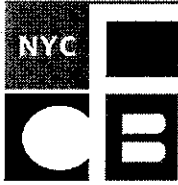
Thus, as we enter budget negotiations, I ask that everyone who supports the goal of webcasting consider increased funding for both MoME and DoITT to ensure that agencies have the assistance they need to comply with this important Law.

In the end, the benefits of webcasting far outweigh the costs, but agencies do deserve some assistance with the capital investment for webcasting equipment, as well as

some initial hand-holding so that they have trained staff who can capture video and audio that is useful for the public.

My staff has spoken with officials from the New York State government who are working on webcasting in Albany. They are struggling with some of the same issues as the City, in particular smaller meetings in rooms that were not designed for audio or video recording. However, overall it appears that many State agencies have found ways to webcast. According to representatives we spoke with, once initial equipment investments were made, and at least one dedicated technical staffer was identified, there was not a lot of ongoing support needed. For example, in the past two weeks there have been webcast meetings of the Cemetery Board, Public Authorities Control Board, Empire State Stem Cell Board, Dormitory Authority, and more. Although we must recognize the difficulties faced by agencies in their initial compliance with the webcasting requirement, I think the State's relative success indicates that it is not impossible to comply.

I will close with a brief mention of the second bill being discussed today, Intro 28 of 2014, which would require that all Community Board full board meetings be webcast. While I agree with Chairman's Vacca intent with this bill, I would highlight the fact that the issues faced by small agencies are even more serious for Community Boards, who have tiny budgets, few staff, and ever-changing meeting rooms which make webcasting difficult. I would hope that any requirement that Community Boards webcast their meetings include a strong financial commitment to assist them with purchasing equipment and learning how to adequately record and upload proceedings. I know that Manhattan's CB6 is currently webcasting their meetings, thanks to an arrangement they have to hold meetings at a facility that is equipped for webcasting. Pursuing more of these types of arrangements would be one approach to ease the burden on Community Boards. However, it should be noted that the last CB6 full board meeting had working audio, but no video, which should serve as a warning. Thank you again for the opportunity to testify, and I am happy to answer any questions you may have.



New York City Campaign Finance Board

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**Testimony of Eric Friedman
Assistant Executive Director for Public Affairs
New York City Campaign Finance Board**

**City Council Committee on Technology
February 24, 2014**

Good afternoon Chair Vacca, and the members of the Technology Committee. My name is Eric Friedman, and I am Assistant Executive Director for Public Affairs at the New York City Campaign Finance Board (CFB). My colleagues at the CFB and I thank you for the opportunity to testify here today about our experiences webcasting public meetings of the Board.

A central aim of the Campaign Finance Board is to encourage more New Yorkers to access the political process. Our work amplifies the voice of average New Yorkers by making their small contributions to candidates more meaningful, and offers New Yorkers a window into the political process by providing a trusted source of information about candidates, campaigns, and elections.

Disclosure and openness is fundamental to our work. Since our inception, we have sought to apply new technologies to the mission of greater transparency. We provided online access to campaign finance information filed by campaigns long before “open data” became a rallying cry for those seeking information about the workings of government. When it became clear to us that readily available technology could help us provide greater access to our meetings, hearings, and events, we moved ahead.

Since March of 2011, the CFB has been webcasting public meetings and hearings of our Board, of our Voter Assistance Advisory Committee, and other events of interest. The demand for the service became immediately clear. Over the past three years, nearly 3,000 viewers have logged more than 100,000 minutes watching more than 60 events over our live stream.

The audience is significant, but it is certainly modest, as are our needs. We broadcast a standing monthly meeting of the Board, and a limited number of other events spread throughout the year. Thankfully, we are able to meet our needs with a modest investment.

To create the video, we use a camcorder and a dedicated computer in conjunction with the sound system we have long used to amplify and record our Board meetings. To stream and archive the video, we use Livestream, a service based in New York City. The video stream and archive are embedded on a dedicated page on our agency website. We have uploaded some of these events and videos to our agency's YouTube page as well.

We commend the Council for Local Law 103 of 2013, which requires all public meetings be webcast, and for today's consideration of Intro 28, which would extend the requirement to community boards. There are many ways for New Yorkers to engage with government, but not nearly enough do. Requiring agencies, commissions, City Council committees, and community boards to conduct their business in full view of anyone with a web browser can and will help make government more understandable, accessible, and open. We hope our experience can be instructive in this regard.

I am happy to answer any questions you may have.



THE CITY OF NEW YORK **COMMUNITY BOARD SIX**

Eric Adams
Borough President

Daniel M. Kummer
Chairperson

Craig Hammerman
District Manager

Testimony on City Council's Intro 28, a Local Law to amend the New York city charter, in relation to requiring that all community board full board meetings be webcast, to be delivered to the City Council's Technology Committee at their February 24, 2014 committee meeting.

Good afternoon. My name is Craig Hammerman, I am the District Manager of Brooklyn Community Board 6. At its general meeting on February 12, 2014 our board resolved unanimously to conditionally support City Council's Intro 28, which would require Community Boards to webcast their meetings. Our condition, simply put, is that the City Council either provides us with the resources to pay for this mandate, or find a way for us to get it done.

You can't mandate that the Community Boards serve as a planning entity without giving all of us access to planning resources; despite our repeated requests for assistance over the years, with the exception of trailblazers like former Manhattan Borough President, now City Comptroller Scott Stringer, our pleas have consistently fallen on deaf ears.

You can't mandate that the Community Boards disseminate important information to our communities without cost of living increases to keep up with postage and other increased expenses which enable us to maintain an active Internet presence; the value of the information that agencies entrust us with to disseminate rises in importance over time while our budgets lag further and further behind.

You certainly can't mandate that the Community Boards record and webcast our meetings as Intro 28 would require, without providing technical support and resources. You can change the Charter to mandate that the Community Boards perform brain surgery, but you'd be setting us up to fail. It's unwise and unfair.

Personally, I would love to see board meetings webcast; probably more than most of you. I'm confident that many of my colleagues feel the same way. I've agonized about it and only dreamed of it until now. Community Boards deserve to join the ranks of the rest of government. But if you're going to legislate this as a mandate, that makes you culpable for getting us there.

There's really only two ways we can do this – the hard way and the smart way. You can cost out the amount it would take for us to provide this service –including the acquisition of equipment, production, editing and storage costs, additional staff and other unforeseen incidentals. Incorporating this new responsibility will disrupt our existing functions and responsibilities and will involve an opportunity cost. Expenses across the 59 Community Boards will range. So, too, will the quality and format of the products. In the end, this option will guarantee the loss of any economies of scale in addition to the loss of both efficiency and effectiveness. That's the hard way.

If we do it the smart way, the Council would use its powers to require that franchisee's holding telecommunication agreements with the City be mandated to broadcast Community Board general meetings. We would also ask that the full, unedited products be made publicly accessible as official records of the proceedings. All public bodies should be assured a consistent, high-quality, professional record of their meeting. Let the professionals do it. The public deserves no less.

Intro 28 places us at a crossroads. It seems to me the rational thing would be to consider the following course of action. First, withdraw or delay adoption of Intro 28 until we have an executable implementation plan. I, for one, would love the opportunity to work with you to develop that plan, and I have some experience to offer. From 2007-2011, I had the honor of serving as a Commissioner, appointed by then Public Advocate Betsy Gotbaum to the City's Commission on Public Information and Communications. One of my responsibilities was to make recommendations regarding the application of new communications technology to improve public access to city produced or maintained information. It starts with a plan.

Second, legislatively it is worth revisiting Section 1063 of the City Charter which outlines the franchisee's responsibilities to the City regarding the cablecasting and broadcasting of public proceedings of city government. This section of the City Charter, enacted more than a generation ago, must be brought into the 21st Century to require live streaming and webcasting options. In this age of open data it is government's job to safeguard the rights of the public to free access to proceedings through popular and available transmission media.

Third, it is worth revisiting Section 1063(b) of the City Charter which says that "the council and its committees and the city planning commission shall make their public meetings and hearings available for cablecasting and broadcasting." Instead of inserting the requirement that Community Board meetings be webcast within the Section 2800 which defines Community Board duties and responsibilities as Intro 28 suggests, it would make more sense to me to insert the requirement within Section 1063(b). This would reinforce the notion that Community Boards are not, and should not have to become, professional broadcasters.

Lastly, let's commit to getting this done now instead of back-burnering it because the road you're on may have just gotten a little bumpier. We shouldn't have to wait one moment longer for the public to have access to our proceedings. Let's get this done now, and let's get it done quickly so we can turn our attention to finding the supplements necessary to cover our unfunded planning mandate, our unfunded cost of living increases and any other unfunded mandates we are expected to perform.

In the words of Benjamin Franklin, "We must all hang together, or assuredly we shall all hang separately." So let's work together on this. Let's get this done. And let's do this the smart way, not the hard way.

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Testimony of Alvin M. Berk, February 24, 2014

Thank you for this opportunity to offer comment on Intro 28. Unfortunately, the timetable does not permit me to review this testimony with the members of my board, so I must offer it as an individual.

The intent of the Intro is excellent: to make the deliberations of community boards more accessible to the public.

But unless it is implemented carefully, it will not meet this goal. To start, the Intro will need to be accompanied by funds sufficient to accommodate the individual practices of the City's 59 community boards. Brooklyn Board 14, for example, relies heavily on a committee system to conduct business. Human service issues are reviewed in detail at meetings of the Human Services Committee; transportation issues at meetings of the Transportation Committee. Other committees function similarly. Our policy of using committee meetings for detailed discussion enables representatives from city agencies to use their time efficiently. It also encourages a conversational tone, hard to achieve at a large formal monthly plenary session. The committee system successfully engages members of the public who want to offer comment or ask questions.

In Calendar Year 2013, we held 23 committee meetings. If we are going to use webcasting to make our deliberations more accessible to the public, we are obligated to include our committee meetings. We will need substantial technical support to do this.

We also schedule most of our public hearings separately from our full board meetings and committee meetings. In 2013, we held 28 public hearings, scheduled on nine evenings. Most of these public hearings involve BSA zoning variances or special permits; we also conduct hearings on group homes, zoning changes, the Citywide Statement of Needs, and the Budget. The BSA hearings typically require detailed examination of architects' plans and scale models.

To satisfy the intent of Intro 28, we will need to include all of these committee meetings and public hearings, as well as our full board meetings, in the webcasting schedule. We will need support for a webcasting schedule that comprises more than 40 evenings each year, at three separate locations. (We move our monthly meetings between two public schools to guarantee access to the handicapped and avoid any appearance of regional preference. Our committee meetings are held in our board office.)

To webcast all of our decision-making process, we'll need to provide still images of all display materials, and audible recordings of all speakers, no matter where a speaker is in the room or auditorium – and we'll need to do this at three meeting locations, only one of which we control.

We'll also need a way to ensure that any funding allocated to establish webcasting doesn't vanish when the City budget gets tight.

Apart from the difficulty of implementing webcasting at three locations, we have other concerns:

Would the webcasting initiative become a technical distraction?

Would webcasting increase or decrease the incentive for persons to challenge the decorum of the meeting? Could it create a platform for the angry? Would it exacerbate posturing?

What rules would govern how the camera is aimed, and when it is turned off? What if someone utters an obscenity, or advocates violence?

Allowing members of the public to witness community board meetings on the web without requiring their personal attendance would benefit those who can't – or won't – attend. But it also could reduce the incentive for people to assemble in a public meeting – an invaluable way to build a sense of community.

On balance, I am opposed to the Intro as written, and urge that it be withdrawn unless it is accompanied by an enduring guarantee of funding and technical support for all community board gatherings defined as Open Meetings.



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

Catherine McVay Hughes CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

New York City Council Committee on Technology

Oversight Hearing: A Local Law to Amend the New York City Charter, in Relation to Requiring that all Community Board Full Board Meetings be Webcast

Testimony by Catherine McVay Hughes, Chair Manhattan Community Board 1

**Monday, February 24, 2014
250 Broadway, 16th Floor Committee Room, 1:00 P.M.**

Good morning, Chairman Vacca and members of the Committee on Technology. Thank you for convening this oversight hearing on Intro 28 to amend the New York City Charter in relation to requiring that all community board full board meetings be webcast.

The Executive Committee of Community Board 1 discussed at our meeting last week on February 19 this proposed amendment to the New York City Charter which would require that "each board shall record its public meetings and hearings in digital video format" and that "such meetings and hearings shall be webcast live, where practicable, and the recordings of such meetings and hearings shall be archived and made available to the public on the community board or city's website not more than seventy-two hours after adjournment of the meeting or hearing recorded."

Our Executive Committee unanimously passed a resolution which will come before our full board at our meeting tomorrow, on February 25, supporting the principles of transparency and accessibility to government data and proceedings that would be advanced by webcasting and archiving full board meetings on community board websites.

However, we expressed serious concerns that Intro 28 does not provide resources and funding to carry out these additional responsibilities and is unclear about what process or system will be put in place to webcast the meetings and archive them on a website.

We urge in our resolution that Intro 28 not be adopted unless it includes a clear requirement that the city provide the additional funding, resources and personnel needed to carry out these tasks.

Moreover, we called in our resolution for the webcasting and archiving of community board meetings and all associated tasks required by Intro 28 to be carried out by an external agency such as the New York City Department of Information Technology and Telecommunications so that the funding cannot be eliminated from community board budgets in the future while these new responsibilities continue to be required.

We know, Chairman Vacca, that as a former District Manager at Community Board 10 in the Bronx for 26 years, you are aware that community boards carry out a myriad of important responsibilities, including many that are mandated by the New York City Charter, and that the minimal amount of funding and resources we receive from the city has been threatened on an almost annual basis for many years.

We are therefore concerned about the possibility that if Intro 28 is adopted and no external entity is required to carry out the tasks associated with it, even if additional funding to implement it could be added to community board budgets, that funding could be thereafter eliminated in a subsequent year due to budget cuts. We therefore believe it is essential that an external agency be required to carry out the tasks or another reliable mechanism be put in place to prevent the video/webcast requirements from becoming unfunded obligations.

More generally, we believe that with a new administration and City Council leadership in place, consideration should be given to increasing funding for community boards so that we will have the funding and resources that we need to provide essential services to improve quality of life throughout the city.

Thank you very much for the opportunity to testify this afternoon. We strongly support the principles of transparency and accessibility to government proceedings and data that would be advanced by webcasting and archiving community board meetings and we hope that Intro 28 will be modified in the ways we have recommended.



COMMUNITY BOARD NO. 9

Marty Markowitz
Borough President

Rabbi Jacob Goldstein
Chairman

Pearl R. Miles
District Manager

**Testimony before the Committee on Technology
New York City Council
February 24, 2014
Int. No. 28 - in Relation to Requiring All
Community Board full Board Meetings be Webcast**

**Oversight: The Implementation of Local Law 103 of 2013
Requiring that all Public Meetings be Webcast**

Honorable Members of the Committee on Technology, I am Pearl R. Miles, District Manager for Community Board 9, Brooklyn. I am here to testify on behalf of the Chairman and Members of the Board of Community Board 9, regarding Int. No. 28, a Local Law to amend the New York City Charter, in relation to requiring that all community board full board meetings be webcast.

While the webcasting of community board meetings is a welcomed opportunity to reach our constituency; and would be in keeping with the advancements in communication provided by modern technology, this method of communication will require start up and ongoing budget appropriations.

With the current meager budget provided to Community Board 9, and Community Boards in general, there is no possibility for our board to implement this unfunded mandate by the Council.

The members of Community Board 9 would also like clarification from the Committee on Technology and the New York City Council regarding Int. No. 28 and Int. 132-A – Local Law 103, which was signed into law by Mayor Michael Bloomberg, December 2013.

As Community Board 9 understands Int. No. 132-A – Local Law 103; Section 1. Section 1063 of the New York City Charter is amended by adding a new subdivision d to read as follows:

d. Each city agency, committee, commission and task force and the council shall record or cause to be recorded in digital video format its meetings and hearing, or portions thereof, that are required to be public pursuant to article seven of the public officers law, **provided that this section shall not apply to community boards or local school boards.** Such recordings shall be webcast live, where practicable, and shall be archived and made available to the public on the city's website or on the website of such agency, committee, commission, task force, or council, not more than seventy-two hours after adjournment of the meeting or hearing recorded.

§2. This local law shall take effect ninety days after its enactment.

Since language was added specifically excluding community boards and local school boards; why then is this Int. 28 again being proposed, and, without the provision of appropriate funding?

Community Board 9 has consistently and without fail advocated for an increase to our budget. Community Boards have not seen an increase in our budget in over 20 years. Instead of receiving any increase whatsoever, Community Boards operate under the fear of the ever present threat of budget cuts that hover over us each fiscal year.

We are pleased to have received the support of the members of the City Council in the past, who have voted to restore the draconian cuts to Community Boards' budgets. However, we are always on guard to the possibility of a looming budget cut.

Community Boards provide invaluable service to the constituencies that they serve. Among the many functions of the Board are the responsibilities for the coordination of city services and

agency support; providing problem-solving and complaint responses, including 311 referrals; Land Use, Landmarks, State Liquor Authority licenses, sidewalk cafes; street activities; advocacy on the community's behalf through the Capital and Expense Budget process; assessing district needs; public meetings and public hearings; and so many other vital functions. We struggle to adequately provide these services on our miniscule budget with a staff of two.

Speaking in the City Council State Meeting of November 14, 2013, former Councilmember Gale Brewer said about Int. 132-A – Local Law 103) “this bill will bring an unprecedented level of transparency to New York City government. Webcasting of public meetings opens up government to the public ...” Community Board 9, as aforementioned, is wholly in favor of “transparency.” We just ask that the Committee on Technology, consider delaying any action on Int. No. 28, so that they may fully address the legitimate concerns from our members regarding the lack of a well-thought out implementation plan, including the provision of adequate start up and ongoing funding for community boards to undertake another critical responsibility.

Respectfully,

Pearl R. Miles
District Manager, on behalf of
Chairman Rabbi Jacob Goldstein and Members of the Board
NYC Community Board 9, Brooklyn
Monday, February 24, 2014

MELINDA KATZ
PRESIDENT



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**Testimony of Elisa Velazquez, Counsel to Queens Borough President Melinda Katz before
the Committees on Technology**

February 24, 2014

Good afternoon Chair Vacca, and Members of the Technology Committee. My name is Elisa Velazquez and I am Counsel to Queens Borough President Melinda Katz and I am pleased to be here this afternoon to discuss Intro 28, which would amend the City Charter to require that all full community board meetings be webcast online.

The Community Boards are a vital part of our government, serving as local representative bodies. There are 59 Community Boards throughout the city, each comprised of up to 50 volunteer members. The boards act as independent city entities addressing the needs of their respective communities by dealing with land use and zoning issues, liquor license approvals, traffic, noise and other quality of life concerns that impact their particular constituents. Despite the commitment and hard work of our community board members, many city residents are unaware or poorly informed about their work.

The Borough President wholeheartedly believes that webcasting these meetings will increase public awareness and participation in the community and most importantly increase transparency within local government. Despite the benefits of webcasting, there are several logistical and cost issues that must be addressed. For example, webcasting requires equipment to capture, transmit, & store video. There are significant initial one-time expenses for equipment and training. The Community Board budgets are very small and many of the Boards have not had technology upgrades or technological improvements for years.

Second, as community based organizations, boards use shared or donated space that do not have the reliable high speed internet access required for live streaming. Furthermore, many of the community boards host their monthly meetings in different locations each month, making the issue of streaming even more complicated. In addition to needing internet access there are costs associated with the hosting and archiving video footage. So in order for there to be full compliance, funding will have to be forthcoming in order to insure that the basic infrastructure exists at the Community Boards to comply with the requirements of Intro 28. The Borough President also urges coordination between the Community Boards, the City Council and the other agencies that are already streaming hearings and meetings to share or leverage whatever resources already out there and being used to help implement the existing requirements for City agencies.

The Borough President fully supports measures that will increase transparency, oversight and public participation. However, in order for those measures to be successful, the City must also provide the financial support to achieve the goal. Therefore, we urge the Council to consider this when considering Intro 28. Thank you for your attention.



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FOR THE RECORD

Testimony Regarding Int. No. 28

In relation to requiring that all community board general meetings be live webcast

**Committee on Technology
New York City Council
250 Broadway, New York, NY
February 24, 2014**

Good afternoon Councilmembers, ladies and gentleman. I am Nizjoni Granville, Chairperson of Brooklyn Community Board No. 8 covering the communities of North Crown Heights, Prospect Heights, and Weeksville. The following testimony is in response to Intro. No. 28, a proposal by Councilmembers Vacca, Chin, Cumbo, Dromm, Koo, and Levin to amend the City Charter requiring community boards to webcast their general meetings.

First and foremost, Community Boards' budgets simply are too miniscule to be able to fund such an undertaking. Our budgets have been cut repeatedly, and although the City Council has restored many of the cuts in recent years, there is still the fear that the budget—which is the only city agency budget that has not seen an increase in over 20 years—will be cut. Many boards are operating with such a tight leash that they do not have the funds to purchase requisite office supplies such as paper and toner, let alone the technology that will be needed to operate a webcast system. Our budgets have not kept up with inflation and increased operating costs.

The passage of this introduction in its current state, without an increase in our budget, would come with crippling effects. Covering the technology costs alone—purchasing cameras, software, various modes of hardware, a streaming server, a database server, web content/management server, a directory management server, series of apps, and other things—

would take years for many boards to acquire with our current budgets. Also, District office staff, generally the ones responsible for updates to the Board's websites, will have to receive additional training to bring this idea to fruition, at even more cost.

Additionally, many Boards, Brooklyn 8 among them, do not have set meeting locations and travel monthly to different venues throughout their districts. Many of these venues lack streaming services such as wireless internet connections, and it will be an even greater cost for us to be able to overcome since an additional portable component of the technological services must be added.

Community Boards provide a vital community and government service. It is a travesty that while we remain guarded against and fearful of future cuts, additional financial burdens are being proposed for us with no regard for the financial feasibility of such proposals. As previously stated, it is not realistic to support the proposal at this time. If, however, the City Council provides the necessary funds, technical support, and training for this endeavor, my staunch opposition may change. We at Brooklyn 8 are firm advocates of transparency and have been doing our best to be as open to our constituents regarding our practices as possible within our budget means. However, Intro. 28 is woefully incomplete at the present time.

As such, I hope the City Council votes to reject Intro. No. 28 until all 59 Community Boards have been consulted about their financial and technological needs. Furthermore, it should be rejected until the Boards' budgets have been increased and the fear of additional cuts has been eliminated. To echo a few other boards, Intro. 28, in its present form, is a non-starter, and indeed should not be given the amount of attention it has garnered until significant alterations are made.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nizjoni Granville". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Nizjoni Granville
Chairperson

MANHATTAN COMMUNITY BOARD FIVE

Vikki Barbero, Chair

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Wally Rubin, District Manager

FOR THE RECORD

February 24, 2014

TESTIMONY BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL COMMITTEE ON TECHNOLOGY REGARDING THE VIDEO-RECORDING AND WEBCASTING OF FULL BOARD MEETINGS

My name is Wally Rubin, District Manager of Community Board Five in Manhattan. Thank you for allowing us to testify today regarding legislation that would mandate the video-recording and webcasting of Full Board meetings of Community Boards.

While, lord knows, we applaud anything that might make the work of Community Boards more widely known, understood and, hopefully, valued, we must express our concerns about this particular piece of legislation and ask that it be deferred and revised.

As some of you may know, Community Board budgets haven't seen an increase in decades, which means that, when one considers the rise in the cost of living, our budgets have actually decreased over time while, with technology and social media options, our work-load grows.

At Community Board Five, we have a total staff of three, which includes me. We do not have our own space for full board or committee meetings, which means we must depend on the kindness of others to offer us rent-free space for these monthly meetings. In turn, whatever materials and equipment we need to bring to each meeting, we must lug to the meeting site ourselves each month. Therefore, we try to keep it simple. We do not own video recording equipment. We probably couldn't afford it and would have no one to operate it.

Let's not make this another unfunded mandate. Were we to have the funds to buy, store, properly maintain and appropriately use video equipment, we would be happy to share our valuable board process online or over the air. I know my mother, when she was still with us, would have loved nothing more than to see this punim monthly on her TV screen. One economical suggestion might be having the city, through some central city agency, provide these services for all the Community Boards.

We hope you will consider these concerns and table this legislation until all the essential details can be satisfactorily resolved.

Thank you for your time.



Ruben Diaz, Jr.
Borough President

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Kenneth Kearns
District Manager

STATEMENT FROM BRONX COMMUNITY BOARD #10 ON WEBCASTING OF COMMUNITY BOARD FEBRUARY 24, 2014

To the Honorable Chair and members City Council Committee on Technology, Good Afternoon, my name is Kenneth Kearns, and I am District Manager of Bronx Community Board #10 and my purpose today is to offer testimony on Intro 28.

1. Bronx Community Board #10 believes that the idea of providing open access to Community Board deliberations, via webcasting, to promote open transparent government, is a laudatory goal.
2. However, the Boards believe that if webcasting became law the City's administration and City Council must allocate funding to implement this mandate.
3. Bronx Community Board #10 recommends that DoITT, or a City-wide public access channel such as Bronxnet, be retained and charged with the responsibility of providing webcasting for all 59 community boards .
4. That the contractor (s) providing the webcast service, must commit to traveling with those Boards that meet at different locations and conduct webcast activities from those locations.
5. That a training program be established for staff and Board members (Chairperson and Secretary) concerning webcasting and the laws surrounding it by the appropriate City agency
6. Community Board #10 recommends that a central repository be established where the tapes (the Masters) can be stored, with copies sent to the relevant community board.
7. Community Boards strongly urge that funding must be allocated for the Board's to publicize the webcasting.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

Kenneth Kearns
District Manager
Bronx Community Board #10

Testimony to the Committee on Technology in Government
of the New York City Council
Regarding the Implementation of the Webcasting Law and
Intro 28: Webcasting Community Board Meetings
February 24, 2014

Good Afternoon, and thank you Chairman Vacca and other members of the Technology Committee for holding this timely hearing. My name is Prudence Katze, and I am testifying today on behalf of Reinvent Albany, where I am the Policy Coordinator, and also on behalf of the New York Public Interest Research Group. Our groups co-chair the New York City Transparency Working Group. We strongly support New York City's renewed efforts to make the webcasting of public meetings a regular feature of city government. We have brief testimony on the two webcasting initiatives the committee is looking at today.

Local Law 103 of 2013 requires public meetings of agencies, committees, commissions task forces and the city council meetings be Webcast. The law was enacted on December 2 and is supposed to be implemented by March 2, 2014 – which is next week. Though webcasting technology is relatively inexpensive and easy to deploy, 90 days is not enough time for Mayor de Blasio's newly-formed administration to meet the law's requirements and to get all city government entities webcasting their meetings.

Instead, we recommend that the de Blasio administration starts with the approximately 30 agencies, commissions, and boards that hold regular meetings in the same location. Given the relatively modest expense and short timeline for implementation, we recommend that the city retain a vendor for this first group of agencies. Based on the Campaign Finance Board's webcasting cost of \$350 per month, we estimate that it would cost between \$110,000 and \$150,000 a year to contract with a major commercial vendor to webcast this first group of agencies.

For the roughly forty agencies that hold irregularly scheduled public meetings at a variety of locations, it may be less expensive for the city to develop its own web-

casting capacity, perhaps in conjunction with CUNY. We suggest that the council ask the administration to report back on the cost and benefits of different webcasting practices and vendors, for both this law and Intro 28 – which requires webcasting of community board meetings.

At the moment, no comprehensive list of all of the agencies, boards, and commissions that are subject to Local Law 103 is available to the public. We join our colleagues in asking the Council to request from the Law Department that comprehensive list.

Citizens Union has recommended a number of good ideas for how the city's webcasting should work; we like them all, but in particular we want to highlight our support for having all webcasts archived in one location, where they are easy to find and catalog. (That location can be linked to from agency websites.) We appreciate Citizens Union's thoughtful research, and thank them for their early and steadfast support for webcasting legislation.

Intro 28: Webcasting community board meetings

We are also glad to see council continue to push for more webcasting, and so we strongly support the basic intent behind Intro 28, which requires that meetings of the full community board be webcast. However, before the bill goes to a vote, we would like to see Council work with the administration to answer a number of important questions about how it can be most effectively implemented. We believe that webcasting community board meetings is completely, 100%, "practicable" – with some advanced planning and discussion. However, at the moment, we think it is very likely that some community boards do not have the wherewithal or resources to successfully comply with the proposed law.

Therefore, we recommend that before passing this law and imposing this mandate, Council asks the administration to prepare a brief feasibility study that assesses various alternatives, and recommends the best process and technology for getting the board meetings webcast. That study should be completed in the next three to six months, and should clarify the roles and responsibilities of the community boards, borough president, and mayor's office in implementing the proposed webcasting law. The study will answer important questions about who will pay for the webcasting and online archiving, oversee implementation, and ensure that problems are solved.

The study will also inform the discussion between council, the mayor's office, borough presidents, and the boards before the legislative mandate is imposed. By spending more time planning how to make webcasting as easy and practical as possible for the boards, Council can eliminate the "where practicable" loophole from the webcasting requirement.

We also recommend that the law takes effect 180 days after passage – and that Council hold firm to that deadline. Ninety days is too short, and the short deadline can be used as an excuse by the boards or other responsible parties not to comply with a future webcasting requirement.

Thank you again for inviting Reinvent Albany to testify today.



CITIZENS UNION OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK
Testimony to the
Committee on Technology in Government of the New York City Council
On Implementation of the Webcasting Law and Intro 28
February 24, 2014

Good afternoon, Chair Vacca, and other members of the Committee on Technology in Government. My name is Rachael Fauss, and I am the Policy and Research Manager of Citizens Union of the City of New York, a nonpartisan good government group dedicated to making democracy work for all New Yorkers. Citizens Union serves as a civic watchdog, combating corruption and fighting for political reform. We work to ensure fair and open elections, honest and efficient government, and a civically-engaged public.

Citizens Union is pleased that the Committee on Technology is focusing its first meeting of the new session on webcasting, particularly given the enactment in December 2013 of Local Law 103, now requiring the city's public meetings to be webcast beginning March 2nd of this year. Citizens Union pushed for the enactment of this law, having testified before the Council multiple times, in April 2013 as well as in 2008.¹ We additionally met with the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MOME) on multiple occasions over the last few years, informing the live webcasting and telecasting of the City Council's stated and committee hearings, which paved the way for the passage for Local Law 103. Citizens Union also advocated strongly for the law to apply to the City Board of Elections, and we are pleased that the Board has announced they will be putting into place webcasting of their weekly meetings in the very near future.² The new law also had the support of the civic and tech communities through the New York City Transparency Working Group, of which Citizens Union is a member.

This new law builds on the City Council's important record of increasing government transparency and accessibility, such as the city's landmark Open Data Law, which we know will be a future topic of this Committee's work. Given the potential impact of both of these laws, we believe that Council oversight will benefit their implementation. We recognize that it will be challenging for the new administration to meet the March deadline for webcasting of all city public meetings for some agencies. We, as part of the Transparency Working Group, have communicated to First Deputy Mayor Anthony Shorris that we believe the implementation of the law is a priority, given the potential it

¹April 2013 testimony available at http://www.citizensunion.org/www/cu/site/hosting/Testimony/CU_Testimony_AgencyWebcasting_Intro%20132_04_29_13.pdf; October 2008 Testimony available at:

http://www.citizensunion.org/site_res_view_template.aspx?id=c4949235-e49e-49c9-a877-8fceb15edde0

² See Citizens Union's joint letter to the Board of Elections in 2011:

http://www.citizensunion.org/www/cu/site/hosting/Letters%20and%20Correspondence/CU_Letter_CityBoardofElect_ions_Webcasting_09_29_11.pdf

has to not only increase transparency and public access, but also to modernize the way in which agencies interact with the public. We look forward to learning more about the administration's plans to implement the law. I will now turn to Citizens Union's review of the possible scope of the implementation of the law.

Citizens Union Review of City Entities with Public Meetings

We have reviewed city agencies, commissions, boards and other entities that hold regular or frequent public meetings and hearings, and have identified 34 possible agencies that may be subject to the new law that do not currently webcast their meetings. This is balanced, however, by 14 city entities that currently do webcast their meetings (though it should be noted that some do so as a result of state executive order, such as the Municipal Water Authority). The complete list of these city entities identified by Citizens Union is attached to our testimony.

Among the city entities which currently webcast are:

- The Mayor's office, including press conferences and other major announcements;
- The New York City Council, which led by example prior to passage of Local Law 103;
- The New York City Campaign Finance Board (CFB), including meetings of its Voter Assistance and Advisory Committee;
- The City's Five Pension Boards – NYCERS, the Police and Fire Department Pension Funds, Teachers Retirement System and the Board of Education Retirement System; and
- The Taxi and Limousine Commission.

The majority of these agencies have utilized Livestream to webcast their meetings, though other services have been used. The CFB uses an ad-free paid version of Livestream, which costs \$350 a month. We believe that the Council and these agencies have helped pave the way for other agencies to comply with the law, and encourage the sharing of information as the city goes forward in complying with the law. We applaud the CFB for sharing information regarding their experience webcasting at this hearing today.

Among the 34 city entities which do not currently webcast their meetings, and have frequent meetings or hearings, per Citizens Union's review of the City Record posting of meetings, are the following:

- City Planning Commission (though it should be noted that video of meetings is currently on their website and available through the NYC gov channel);
- Panel for Educational Policy (only audio is currently available);

- Department of Transportation;
- Landmarks Preservation Commission; and
- Board of Standards and Appeals, among others.

The webcast of these meetings are of high value to the public, given that they often involve important land use and policy decisions. In reviewing the City Record for notices of public meetings, Citizens Union also found several boards and commissions which have regular meetings, yet do not have websites. These include the Parole Commission and the Board of Revisions and Awards. Given that their activities are not currently transparent through any website, the value of these meetings may not be known by the public, but become more valuable with webcasting.

It should also be noted that there are possible cost savings and synergies for city entities in the sharing of technology and contracts for webcasting. The city should examine whether agencies may obtain cheaper webcasting services with optimal features by using bulk purchasing power through a joint procurement effort on behalf of all agencies. Additionally, the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment, which has recorded video and facilitated webcasting of the City Council proceedings as well as footage of the Mayor's events and press conference, should be used as a resource for other agencies, provided sufficient support. While Citizens Union does not support the use of a particularly vendor, we would like to note certain best practices that should be utilized:

Best Practices for Webcasting

- Inclusion of associated materials as part of the webcast, for example on a split screen showing the meeting on one side and the minutes and documents under discussion on the other (note that under Section 103 the state open meetings law, even draft or proposed regulations are subject to public review);
- Searchability of archived video, minutes and documents by key words and terms;
- "One-stop" shopping, as is done currently by New York City in its portal for open data, and New York State for its webcasted meetings.³

Additionally, we believe that a comprehensive list of city entities subject to the webcasting law should be provided by the Law Department. This will ensure that the Council and civic groups are able to do proper oversight of the implementation of the law.

³ See NYS's website: <http://www.nysegov.com/webcast.cfm>.

Intro 28

Citizens Union does not currently have a position on Intro 28 which is currently drafted to require meetings and hearings of community boards to be recorded, and webcast to the extent practicable, though we have had preliminary discussions about the bill. We believe that while there is a potential for community boards to be even more accessible to the public through this measure, there are important implementation challenges to take into account. Given that the city is currently implementing Local Law 103, we think that there are important lessons that can be learned regarding potential expanded implementation by community boards. We would like to recognize that the Council is smartly discussing these two issues simultaneously in this hearing.

Citizens Union urges the Council to carefully consider this expansion and not seek to move the legislation too quickly. In considering the bill, there are some items that Citizens Union believes should be considered:

- Potential costs – community boards often lack resources to perform other basic functions. If more money is made available to the operations of community boards, it would be good to know where they would need the money as opposed to being given a pot of money to implement a council directed initiative. This is why Citizens Union supports independent budgeting for community boards;
- Given that community board meetings are held in the evening, it makes it more possible for the public to already attend and witness the proceedings. The partial appeal in webcasting city agency meetings is that these meetings are often held during the day and makes it difficult for the public to attend. It should be noted, however, that the legislation would provide archival footage of meetings that would further enhance their accessibility;
- Possible synergies among community boards for implementation and cost savings, such as through sharing of platforms;
- The need for there also to be overall modernization efforts for technology of community boards, including their websites; and
- Ensuring a reasonable effective date that allows for implementation to be completed. The enactment date is currently 90 days after the legislation is signed into law.

At a later date, Citizens Union will develop a position but cannot at this time either support or oppose this proposed law.

I thank you for the opportunity to testify, and am available to answer any questions you have.

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS					
CITY ENTITY	HEARINGS/MEETINGS	LINK (IF APPLICABLE)	WEBCAST?	Service Used	Additional Notes
Districting Commission	yes, when in formation	http://www.nyc.gov/html/dc/html/meetings/meetings.shtml	yes; recorded if not webcast	USTREAM	Active every 10 years
Charter Revision Commission (2010)	yes when in formation	http://www.nyc.gov/html/charter/html/meetings/publicmeetings.shtml	yes; recorded if not webcast	Unknown	No longer active
Board of Education Retirement System	yes	http://comptrollernyc.com/mymoneynyc/pensionnyc/webcast/#.UwY5_2JdVsM	yes	Livestream	
Fire Department Retirement Fund	yes	http://comptrollernyc.com/mymoneynyc/pensionnyc/webcast/#.UwY5_2JdVsM	yes	Livestream	
NYCERS Board of Trustees	yes	http://comptrollernyc.com/mymoneynyc/pensionnyc/webcast/#.UwY5_2JdVsM	yes	Livestream	
Police Pension Fund	yes	http://comptrollernyc.com/mymoneynyc/pensionnyc/webcast/#.UwY5_2JdVsM	yes	Livestream	
City Council of NYC	yes	http://legistar.council.nyc.gov/Calendar.aspx	yes	Legistar/Granicus; Facilitated by Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment; Also on NYCTV Gov channel.	
Mayor's Office	frequent public events	http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news.page	yes; press conferences and other public events are webcast such as budget release and state of the city address	Facilitated by Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment; Also on NYCTV Gov channel.	
Municipal Water Finance Authority	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/nyw/html/nyw_board_meeting_videos.html	yes	Unknown	
Taxi and Limousine Commission	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/tlc/html/about/transcript_main.shtml	yes	Livestream	
Campaign Finance Board/Voter Assistance Advisory Committee	yes	http://www.nyccfb.info/live/	yes	Livestream	board and committee meetings and public hearings webcast and archived
Lower Manhattan Developmental Corporation	yes	http://www.renewnyc.com/AboutUs/BoardMeetings.aspx	yes	Total Webcasting	
United Nations Development Corporation	yes	http://www.totalwebcasting.com/view/?id=undc	yes	Total Webcasting	
Teachers Retirement System	yes	https://www.trsnyc.org/trsw eb/aboutUs/ourRetirementBoard.html	yes	JW Platform	
CUNY	yes	http://www.cuny.edu/about/trustees/hearings.html	no		annual borough hearings
Trust for the Governor's Island	yes	http://www.govisland.com/html/involved/meetings.shtml	no		No webcast, but public powerpoints;
New York City Department of Housing Authority (NYCHA)	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/nycha/html/about/boardmeeting_schedule.shtml	no		
Transitional Finance Authority	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/tfa/	no		Releases mtng minutes http://www.nyc.gov/html/tfa/html/minutes.html ;

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS					
CITY ENTITY	HEARINGS/MEETINGS	LINK (IF APPLICABLE)	WEBCAST?	Service Used	Additional Notes
Economic Development Corp.	yes	http://www.nycedc.com/news-press/multimedia/audiocasts	no		Live and recorded audiocasts. Saved only up to 3 days after mtng.
New York City Health and Hospitals Corporation (NYCHHC)	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/hhc/html/calendar/public-meetings.shtml	no		
Office of the Borough President (Manhattan)	yes	http://manhattanbp.nyc.gov/html/home/home.shtml	no; has begun recording meetings		Borough board meetings; budget hearings; ULURP proceedings
Dept of Education	yes	http://schools.nyc.gov/AboutUs/leadership/PEP/meetings/default.htm	no		audio broadcasts of Panel on Educational Policy
Board of Elections	yes	http://vote.nyc.ny.us/html/about/agendas.shtml	no		Release pdfs of minutes http://vote.nyc.ny.us/html/about/minutes.shtml ; Note that they are currently considering webcasting options, as per 2/18/14 meeting
Office of the Borough President (Brooklyn)	yes	http://www.brooklyn-usa.org/	no		Borough board meetings; budget hearings; ULURP proceedings
Design Commission	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/artcom/html/review/meetings.shtml	no		
Board of Correction	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/boac/html/meetings/meetings.shtml	no		
Board of Standards and Appeals	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/bsa/html/hearing/hearing.shtml	no		
Commission on Human Rights	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/cchr/html/happening/whats-happening.shtml	no		Monthly meetings posted in City Record
Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB)	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/ccrb/html/about/meetings.shtml	no		
Conflicts of Interest Board	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/conflicts/html/about/about.shtml#announcements	no		Has used online videos for ethics trainings http://www.nyc.gov/html/conflicts/html/law/supplementary.shtml
City Planning Commission	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcp/html/luproc/calbeg.shtml	no		Archival videos are available; Required to participate in broadcast of meetings on NYC Gov Channel by City Charter
Board of Health	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/doh/html/about/boh.shtml	no		
Equal Employment Practices Commission	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/eepp/html/calendar/calendar.shtml	no		

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS					
CITY ENTITY	HEARINGS/MEETINGS	LINK (IF APPLICABLE)	WEBCAST?	Service Used	Additional Notes
Landmarks Preservation Commission	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/lpc/html/calendar/calendar.shtml	no		
Mayor's Office of Contract Services	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/mocs/html/hearings/hearings.shtml	no		
In-Rem Foreclosure Release board	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/mocs/html/procurement/public_hearings.shtml	no		
Franchises and Concession Review Committee	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/mocs/html/programs/fcrc_trans.shtml	no		
New York Police Department	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/nypd/html/community_affairs/community_participation_programs.shtml	no		Precinct community councils and other community meetings
OATH	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/oath/html/oath-tribunal/hearing-calendar.shtml	no		
Reports and Advisory Board Review Commission	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/rabrc/html/meetings/meetings-hearings.shtml	no		Charter requires meetings at least once annually; active in 2012; did not meet in 2013.
Department of Transportation	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/portal/site/nycgov/menuitem.e2d70d4cd03b6dd1d3e3711042289da0	no		
Rent Guidelines Board	yes	http://www.NYCrgb.org/html/about/meetings.html	no		
Office of the Borough President (Bronx)	yes	n/a	no		Borough board meetings; budget hearings; ULURP proceedings
Office of the Borough President (Queens)	yes	n/a	no		Borough board meetings; budget hearings; ULURP proceedings
Office of the Borough President (Staten Island)	yes	n/a	no		Borough board meetings; budget hearings; ULURP proceedings
Board of Higher Education	yes	no - no website	no		Meets at 535 East 80th Street, Manhattan, New York 10021, at 5:30 P.M., on fourth Monday in January, February, March, April, June, September, October, November and December. Annual meeting held on fourth Monday in May.
Health Insurance Board	yes	no - no website	no		Meetings posted in City Record

CITY ENTITY	REGULARLY SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS	LINK (IF APPLICABLE)	WEBCAST?	Service Used	Additional Notes
Tax Commission	yes	http://www.nyc.gov/html/taxcomm/html/home/home.shtml	no		Monthly meetings posted in City Record: Meets in Room 936, Municipal Building, Manhattan, New York 10007, each month at the call of the President. Manhattan, Monthly on Wednesday, Commencing at 2:30 P.M.
Environmental Control Board	Yes	no	no		Monthly meetings posted in City Record
Business Integrity Commission	periodically	http://www.nyc.gov/html/bic/html/advisory_board/advisorybd.shtml	no		Trade Waste and Grease Advisory Board meetings annually
Office of Management And Budget	periodically	http://www.nyc.gov/html/cdbg/html/info/public_hearing.shtml	no		Holding public meetings related to Community Development Block Grant Disaster Recovery http://www.nyc.gov/html/cdbg/html/info/public_hearing.shtml
Dept. of Environmental Protection	periodically	http://www.nyc.gov/html/dep/html/news/index.shtml	no		
Board of Revisions and Awards	periodically	no - no website	no		Meeting posted in City Record for 2/3/14 http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/cityrecord/cityrecord-02-03-14.pdf
Parole Commission	periodically	no - no website	no		Meeting posted in City Record for 2/3/14 http://www.nyc.gov/html/dcas/downloads/pdf/cityrecord/cityrecord-02-03-14.pdf
Administration for Children's Services (ACS)	no	n/a	no		
Banking Commission	no	n/a	no		
Buildings Dept.	no	n/a	no		
Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS)	no	n/a	no		
Civil Service Commission	no	n/a	no		
Commission to Combat Police Corruption	no	n/a	no		
Consumer Affairs	no	n/a	no		

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS					
CITY ENTITY	LINK (IF APPLICABLE)	WEBCAST?	Service Used	Additional Notes	
Department of Investigation	no	n/a	no		
Department of Probation	no	n/a	no		
Department of Records and Information Services (DORIS)	no	n/a	no		
Department of Sanitation	no	n/a	no		
Dept. for the Aging	no	n/a	no		
Dept. of Cultural Affairs	no	n/a	no		
Dept. of Design and Construction	no	n/a	no		
Dept. of Finance	no	n/a	no		
Fire Department (FDNY)	no	n/a	no		
Law Department	no	n/a	no		
Mayor's Office of Operations	no	n/a	no		
New York City Department of Health and Mental Hygiene	no	n/a	no		Public meetings/hearings held through Board of Health
New York City Department of the Homeless	no	n/a	no		
New York City Human Resources Agency	no	n/a	no		
New York City Independent Budget Office	no	n/a	no		
Office of Administrative Justice Coordinator	no	n/a	no		
Office of Administrative Tax Appeals	no	n/a	no		
Office of Administrative Tax Appeals	no	n/a	no		
Office of Administrative Trials and Hearings (OATH)	no	n/a	no		Administrative hearings held by OATH for other city entities may be open to the public
Office of Collective Bargaining	no	n/a	no		
Office of Emergency Management	no	n/a	no		
Office of the Food Policy Coordinator	no	n/a	no		
Office of Labor Relations	no	n/a	no		
Office of Media and Entertainment	no	n/a	no		
Office of Payroll Administration	no	n/a	no		
Office of the Actuary	no	n/a	no		
Office of the City Clerk	no	n/a	no		

REGULARLY SCHEDULED PUBLIC HEARINGS/MEETINGS					Additional Notes
CITY ENTITY	HEARINGS/MEETINGS	LINK (IF APPLICABLE)	WEBCAST?	Service Used	
Office of the NYC Comptroller	no	n/a	no		
Parks & Recreation	no	n/a	no		No regular meetings, but has ad hoc hearings regarding environmental impacts or regulatory changes
Procurement Policy Board	no	n/a	no		
Public Advocate for the City of New York	no	n/a	no		
School Construction Authority	no	n/a	no		
Small Business Services	no	n/a	no		
Youth and Community Development	no	n/a	no		
DoITT	no	n/a	no		

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 28 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 2/24/14

(PLEASE PRINT)
Name: PEARL MILES

Address: 890 NOSTRAND AVE, Bklyn 11225

I represent: NYC COMMUNITY BOARD 9

Address: 890 NOSTRAND AVE, BROOKLYN 11225

**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: ERIC FRIEDMAN

Address: _____

I represent: Campaign Finance Board

Address: _____

**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: Gale Brewer

Address: _____

I represent: Manh Boro President

Address: 7 Centre St 10007

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

**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: _____

Name: JOLY (PLEASE PRINT) MACFEE

Address: _____

I represent: INTERNET SOCIETY

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 28 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 2/24/14

Name: John A Fratta (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 1741 Colden Ave

I represent: CO 11 Bx

Address: 1741 Colden Ave

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 28 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 2/24/14

Name: Kenneth Kearns (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: Bx CBH10 3165 E. Tremont Ave

I represent: Bx CBH10

Address: 3165 E. Tremont Ave Bx NY 10016

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

**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: Feb 24 2014

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Robert LoScalzo
Address: 169-06 22ND Ave. Whitestone NY 11357
I represent: LoScalzo Media Design LLC
Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 28 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 2/24/14

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Catherine McVay Hughes
Address: _____
I represent: Community Board 1 Manhattan
Address: 49-51 Chambers St.

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 128 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 2/24/2014

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Nicholas Smolens
Address: 146 E 35th St. Apt. 1D NY NY
I represent: myself
Address: _____

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

**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: _____

Name: Rachael Fauss (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 299 Broadway

I represent: Citizens Union

Address: _____

**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: _____

Name: Prudence Katze (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 148 Lafayette

I represent: Reinvent Albany

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 28 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 2/24/14

Name: Elisa Velazquez for Queens Borough Pres. Katz (PLEASE PRINT)

Address: 120-53 Queens Blvd. Kew Gardens

I represent: Melinda Katz

Address: _____

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

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 28 / 14 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 2/24 / 14

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Jeff Merritt - Senior advisor

Address: City Hall

I represent: Mayor

Address: _____

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 28 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 2-24-14

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Craig Hammerman

Address: 250 Baltic St. BK 11201

I represent: Brooklyn CBG

Address: "same"

**THE COUNCIL
THE CITY OF NEW YORK**

Appearance Card

I intend to appear and speak on Int. No. 28 Res. No. _____

in favor in opposition

Date: 2/24 / 14

(PLEASE PRINT)

Name: Alvin Berk

Address: 810 E 16 St BK 11211

I represent: Brooklyn Community Board 14

Address: 810 E 16 St BK 11211

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