

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

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November 22, 2021  
Start: 10:07 A. M.  
Recess: 10:20 A. M.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 4)

B E F O R E: Hon. Daniel Dromm  
Chair, Finance Committee

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Adrienne E. Adams  
Alicka Ampry-Samuel  
Diana Ayala,  
Selvena N. Brooks-Powers  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Laurie A. Cumbo,  
Darma V. Diaz  
Vanessa L. Gibson  
Barry S. Grodenchik,  
Karen Koslowitz  
Farah N. Louis  
Steven Matteo  
Francisco P. Moya  
Keith Powers  
Helen K. Rosenthal  
James G. Van Bramer

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE

A P P E A R A N C E S

**[NONE]**

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SERGEANT BIONDO: PC recording has begun.

SERGEANT HOPE: Also, is (INAUDIBLE 00:00:05) and the stream looks good.

SERGEANT PEREZ: Back up is rolling.

SERGEANT BIONDO: Thank you and welcome today's remote New York City Council Hearing vote for The Committee on Finance.

At this time will all panelist please turn on their videos for verification purposes? And, to minimize disruptions, please place all electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode. Thank you for your cooperation.

And, Chair Dromm, We're ready to begin.

CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Thank you very much. Good morning, and welcome to today's Finance Committee Meeting, uh, am Council Member Daniel Dromm, and I am chair of the committee. Uh, we have been joined by Council Members Cornegy, Rosenthal, Grodenchik, Adams, Ayala, Powers, Louis, Darma Diaz, Brooks - Powers, Van Bramer, and Minority Leader Steve Matteo.

And, I want to take this opportunity to wish Steve good luck in his new position as he moves on. It has been a great opportunity, uh, to work with you on... on The Finance Committee, and as a colleague

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2 in the New York City Council. Uh, you're a good man,  
3 and I just want to say thank you for your service to  
4 the city. And, uh, good luck in all of your future  
5 endeavors.

6 Today the committee will voting... (Cross-Talk)

7 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Thank you, Dan.

8 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: You're welcome, Steve.

9 Today the committee will be voting on four items.  
10 Two Article XI property tax exemptions, a BID item,  
11 and a transparency resolution.

12 First, we have the land use items: 1018 East  
13 163rd Street, in Council Member Salamanca's district,  
14 is the site of a 97-unit affordable housing  
15 preservation project. Today's action will provide a  
16 partial 40-year Article XI property tax exemption.

17 15 Stratford Road in Council Member Eugene's  
18 district, is the site of a 20-unit affordable housing  
19 project-- preservation project. Today's action would  
20 provide a partial 40-year Article XI property tax  
21 exemption.

22 Both Council Members are in support of the  
23 proposed exemptions for the projects in their  
24 districts.

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2           Next, we have the BID item. The committee is  
3 hearing a pre-considered resolution concerning the  
4 increase in the amount of the expended annually for  
5 two business improvement districts retroactive to  
6 July 1, 2021. The lower east side BID would increase  
7 its annual budget from 1.3 million to 2 million  
8 dollars, and the Hudson Yards BID would increase its  
9 annual budget from 3 million to 6 million dollars.

10           The resolution would set December 9th as the  
11 date, 10:00 a. m. is the time, and Chambers at City  
12 Hall as the place for the hearing on the local law  
13 increasing the annual expenditure for such districts.

14           Finally, we have the Transparency Resolution.  
15 The Transparency Resolution sets forth the new  
16 designation and changes in the designation of certain  
17 organizations receiving local, aging, anti-poverty,  
18 and youth discretionary funding, and funding pursuant  
19 to certain initiatives in the budget.

20           As with all transparency resolutions, council  
21 members will have to sign a disclosure form  
22 indicating whether or not a conflict exists with any  
23 of the groups on the attached list. If any council  
24 member has a potential conflict of interest with any  
25 of the organizations listed, he or she has the

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2 opportunity to disclose the conflict at the time of  
3 their vote.

4 As a reminder, please disclose any conflicts you  
5 may have with proposed subcontractors used by  
6 organizations sponsored by discretionary funding.

7 These disclosures must be made before the  
8 subcontractor can be approved.

9 Disclosure forms must be completed and submitted  
10 prior to the vote on the transparency resolution, and  
11 may be emailed to Charles Davis.

12 Are there any questions on any of these items?

13 Seeing, none, uhm, I... Just before we close  
14 out, I'd like to wish everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.  
15 We certainly have much to be grateful for this year.  
16 Uhm, and, with that, I will now ask Billy Martin, The  
17 Committee Clerk to call the roll.

18 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning, William Martin,  
19 Committee Clerk roll call vote Committee on Finance.  
20 All Items are coupled.

21 Chair Dromm?

22 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: I vote aye.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Van Bramer?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: I vote aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Gibson?

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: With my warmest wishes to  
3 everyone during this season of Thanksgiving, have a  
4 wonderful holiday with you and your families.

5 I vote aye on all of today's agenda items.

6 Happy Thanksgiving!

7 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, Council Member.

8 Cornegy?

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Steve, Godspeed.

10 I vote aye.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, sir.

12 Rosenthal?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: I vote aye.

14 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

15 Grodenchik?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I vote aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Adams?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Also wishing everyone a  
19 Happy Thanksgiving. And, thanks to our Minority  
20 Leader, best wishes to you. You've always been such  
21 a wonderful colleague and gentleman. Best wishes,  
22 Steve Matteo.

23 I vote aye on all.

24 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

25 Ayala?

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COUNCIL MEMBER AYALA:

I vote aye.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Powers?

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I can... I can't... I have to say, I also feel the same way about Steve Matteo, who's one of the classiest guys I've ever met in politics, and one of the best all-around guys that I've gotten to know in this life. And, so, thank you, Adrienne, for also first saying that.

Uh, I vote aye.

And, uh, you will be missed, my friend, but, uh, we'll be in touch.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Louis?

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: Sharing sentiments of our colleagues, wishing you all the best Council Member Matteo.

Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Darma Diaz?

COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Happy Thanksgiving to all. Matty, I'm wishing you the best, and I'm sure we'll see you.

I vote aye on all.

COMMITTEE CLERK: Brooks - Powers?



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2 COUNCIL MEMBER BROOKS - POWERS: Good morning,  
3 wishing much success in the next chapter to Minority  
4 Leader Matteo.

5 Happy Thanksgiving to all my colleagues and those  
6 who are viewing in.

7 And, I vote aye on all, thank you.

8 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

9 Minority Leader Matteo?

10 MINORITY LEADER MATTEO: Thank you, Billy.

11 Uh, thanks, everyone, I just, uh, I want to thank  
12 you for your well wishes. Uh, extremely humbling.  
13 Uhm, I think we've shown that, you know, throughout  
14 other governments, throughout other legislators, and  
15 throughout the country, that, you know, we can work  
16 together when we come to common ground and have  
17 respect for each other. And, I think we've done that  
18 on this committee. I've been on this committee, uh,  
19 ever since I've been Minority Leader, and we got to  
20 pass the Veterans tax exemption with one other...  
21 And, Danny, you've been a great chair and a great  
22 friend. Uhm, and we've all had mutual respect. And,  
23 I hope going forward that can continue, because I  
24 think this body needs it.

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2 And, uh, I appreciate you all. I appreciate your  
3 friendships. People don't realize how close that we  
4 all... we all become as friends. And, I appreciate  
5 the kind words. And, I'm going to miss you all, but  
6 uh, we'll certainly stay in touch. So, thank you.  
7 Happy Thanksgiving to the staff as well, uhm, thank  
8 you. I've been in City Hall since 2004, so, uhm,  
9 I'll miss you all, and, uhm, please stay in touch.

10 And, with that, I'm gonna to vote aye.

11 And, I wish everybody a Happy Thanksgiving.

12 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, uh, Council Member  
13 Ampry-Samuel?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER AMPRY-SAMUEL: All the best to  
15 Minority Leader Matteo.

16 And, I vote aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

18 Council Member Moya?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: All the best to you, Steve,  
20 to you and your family.

21 Happy Thanksgiving, everyone.

22 I vote aye on all.

23 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.  
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2 By a vote of 15 in the affirmative, 0 in the  
3 negative, and no abstentions, all items have been  
4 adopted by the committee.

5 And, Chair Dromm, we have a couple council  
6 members outstanding.

7 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: So, yes, I going to ask them  
8 to keep the vote open for a few more minutes -- ten  
9 minutes or so -- and, give those council members...  
10 to have the opportunity to join us.

11 Thank you.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Uh, I've raised my  
13 hand, but I guess I'll just ask.

14 Is this going to be the, uhm, the Zoom room for,  
15 uh, Chair Cornegy's committee? Building housing and  
16 buildings.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: (INAUDIBLE 00:08:54)

18 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Okay.

19 SERGEANT BIONDO: Yes, sir, they are all going to  
20 be on this, uh, on this Zoom. But, uh, just keep in  
21 mind, we're still recording live, so...

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Okay.

23 SERGEANT BIONDO: Uhm, but, it, yes, all votes  
24 will be in the same Zoom Room.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Thank you.

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2 COMMITTEE CLERK: Good morning, Council Member  
3 Cumbo. Whenever you are ready.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: I vote aye.

5 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, one moment.

6 The vote is currently at 16 in the affirmative.

7 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Billy Martin, I think we're  
8 ready to close. Sergeant?

9 COMMITTEE CLERK: Sure, Mr. Chair.

10 So, final vote Committee on Finance, all items  
11 have been adopted by a vote of 16 in the affirmative,  
12 0 in the negative, and no abstentions.

13 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Thank you very much, and with  
14 that, this hearing is closed at 10:20 a. m.

15 Thank you very much.

16 UNKNOWN: Thank you, Chair Dromm.

17 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Yes?

18 UNKNOWN: I said, thank you.

19 CHAIRPERSON DROMM: Oh, okay, thank you.

20 SERGEANT AT ARMS: (Background Noise) And, any  
21 members on Housing and Buildings, that will be coming  
22 up next.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date December 27, 2021