

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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November 22, 2021  
Start: 11:49 a. m.  
Recess: 12:01 p. m.

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 4)

B E F O R E: Hon. Ydanis A. Rodriguez, Chair

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Selvena N. Brooks-Powers  
Fernando Cabrera  
Ruben Diaz, Sr.,  
Robert F. Holden  
Peter A. Koo  
Stephen T. Levin  
Mark Levine  
Carlos Menchaca,  
I. Daneek Miller  
Antonio Reynoso  
Deborah L. Rose

COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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A P P E A R A N C E S

**[NONE]**

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COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION

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SERGEANT BIONDO: Recording to the PC has started.

SERGEANT HOPE: Also, recording to the cloud has started as well. Streams look good.

SERGEANT PEREZ: Back is rolling.

SERGEANT BIONDO: Thank you.

Good morning, and welcome to today's remote New York City Council vote for The Committee on Transportation.

At this time, will all members please turn on their videos for verification purposes?

And, to minimize any disruptions, please place all electronic devices to vibrate or silent mode.

Thank you for your cooperation.

Chair Rodriguez, we are ready to begin.

CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Thank you, Sergeants.

And, first of all, thank you to everyone behind their computers, the sergeants who work so hard to be sure that all that New Yorkers have access to the livestream hearings (INAUDIBLE 00:00:48) at the council.

Good morning, and welcome to today's hearing of the council's Transportation Committee.

I am Ydanis Rodriguez The Chair of this committee.

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2 Today the committee convenes to vote on proposed  
3 Intro 2253-A; it's sponsored by Speaker Johnson; a  
4 Local Law in relation to micro-distribution centers  
5 for distributing goods via sustainable modes of  
6 transportation.

7 Proposed Int. No. 2277-A is sponsored Council  
8 Member Keith Powers; a Local Law in relation to truck  
9 loading zones.

10 Proposed Int. No. 2279-A, is sponsored by Council  
11 Member Antonio Reynoso, a Local Law in relation to  
12 expanding loading zones.

13 And, proposed Int. No. 2422-A, is sponsored by  
14 myself; a local law in relation to parking meters.

15 The committee heard previous version of Proposed  
16 Intro No. 2253-A, 2277-A, 2279-A at a hearing on May  
17 5, 2021.

18 In addition, a previous version of Proposed Intro  
19 2422-A was heard by the committee in a joint hearing  
20 with The Committee on Oversight and Investigations on  
21 October 26, 2021.

22 Every year 365 million tons of cargo enter,  
23 leave, or pass-through New York City, of which 89  
24 percent is carried by a truck. An estimation for the  
25 future predicts that there will be massive increases

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2 in total tonnage entering, leaving, or passing  
3 through New York City of upwards of by 68 percent to  
4 540 million tons. There is increased need for  
5 implementing laws that make the trucking and driving  
6 industry safer and more efficient in terms of how  
7 trucks deliver and unload packages, and also how they  
8 navigate the streets.

9 Proposed Int. No. 2253-A and 2277-A, and 2279-A,  
10 look to implement such regulations that would both  
11 help this industry and protect New Yorkers.

12 Proposed Intro 2253-A, DOT to issue request for  
13 expressions of interest from entities interested in  
14 facilitating, operating, or using micro-distribution  
15 centers, and to seek feedback on potential challenges  
16 and opportunities. A report will be required to the  
17 Council and the Mayor as to how the City can  
18 encourage and facilitate micro-distribution centers;  
19 as well as DOT to establish a micro-distribution  
20 center pilots program.

21 Proposed Intro 2277-A would require that all  
22 permits of 180 days or more for a street segment with  
23 a truck loading zone carry a stipulation that such  
24 zone may not be occupied or obstructed. The proposed  
25 bill would also give DOT power to revoke a permit or

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2 refuse to renew a permit for non-compliance if the  
3 applicant does not maintain a temporary loading zone;  
4 prohibit the use of city-wide parking placards in  
5 certain spaces in Manhattan; codify new and existing  
6 regulations for truck loading zones and commercial  
7 parking meter areas; allow DOT to authorize cargo  
8 bicycles or other sustainable modes to use loading  
9 zones and to create reduced rates for zero emission  
10 vehicles.

11 Finally Proposed Intro 2279-A would require the  
12 DOT to create a public methodology for determining  
13 where loading zones are necessary to enhance safety  
14 and reduce traffic congestion with DOT creating at  
15 least five loading zones annually in certain  
16 neighborhoods if there are fewer than 500 total new  
17 loading zones; create city-wide annually for the  
18 first three years following the effective date of the  
19 bill; DOT would also be required to report on its  
20 progress by January 2023.

21 Ultimately, these bills lead to ease congestion,  
22 increase safety, and improve the delivery efficiency  
23 of trucks through, and among other things,  
24 implementing a regulation and creating micro-  
25 distribution centers, new trucking loading zones,

1  
2 sustainable modes of using loading zones, and  
3 important reporting.

4 In addition to these proposed bills regarding the  
5 trucking and (INAUDIBLE 00:06:10) today we will vote  
6 on Proposed Intro 2422-A as sponsored by myself.

7 This important legislation would authorize the  
8 use of pay by plate parking meters throughout the  
9 city in addition to pay and display parking meters.  
10 Pay by plate parking meters would allow a person to  
11 enter the vehicle's license plate at a parking meter  
12 to register payment for parking. This method would  
13 allow for the tracking of payments by the vehicle's  
14 license plate rather than paper receipts. This bill  
15 provide for a more robust, easy, and effective of  
16 paying for parking throughout New York City while  
17 ensuring that those who are enforcing such parking  
18 regulations do so correction and efficiently.

19 All of these bills seek to improve the quality of  
20 life in the city as well as ensuring that the  
21 trucking and (INAUDIBLE 00:7:12) industry is able to  
22 effectively move and unload items throughout the five  
23 boroughs safely.

24 In addition, transitioning to a pay-by-plate  
25 parking meter system, would increase efficiency in

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2 parking meter payments and would align New York City  
3 with a number of other cities who are implanting such  
4 technologies including Portland, Hoboken, and San  
5 Francisco among others.

6 I will now ask the Committee Clerk to conduct a  
7 roll call vote on these proposed bills and recommend  
8 that my colleagues vote yes on this important piece  
9 of legislation.

10 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, Mr. Chair. William  
11 Martin, Committee Clerk roll call vote Committee on  
12 Transportation, all items are coupled.

13 Chair Rodriguez?

14 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: I vote aye.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Cabrera?

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: I vote aye.

17 COMMITTEE CLERK: Koo?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye.

19 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

20 Levin?

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Aye

22 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

23 Rose?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I vote aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

1  
2 Just one second, Menchaca?

3 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: (Background Noise) Uh,  
4 thank you to the Chair

5 And, yeah, I vote aye.

6 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

7 Miller?

8 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: (Background Noise) Aye on  
9 2422, 2277.

10 No on 2253, 2279.

11 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

12 Okay, Reynoso?

13 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Permission to explain my  
14 vote?

15 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Permission granted.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you, Chair. I  
17 just want to say that, uhm, these pieces of  
18 legislation are really, uh, putting us in a position  
19 to be leading in an effort, uh, to build a city, uh,  
20 with transportation policy of the future. Uh, we  
21 have to recognize the dynamics of our streets and how  
22 things have changed, especially when it comes to how  
23 people receive their goods, which is mostly through  
24 packages and so forth. Uhm, and for us to be  
25 designing streets that are going to protect people

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2 and allow for people to receive their goods, uhm, in  
3 a more efficient way, uhm, I think really speaks to,  
4 uhm, you know, The Chair's ability to really, like,  
5 uh, get a grasp on how New York City is moving.

6 So, again, just very grateful to everybody for  
7 today. I'm very excited about the loading zone  
8 legislation that is going to prevent double parking  
9 that is dangerous for pedestrians, cyclist, and  
10 vehicles alike.

11 Uh, so, I proudly vote aye on all.

12 And, I want to just thank, uh, The Chair, Ydanis  
13 Rodriguez, for his support and the work that he did  
14 on these pieces of legislation, thank you.

15 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

16 Ruben Diaz, Senior?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ, SR: Uh, I vote aye  
18 (INAUDIBLE 00:10:44) in total.

19 And, I would like to wish all of you a very,  
20 very, Happy Thanksgiving. God Bless you all.

21 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you, sir, and to you as  
22 well.

23 Council Member Holden?

24 COUNCIL MEMBER HOLDEN: I vote aye.

25 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

1 Council Member Levine?

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: I vote aye on all.

3 COMMITTEE CLERK: Thank you.

4 One moment.

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6 Okay by a vote of 11 in the affirmation, 0 in the  
7 negative, and no abstentions we have Introductions  
8 2277-A, and 2420-A adopted by the committee.

9 And, with a vote of 10 in the affirmative, 1 in  
10 the negative, and no abstentions, we have  
11 Introductions 2253-A and 2279-A are adopted as well.

12 Mr. Chair, we have one member outstanding.

13 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: I'm fine to leave it open  
14 if that works for you guys. Just let me know. Should  
15 we go with that plan?

16 COMMITTEE CLERK: I'll find out for you in one  
17 minute. (INAUDIBLE 00:12:03)... (Cross-Talk)

18 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: (INAUDIBLE 00:12:03)  
19 (Cross-Talk)

20 COMMITTEE COUNSEL: (Background Noise) (INAUDIBLE  
21 00:12:05) close.

22 CHAIRPERSON RODRIGUEZ: Okay, so before we close,  
23 I would like to say, Happy Thanksgiving to everyone.

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2           And, definitely as Antonio says, these bills are  
3 indicating that we are moving forward in plans to  
4 make the city safer for everyone.

5           In a non-transportation related matter, I would  
6 like to invite everyone to join Immigration Coalition  
7 and all the advocates in a rally that we have  
8 tomorrow at noon, in front of 250 Broadway,  
9 supporting the Municipal Voting Right.

10           With that I adjourn. This hearing is adjourned.

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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 31, 2021