

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON LAND USE

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OCTOBER 16, 2019  
Start: 12:32 P.M.  
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HELD AT: Committee Room - City Hall

B E F O R E: RAFAEL SALAMANCA, JR.  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Adrienne E. Adams  
Inez D. Barron  
Chaim M. Deutsch  
Ruben Diaz, Sr.  
Vanessa L. Gibson  
Barry S. Grodenchik  
Andy L. King  
Peter A. Koo  
Rory I. Lancman  
Stephen T. Levin  
I. Daneek Miller  
Francisco P. Moya  
Antonio Reynoso  
Donovan J. Richards  
Carlina Rivera  
Mark Treyger

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

2 [sound check] [pause] [gavel]

3 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: Alright. Good  
4 afternoon everyone. [background conversation] Good  
5 afternoon everyone. [pause] Thank you. Good  
6 afternoon everyone, and welcome to the Committee on  
7 Land Use. I am Council Member Rafael Salamanca, the  
8 Chair of this committee. I would—I would like to  
9 welcome my esteemed colleagues who are members of the  
10 committee and are present today. We have Council  
11 Members Gibson, Barron, Deutsch, Koo, Lancman, Levin,  
12 Miller, Reynoso, Richards, Treyger, Chair Adams,  
13 Chair Moya and we also have been joined by Council  
14 Member Koslowitiz. I'm sorry and we also, we also  
15 Grodenchik. Today from our Land Use Subcommittees we  
16 will vote on three projects. We will vote approve  
17 LUs 545 an application submitted by HPD for an  
18 amendment to the Blake Hendrix affordable  
19 homeownership, NI-NIHOP Urban Development Action Area  
20 Project previously approved by Council Resolution  
21 1263 of 2017. The amendment would allow HPD to  
22 forgive all or a portion of the land debt to reduce  
23 the taxable consideration of the homes. The  
24 application relates to a cluster of properties in  
25 Council Member Barron's district in Brooklyn. We

2 will also vote on LUs 546, 547 and the Preconsidered  
3 LUs 20205116 HAM all related to the NME III West  
4 140<sup>th</sup> and West 150<sup>th</sup> Street UDAAP approving HPD's  
5 acquisition of property located at 207-209 West 140<sup>th</sup>  
6 Street and 304-308 West 150<sup>th</sup> Street. The  
7 designation of an Urban Development Action Area and  
8 Project for such properties and an exemption from  
9 property taxes. The—these actions will facilitate a  
10 mixed-use development containing approximately 52  
11 affordable housing units in Council Member Perkins'  
12 district in Manhattan. We will also be voting a  
13 modification to borough-base G applications, this  
14 project is comprised of 13 related items,  
15 Preconsidered LUs 513 through 516 and LUs 518 through  
16 526. They include a zoning text amendment creating a  
17 citywide special permit for borough-based jail  
18 facilities. A site selection application for  
19 borough-based jail facilities in Manhattan, the  
20 Bronx, Queens and Brooklyn. Four special permits,  
21 one for each borough-based jail facility, three-city  
22 map change application affecting certain streets and  
23 public places in Brooklyn, Queens and Manhattan. An  
24 acquisition of property for Manhattan borough-based  
25 jail facility, and three action related to the

2 provision of affordable housing near the Bronx  
3 Borough-base jail facility, a zoning text amending, a  
4 zoning map change and a UDAAP area and project  
5 designation and disposition. In addition to modify  
6 before special permits, we will also be modifying  
7 Preconsidered LU 515 to strike MIH Option 2 and will  
8 add the deep affordability option to MIH Option 1.  
9 We heard the demands from reform—from criminal  
10 justice advocates as well as concerns from local  
11 communities about the scale and location of the  
12 proposed borough-based jail facilities. In addition  
13 to the resources being allocated to prevent  
14 incarceration and programming, to assist those who  
15 are incarcerated, which was discussed at our Landmark  
16 Subcommittee by Chair Adams. As a result, the  
17 Councils modifications, the height and density of the  
18 four buildings are being reduced significantly. So,  
19 these new buildings would better intragate into their  
20 communities. I know there have been disagreements on  
21 this plan, that its opponents and supporters have  
22 been very emotional in their advocacy, but I believe  
23 it is important for us to disagree respectfully and  
24 move forward today to tackle new and different  
25 challenges together tomorrow. Are there any

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6

2 questions or remarks from members of the committee?

3 Alright, seeing none, I will call for a vote to—I

4 call for a vote to approve LU Nos. 545-547, the

5 Preconsidered LUs 20205116 HAM and to approve with

6 modifications I have describe Preconsidered 513

7 through 516 and LUs 518 through 526. Will the clerk

8 please call the roll.

9 CLERK: William Martin, Committee Clerk,

10 roll call vote Committee on Land Use. All items are

11 coupled. Chair Salamanca.

12 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: I will be voting

13 no on 518 and 519, and yes on the rest.

14 CLERK: Lancman.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye.

16 CLERK: Richards.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye.

18 CLERK: Gibson.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Aye.

20 CLERK: Barron.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Permission to

22 explain my vote.

23 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: Council Member

24 Barron to explain her vote.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Mr.  
3 Chair. On LU 545, it's a project in my district, and  
4 I do want to say that I support the project, and I'm  
5 pleased to know that--to share with you that this is  
6 an infill homeownership project, and 545 provides for  
7 nine two-family houses and for four three-family  
8 houses, and that the income requirements for those  
9 who want to apply for these homes is from 80 to 100%  
10 of the AMI. So, I want us to know that we can  
11 provide affordable housing and homes to people in our  
12 community. As regards the bill for the borough-base  
13 jails, I wanted to be clear that I supported closing  
14 Rikers. I don't want to get it confused. I support  
15 closing Rikers, and my vote in that regard reflected  
16 that, but as concerns the borough-based jails, I'm  
17 not supporting that. I think that it does not  
18 address the issue, which is that this justice system  
19 as it's called continues to have black and brown  
20 persons detained at rates that do not reflect what it  
21 is in our communities and the totality of our  
22 society, and that judges continue to have judicial  
23 discretion to be able to decide who they will, in  
24 fact, detain and who will--they will, in fact, let go  
25 and most often black and brown people are the ones

2 that are detained and those who are more affluent and  
3 those who are white, in fact, are not detained. I  
4 think that just to move quickly, I think we've got to  
5 challenge and change the racial discrimination basis  
6 for our Criminal Justice System, and we need to make  
7 sure that prior to persons getting involved in the  
8 Criminal Justice System that we do all that we can  
9 economically to have job creation, not just job  
10 training. After you've been trained you've got to be  
11 able to apply those skills to get jobs, and to be  
12 able to have economic development, and to be able to  
13 make sure that our communities have the opportunity  
14 to also for entrepreneurial programs. The  
15 intervention and the mentoring and the Restorative  
16 Justice programs that are so important have got to be  
17 implemented prior to us building new jails. We've  
18 got to change the culture that already exists, we've  
19 got to make sure that the programs that are in place  
20 address that. So, I'm voting aye on all with the  
21 exception of 513 through 516 and 518 through 526.  
22 Thank you.

23 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: I also want to  
24 recognize that we've been joined by Council Member  
25 Diaz and Council Member Deutsch.

2 CLERK: Deutsch.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: No on LU 513  
4 through 516, and 518 through 526 and aye on the rest.  
5 [pause]

6 CLERK: Koo.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye.

8 CLERK: Levin.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Well, I just want  
10 to say that I forgot to thank in my prior remarks my  
11 colleagues Karen Koslowitz, Diana Ayala, and Margaret  
12 Chin for their incredible leadership. They are truly  
13 my heroes in this process. I want to thank them, and  
14 with that, and I also want to thank the members of  
15 the Lippman Commission who actually did a tremendous  
16 amount of work on the ground with this, and with  
17 that, I vote aye on all.

18 CLERK: Miller.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Aye.

20 CLERK: Reynoso.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Permission to  
22 explain my vote.

23 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: Council Member  
24 Reynoso to explain his vote.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you,  
3 Chair. Rikers Island is a glaring monument to mass  
4 incarceration, a physical manifestation of a system  
5 based on racism, oppression and violence. Speaking  
6 around the edges of such a system is insufficient.  
7 The system must be torn down completely. I'm  
8 incredibly proud to be taking a first step in this  
9 process today, and to have been a part of the  
10 Council's efforts to close Rikers since Speaker  
11 Melissa Mark Viverito proposed it in 2016. We have  
12 to seize this moment to push the conversation much  
13 further than it has gone to date. This is about  
14 people's lives not buildings. Our goal should be to  
15 get the jail population as low as possible while  
16 pushing the Administration to meet that objective. It  
17 is our responsibility to work tirelessly to ensure  
18 that by the time the shovels go into the ground that  
19 we don't need to be build as many beds as originally  
20 approved. Ultimately, it is my hope that we reach a  
21 day when no one needs to be put in jail. To that  
22 end, the Administration must go further than it has  
23 to day to invest in the communities most impacted by  
24 the effects of over-policing and mass incarceration.  
25 As Co-Chair of the Brooklyn Delegation, I will be

2 fighting for significant funding increases in places  
3 like East Flatbush, Brownsville and East New York for  
4 programs related to job training, reentry, and  
5 violence prevention. We cannot invest billions in  
6 new jail facilities without investing in the things  
7 we know our communities need in order for residents  
8 to thrive. The City Council has a solemn obligation  
9 to hold this plan accountable. The history of  
10 criminal justice reform is littered with broken  
11 promises. We cannot ask people to trust us. We must  
12 actually deliver on everything that is being  
13 discussed here today. I want to thank the advocates  
14 who have put in an incredible amount of work into  
15 ensuring the dream of closing Rikers becomes a  
16 reality. There is much more work left to do or to be  
17 done, and I hope we can continue collaborating to  
18 realize a more just and equitable society for the  
19 next generation. So, thank you for allowing me to  
20 make that statement, and I vote aye on all.

21 [applause]

22 CLERK: Treyger.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Aye.

24 CLERK: Grodenchik.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: Mr. Chairman,  
3 permission to explain my vote.

4 CLERK: Council Member Grodenchik to  
5 explain his vote.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GRODENCHIK: I'll take my  
7 glasses off. This is important. The issue before us  
8 today is one of immense importance to our great city.  
9 Over the past quarter century, we have seen historic  
10 reductions in crime in New York City and a  
11 corresponding reduction in the number of people  
12 detained by the city. It is also obvious based on  
13 numerous reports that the current New York City  
14 prison facilities are, to be charitable, outdated and  
15 dangerous. The newest facility having been  
16 constructed on Rikers Island 30 years ago, which in  
17 terms of modern penology is eons ago. The road that  
18 has led us here today has been quite challenging.  
19 Information has been hard to come by from the  
20 Administration, and as recently as hearings on the  
21 Preliminary Budget several months ago, we basically  
22 had no information, no cost estimates, no hard  
23 numbers of people expected to be tained-detained,  
24 nothing. We were essentially left to guess. Today,  
25 the guessing has been replaced by a better, but

2 albeit not perfect information. I am also greatly  
3 troubled by the enormous amounts of money that are to  
4 be expended on the proposed new jails, money that  
5 some rightfully argue would be better invested in our  
6 communities. However, to me it is not an either/or.  
7 This great city can and will do both things. I have  
8 been for closing Rikers Island and replacing with  
9 borough-based jails for some time. I have been  
10 undecided on this particular plan until yesterday  
11 when I received news that allowed me to vote in good  
12 conscience for this plan. Anyone who has read the  
13 reports and seen the news regarding Rikers Island  
14 knows and should understand the moral crisis our city  
15 is facing. Today we are going to take important  
16 steps to begin to remedy that crisis. In my home  
17 borough of Queens, the site selected is literally  
18 attached to the Criminal Court Building. Prisoners  
19 will be brought to and from the courthouse to an  
20 underground passage connecting the two buildings.  
21 For decades prisoners were trekked through the  
22 communities of Queens and other boroughs to be taken  
23 to court. This will all end making for a safer, less  
24 costly, more environmentally friendly and more—most  
25 importantly, a more humane means of transporting

2 prisoners. I am voting in favor of this plan, but I  
3 am still greatly concerned about holding the cost to  
4 construct these new facilities in check. We must  
5 also ensure that the impact that they have on the Kew  
6 Gardens and Briarwood communities in Queens and the  
7 other neighborhoods they are situated in around the  
8 city is kept to an absolute minimum. We owe it to  
9 the people of the city to do that as they are  
10 fitting-footing the entire bill for these new jails.  
11 I thank you for indulging me, Mr. Chairman and with  
12 that I vote aye on all.

13 CLERK: Adams.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER ADAMS: Aye.

15 CLERK: Diaz.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Permission to  
17 explain my vote, Mr. Chairman.

18 CLERK: Council Member Diaz to explain his  
19 vote.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: Thank you, Mr.  
21 Chairman. I have a problem, the ULURP situation and  
22 the way in which this committee that is supposed to  
23 be a progressive has allowed this proceeding to go.  
24 You're putting four ULURPs in one. Each county is  
25 supposed to have their own ULURPs. Now you just put

2 four ULURPs in one, and then you're building, you  
3 know, in Bronx, Queens, Manhattan, Brooklyn, but you  
4 are not building any one on Staten Island. That City  
5 Council members on Staten Island will vote on that  
6 ULURP in my district in my community because you,  
7 Chairman, and a member of this committee has allowed  
8 four ULURPs. One, that is ridiculous. That has  
9 never been done. That is selling out the community.  
10 So, public housing, public schooling in our community  
11 in our neighborhood they are pits. Public schooling  
12 in our neighborhoods they need money. They do, but  
13 there's no money. There is no money to educate our  
14 children. There is no money to fix our schools.  
15 There is no money to get air conditioning, and nice  
16 equipment to our children, but there's money \$11  
17 billion to building five-four new-new house-new-new-  
18 new buildings. NYCHA, oh progressive. You go around  
19 killing NYCHA because all the things that we're  
20 doing, they are doing to our community based on  
21 boilers. They go into winter with no boiler. There's  
22 no, no way to solve that problem and our members that  
23 are residents in NYCHA they have to suffer every  
24 single week because there's no money, but you are  
25 progressing. You go, no, we got to have this, but

2 there is no money for that, but they are \$11 billion  
3 to build four new buildings. Staten Island, as I  
4 said, has been exempted. Why? Why is Staten Island  
5 has been exempted and we are voting oh, yeah, yeah,  
6 yeah? Why? What is going to happen when we close  
7 Rikers Island? What's going to happen with that  
8 land? What is the purpose? Who is going to get the  
9 control of that land? What's--what's happening?  
10 What--how come nobody knows what's going to happen  
11 there? Why housing inmates in a high-rise building  
12 will make it better for the earth. Rikers Island is  
13 build a whole park for outdoor. They could do--they  
14 could do have the best parks in Rikers Island. There  
15 would be outdoor activities, and they could play ball  
16 and build a--build a field, a tracking field. They  
17 would have the right if that's the--if--if you build  
18 it it's a hotel what better to build it there, to  
19 protect, to protect their neighbors. You know, they  
20 say no, no. No, no, less--lest housing in a high-rise  
21 building that they couldn't even move. So, I hope we  
22 will fix it, make it a beautiful hotel. [man yelling]

23 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Keep it down, please.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DIAZ: In the Bronx, Mr.  
25 Chairman and ladies and gentlemen, in the Bronx the

2 Community Planning Board all the area unanimously,  
3 united and was voted against the, in the Bronx, the  
4 Community Planning Board. The Bronx Borough  
5 President. Is against this. The community in the  
6 area is against this, but I see members even from the  
7 delegates from the Bronx being undecided. What is  
8 that being undecided? Why you voting yes for this?  
9 You're not helping the inmates. You are going against  
10 your community, and I have a concern about the—I just  
11 happen to be a conservative, but you members you are  
12 progressive. Sure now, if you are progressive  
13 protect your community, protect the senior citizens.  
14 Like the senior citizens in—in Castle Hill in Castle  
15 Hill project, the seniors there go ask them how come  
16 every year they go with no heat, with no, with no  
17 heat and no air—and no air conditioning in the  
18 building the whole year. Why? There's no money to  
19 protect the senior citizens. There's no money to  
20 build a center, but there is \$11 billion to build  
21 four new homes. Mr. Chairman, my vote is no, no, no  
22 on everything. Thank you very much.

23 CLERK: Moya.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER MOYA: Aye. [siren]

25 CLERK: Gibson.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON. Permission to  
3 explain my vote.

4 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: Council Member  
5 Gibson to explain her vote.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Mr.  
7 Chair and good afternoon to all of my colleagues. I  
8 am thankful that we're here. This afternoon the City  
9 Council will take an incredible bold and courageous  
10 step to finally close an institution that has been a  
11 systemic environment of abuse, of mistreatment and  
12 violence all around. For far too long Rikers Island  
13 has been a sad culture of violence for detainees, for  
14 the uniformed staff and everyone who works there on  
15 the island every single day. After months of strong  
16 advocacy by those most affected, by the advocacy  
17 groups, community-based organizations, legal service  
18 providers and so many other, we are presented with  
19 this unique opportunity to do something different, to  
20 finally address criminal justice reform, and change  
21 the culture and atmosphere by which we reform, we  
22 rehabilitate, and we reshape the lives of those  
23 accused of crimes in our city. Today, we act on an  
24 issue that has plagued far too many communities of  
25 color, and young men and women of color, many of my

2 own constituents in the Bronx. Understand my  
3 colleagues, exactly how we came to this point today.  
4 Twenty years ago, the incarceration rate at Rikers  
5 was 20,000 detainees. Today, we're at 7,000. Crime  
6 rates spiked in the 1980s and the 1990s, as we were  
7 hit with the crack and the drug epidemic and now  
8 today the lowest numbers of crime around our city  
9 every year. This body, this City Council has  
10 historically invested for 20 years in our ATI and ATD  
11 and Reentry Initiative, which has proven works  
12 providing alternatives for young men and women that  
13 are involved in the Criminal Justice System, and we  
14 have saved lives through this ATI Initiative. The  
15 New York City Crisis Management System, which we  
16 started, this Council in 2011, five neighborhoods to  
17 focus on a holistic approach to addressing gun  
18 violence with wrap-around services for clients to  
19 succeed not be statistics, but succeed, and now  
20 today, \$30 million invested in 22 catchment areas  
21 across all five boroughs. Couple that with  
22 supervised release programs, more reentry services,  
23 Restorative Justice work, plus the new state policies  
24 that will take effect soon such as bail reform,  
25 speedy trial and open discovery. Colleagues, we are

2 on our way to further reducing our jail population  
3 and giving our constituents a more humane and safer  
4 environment that is closer to home. Nothing that we  
5 do is ever a perfect plan. It's filled with flaws,  
6 criticisms and certainly many of us including myself  
7 have been frustrated along the way during this  
8 process. If we do nothing, we allow this abusive  
9 incarceration system to remain in place for the next  
10 decade or two or three. Who has the kind of time to  
11 waste when lives are at stake, and we have an  
12 opportunity today to change the dynamics of our  
13 Criminal Justice System. I choose to be on the right  
14 side of history for my constituents who live the  
15 everyday reality of today's Rikers Island. I choose  
16 to improve the conditions by which those who are  
17 detained and also all the staff who work there in the  
18 jails every day. They all deserve better, and it is  
19 our responsibility to do right by them. That's what  
20 we were elected to do. This proposal before us is  
21 beyond our egos. It's beyond our personal views, and  
22 simply put, it's transformational. This proposal is  
23 much bigger than the construction of four buildings,  
24 my colleagues, but rather it is firm commitment that  
25 we are bold enough, courageous enough, deliberate

2 enough, and strong enough to make decisions that will  
3 have a profound impact on our communities in our city  
4 for generations to come. So, don't get anything  
5 twisted about what we are doing here today.

6 MALE SPEAKER: Right.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: So, I want to  
8 thank and acknowledge all of the advocates. Many have  
9 already been called, but certainly our former Council  
10 Speaker Melissa Mark Viverito, our Chief Justice  
11 Jonathan Lippman and the Lippman Commission just  
12 leadership, the Close Rikers Campaign, Beyond  
13 Rosie's, the Cattal (sp?) Center, all of our ATI and  
14 ATB providers, Bronx Connect and so many others, the  
15 City Council, our Speaker, my courageous colleagues  
16 Steve Levin, Diana Ayala, Margaret Chin, and Karen  
17 Koslowitz, I thank you for being committed and  
18 dedicated to what we are doing here today, and so it  
19 is my firm belief that this is the right thing to do  
20 at the right time, and I am going to stand with my  
21 people and my constituents and my families, and I'm  
22 voting yes on today's proposal and everything on  
23 today's agenda. Thank you, Mr. Chair. [applause

24 CLERK: Council Member King.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Permission to  
3 explain my vote?

4 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: Council Member  
5 King to explain his vote

6 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I'll be brief, but  
7 I will say I'm not in favor of today's plan. I've  
8 asked the question over a number of years how does  
9 closing Rikers correct all the issues that we have in  
10 the Criminal Justice System to over-policing to not  
11 having enough DAs, 18-B attorneys. Excuse me or  
12 judges or spaces that are in the court system. We-we  
13 refer to how Kalief Browder, the system failed him,  
14 but Rikers Island wasn't a problem for Kalief  
15 Browder. It was the judicial system that-that-that  
16 hurt him. He should have never stayed in Rikers  
17 Island for three years period, and that's a flaw in  
18 the judicial system, not in the correctional system.  
19 So, while we're trying to figure out what does  
20 incarceration look like for the city of New York, I  
21 just ask my colleagues to really dig-dig down and  
22 deep because when I saw a plan that showed a new-a  
23 new form of incarceration with Wifi, you're able to  
24 order your food and get TVs and decorated cells, I'm  
25 saying this is desensitizing going to jail, and jail

2 shouldn't be a place that we're in jail. Jail should  
3 be a holding place until you are found guilty of a  
4 crime, not treated as a prisoner that someone should  
5 be there for even three years. Something—something  
6 is flawed with that system, and if you're telling me  
7 that by 2026 in about 10 years all of this would come  
8 to fruition, then who are you actually building these  
9 buildings, these jails for? It's not for the person  
10 that's in—in lockup right now. I see it as for the  
11 9-year-old who's walking down the street. By the  
12 time they get 17 we're looking at locking them up.  
13 So, I have a real problem with how this whole  
14 conversation has been played out and rolled out, and  
15 if you really want Rikers Island because you want to  
16 change it up, I think it's a property grab, and if  
17 you wanted them to be honest in that conversation,  
18 well, but don't fault the men and women in this jail  
19 system because correction officers want safe jails,  
20 too, and if you want to rehabilitate somebody, then  
21 you know, how about helping before they get in lock-  
22 up. How about them spending the money to improve our  
23 jails and take care of our 9-year-olds and our  
24 kindergarteners, and our high school kids so they'll  
25 never see the inside of a jail. If you want to—if you

2 want to educate a person, you don't have to send them  
3 to jail. If you want to save somebody's life, you  
4 don't have to send them to jail. I just think this  
5 whole conversation has been misdirected, and I think  
6 it's been flawed, and I think it hasn't been—it has  
7 been disingenuous from the beginning and I—and I—and  
8 I'm—and I pray for everyone that's in here because  
9 we—we should be great enough as elected leaders that  
10 we shouldn't have to negotiate for a community center  
11 or more housing in our districts to take a jail. If  
12 our communities are saying we don't want it, then we  
13 have responsibility to those who elected us and put  
14 us in—and put us in here to negotiate, and not be  
15 building in to say you got to take a jail in order to  
16 get a community center or get more housing.

17 Something is just wrong of how this whole has been  
18 rolled out, and I end with this: I'm a little  
19 disheartened because last week we were forced into  
20 saying there will never be any more incarceration  
21 jails, even build Rikers Island after 2026, and we  
22 got that information the day of. I'm not faulting the  
23 Land Use Committee, but whoever's plan it was, it  
24 just wasn't right. Again, if it's a property grab,  
25 then call it for what it is, but not manipulate the

2 conversation to getting us voting on the things that  
3 doesn't suit the neighborhoods that these jails are  
4 being placed in. With that all being said, I'm  
5 voting no today, and I urge everyone else moving  
6 forward to do so. Thank you. [pause]

7 CLERK: Today's Land Use Agenda, Land Use  
8 items 513, 514, 515, 516, 520, 521, 522, 523, 524,  
9 525 and 526 have been adopted by the Committee 12 in  
10 the affirmative, 4 in the negative and no  
11 abstentions, and Land Use Items 518 and 519 are  
12 adopted by the Committee 11 in the affirmative, 5 in  
13 the negative and no abstentions. Lastly, Land Use  
14 Items 545, 546, 547 and Preconsidered Land Use  
15 application 20205116 HAM are adopted by a vote of 14  
16 in the affirmative, 2 in the negative and zero  
17 abstentions.

18 CHAIRPERSON SALAMANCA: Alright, I would  
19 like to thank members of the public, my colleagues,  
20 Council and Land Use staff for attending today's  
21 hearing, this meeting is hereby adjourned. [gavel]

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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 October 19, 2019