

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

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February 25, 2021  
Start: 9:05 AM  
Recess: 9:09 AM

HELD AT: REMOTE HEARING (VIRTUAL ROOM 1)

B E F O R E: PAUL VALLONE (CHAIR)

COUNCIL MEMBERS: Keith Powers  
Mark Gjonaj  
Peter Koo  
Robert E. Cornegy, Jr.  
Brad Lander  
Inez Barron  
Farah N. Louis

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

TECHNICIAN 1: PC recording has started.

TECHNICIAN 2: The Cloud started.

TECHNICIAN 1: Back-up is rolling.

Good morning and welcome to today's remote New York City council vote of the Committee on Economic Development. At this time would all panelists please turn on their video, and to minimize disruption please silence your electronic devices.

Thank you. We are ready to begin.

CHAIR VALLONE: Alight, good morning everyone. I am Council Member Paul Vallone Chair of EDC, and today we're here to vote on Intro 1839, and I just wanted to give a brief minute to explain what the bill will do for my fellow Council Members for this morning and when we vote on it later today. So, Intro 89 will require an annual report to the Mayor and us as the City Council on the progress of the Brooklyn Navy Yard Master Plan, something that has alluded us and not been done in years past. Throughout my tenure as Chair of the Economic Development Committee we have discussed the rich 220-year history of the Navy Yard as it has evolved from its early years as a Naval ship yard, ship

building yard into one of the city's most well run engines for economic development. Even before the pandemic the committee had an opportunity to tour the Navy Yard along with our colleagues at EDC, and it was a true pleasure to see the various businesses and education centers available at this wonderful yard. When we worked at Dock 72 to the Steam Center in the Navy Yard it was a gem for opportunity and talent in the industrial technology and manufacturing industries especially the grosses such as white men and lesson donors (sic). The Navy Yard provides stable affordable space for industrial businesses and it's now home to over 450 businesses employing more than 11,000 people and generating over \$2.5 billion per year in the economic activity for the city. All remarkable achievements especially after the financial crisis we are in during this pandemic. Nearly all of the New York Navy Yard space has been leased over the last decade, and so the Navy Yard Development Corporation announced its master plan in 2018 to expand the physical space at the yard in order to meet the ongoing demand for the new tenants to utilize the innovative space, and continue to offer opportunities in manufacturing, technology and

industry, but what good is all this master plan without an annual report to the city of New York whose Board of Directors serve at the pleasure of the Mayor and without accountability to the City Council less than the site. (sic) So this bill brings much needed accountability to one of the city's most vital economic assets. Any significant investment made by they city should come with equal significant oversight, and transparency to ensure that we are responsible using taxpayer funds. We applaud the Navy Yard businesses for their hard work throughout the pandemic and I'd like to thank Jeff Baker, Emily Forgione, Alex Paulonoff, Josh Kingsley our Chief of Staff Jonathan Szott and our Speaker for their efforts in bringing this bill to a vote today. I urge all my colleagues to vote aye. Thank you very much.

CLERK: Ready for the roll call Mr. Chair?

CHAIR VALLONE: Yes, please.

CLERK: Okay. William Martin Committee Clerk roll call vote Committee on Economic Development Proposed Introduction 1839-A. Chair Vallone.

CHAIR VALLONE: I vote aye and thank you.

CLERK: Koo. (bell)

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye.

CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: The model that we've got is exactly the model we need for a just and durable recovery. I vote aye.

CLERK: Barron.

COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: I vote aye. (bell)

CLERK: Cornegy.

COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: In the true spirit of recovery and resiliency I vote aye.

CLERK: Gjonaj.

COUNCIL MEMBER GJONAJ: I vote aye.

CLERK: Powers.

COUNCIL MEMBER POWERS: I vote aye.

CLERK: Louis.

COUNCIL MEMBER LOUIS: I vote aye.

CLERK: By a vote of 8 in the affirmative, zero in the negative and no abstentions Proposed Introduction 1839-A has been adopted by the Committee. Thank you.

CHAIR VALLONE: Are we actually going to see anyone or can we close out the vote I think. Did we get the full vote?

CLERK: Yes, that was the full committee.

CHAIR VALLONE: Wow, look at that. Our morning crew is proud today. So now I guess we're done. We can close it out. Thank you so much. Now get in the sun.

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 March 26, 2021