



Legislation Text

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Res. No. 1257

Resolution calling for further improvement in the consideration of health impacts in the Administration's decision-making relating to real estate development projects, plans, and policies, specifically by utilizing health impact assessments and by increased collaboration between the Department of City Planning, the Economic Development Corporation, and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

By Council Members Chin, Eugene, Jackson, James, Koppell, Palma, Rose and Rodriguez (by request of the Bronx Borough President)

Whereas, Development projects often have diverse, wide-ranging impacts on air quality, water quality, noise, safety, social networks, nutrition, parks, public services, transportation, social equity, and education; and

Whereas, These impacts, in turn, affect the physical, economic, and emotional health of individuals, families, and communities; and

Whereas, Health impact assessments are a tool that can be used to systematically analyze potential health impacts of development projects on the health of a population, the distribution of these effects, and how to effectively manage these effects; and

Whereas, The use of health impact assessments can ensure that health is regularly taken into account in development-related decision-making; and

Whereas, Government agencies such as the San Francisco Department of Public Health, Wisconsin Department of Health Services, and Philadelphia Department of Public Health; and outside groups, such as Health Impact Partners, have pioneered the use of health impact assessments in planning decisions such as development projects; and

Whereas, The New York City government under Mayor Bloomberg has demonstrated leadership in

examining how decisions in many different areas can impact health by issuing the Active Design Guidelines, and by fostering collaboration between the Department of City Planning, the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene, the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Department of Design and Construction, the Department of Buildings, and the Department of Transportation; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the Council of the City of New York calls for further improvement in the consideration of health impacts in the Administration's decision-making relating to real estate development projects, plans, and policies, specifically by utilizing health impact assessments and by increased collaboration between the Department of City Planning, the Economic Development Corporation, and the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

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