

**PUBLIC MEETING**

**FRANCHISE AND CONCESSION REVIEW COMMITTEE**

**WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11, 2009 @ 2:30 P.M.**

**22 READE STREET, MANHATTAN**

NOTE: INDIVIDUALS REQUESTING SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETERS SHOULD CONTACT THE MAYOR'S OFFICE OF CONTRACT SERVICES, 253 BROADWAY, 9TH FL., NEW YORK, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10007 (212) 788-7490, NO LATER THAN SEVEN (7) BUSINESS DAYS PRIOR TO THE PUBLIC MEETING. TDD USERS SHOULD CALL VERIZON RELAY SERVICE.

*Franchise and Concession Review Committee Public Meeting–  
Wednesday, March 11, 2009 @ 2:30PM*

**NEW YORK CITY DEPARTMENT OF PARKS & RECREATION**

**No. 1:** IN THE MATTER of the intent to seek Franchise & Concession Review Committee approval to utilize a different procedure, pursuant to Section 1-16 of the Concession Rules of the City of New York, to authorize the New York City Department of Parks & Recreation (“Parks”), to negotiate a Sole Source Concession Agreement (“Agreement”) with Randall’s Island Sports Foundation (“RISF”) for the right to use, maintain and manage certain sports fields, on Randall's Island, Manhattan, which Agreement will include a subconcession with a group of independent schools. The group of independent schools would be permitted to use a specified number of the fields on Randall's Island for a defined portion of after-school-hours. As part of the Agreement, it is expected that a portion of the concession proceeds will be dedicated to the maintenance and upkeep of Randall's Island.

A proposal resolution was submitted, relative thereto.

**RESOLUTION FOR ADOPTION**

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Transcript of the Public Hearing  
on  
FRANCHISE AND CONCESSION REVIEW  
COMMITTEE  
Held on Wednesday, March 11, 2009  
Spector Hall, 22 Reade Street  
Borough of Manhattan

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APPEARANCES:  
CAS HOLLOWAY, Mayor  
BRIAN GELLER, Office of the Mayor  
VALERIE BUDZIK, Comptroller  
CORPORATION COUNSEL, Howard Friedman  
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET, Sarah Urbanski  
PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF THE BRONX, Al Rodriguez  
PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF BROOKLYN, Jason Otonno  
PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF MANHATTAN, Scott Stringer  
PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF QUEENS, Mark McMillan  
PRESIDENT, BOROUGH OF STATEN ISLAND, Lee Covino  
CLERK, Adam Buchanan

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1 P R O C E E D I N G  
2 MAYOR HOLLOWAY: Good afternoon.  
3 Thank you for all being here. The Franchise and  
4 Concession Review Committee will now come to order.  
5 Will the clerk please call the roll?  
6 CLERK BUCHANAN: Mayor?  
7 MAYOR HOLLOWAY: Here.  
8 CLERK BUCHANAN: Office of the Mayor?  
9 MR. GELLER: Here.  
10 CLERK BUCHANAN: Comptroller?  
11 MS. BUDZIK: Here.  
12 CLERK BUCHANAN: Corporation Counsel?  
13 MR. FRIEDMAN: Here.  
14 CLERK BUCHANAN: Office of Management  
15 and Budget?  
16 MS. URBANSKI: Here.  
17 CLERK BUCHANAN: President, Borough of  
18 The Bronx?  
19 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Here.  
20 CLERK BUCHANAN: President, Borough of  
21 Brooklyn?  
22 MR. OTONNO: Here.  
23 CLERK BUCHANAN: President, Borough of  
24 Manhattan?  
25 MR. STRINGER: Here.

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1 CLERK BUCHANAN: President, Borough of  
2 Queens?  
3 MR. MCMILLAN: Here.  
4 CLERK BUCHANAN: President, Borough of  
5 Staten Island?  
6 MR. COVINO: Here.  
7 MAYOR HOLLOWAY: Will the clerk please  
8 call the calendar?  
9 CLERK BUCHANAN: This is Calendar Item  
10 Number One for the New York City Department Parks  
11 and Recreation. In the matter of the intent to  
12 seek Franchise and Concession Review Committee  
13 approval to utilize a different procedure pursuant  
14 to Section 1-16 of the Concession Rules of City of  
15 New York to authorize New York City Department of  
16 Parks and Recreation to negotiate a Sole Source of  
17 Concession Agreement with Randall's Island Sport  
18 Foundation for the right to use, maintain, and  
19 manage certain sports fields on Randall's Island,  
20 Manhattan which agreement will include a  
21 subconcession with a group of independent schools.  
22 The group of independent schools would be permitted  
23 to use a specified number of the filed on Randall's  
24 Island for a defined portion of after school hours.  
25 As part of the agreement, it is expected that a

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1 portion of concession proceeds will be dedicated to  
2 the maintenance and upkeep of Randall's Island.  
3 The proposal resolution was submitted,  
4 relative thereto.

5                   MAYOR HOLLOWAY: Is there a member who  
6 wishes to make a statement or ask a question on  
7 this matter?

8                   MR. STRINGER: First I want to make a  
9 statement. Randall's Island is 480 acres of  
10 precious resources for the city and all of its  
11 residents. That holds especially true for East  
12 Harlem, South Bronx, and the neighboring  
13 communities of the Island.

14                   Two years ago I voted no at the FCRC to  
15 give private schools access to essentially two  
16 thirds of the field and a remainder to the public.  
17 That deal gave unfair private access to those who  
18 couldn't afford it and left the rest of us watching  
19 from the side lines.

20                   As we all know now in February of 2008  
21 New York State Supreme Court supported the old  
22 agreement thanks to the great advocates, presidents  
23 and community leaders who came together in our  
24 position.

25                   Today marks the chance to get this right

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1 and to make sure that no one corrupts the Island  
2 for a select few. That is why I am voting in  
3 support of the city re-entering negotiations. I  
4 want to see Randall's shared equally amongst all  
5 school children both private and public schools. I  
6 want to ensure that all East Harlem and South Bronx  
7 have equal access to the programs.

8                   I promise today that I will not support  
9 any Franchise Agreement that does not guarantee  
10 real, meaningful access for kids for both public  
11 and private schools. We all must work towards this  
12 new agreement. We are not a -- 50 percent of the  
13 fields is reserved for public use. It's that  
14 public schools need real both the resources to  
15 foster athletic programs that will use the fields  
16 and transportation to get there. We have a  
17 proposal. We call it a 2020 program whereby for  
18 the 20 private schools that have access to the  
19 Island we make sure that the Randall's Island  
20 Sports Foundation and the City will support that 20  
21 public schools who will also have programs and  
22 access to the Island.

23                   They need transportation to get there  
24 and they need real resources need to foster  
25 athletic programs and the schools can actually take

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1 advantage of the Island. I want to stress that by  
2 voting, yes, I do believe there has been enough  
3 discussions that we all agree we want to reach an  
4 agreement. And the one think I want to make clear  
5 access to the public schools must be made to  
6 program. We don't want to go back, Mr. Chairman,  
7 to the item when we started this with the Sports  
8 Foundation would say, well, you know, we have an  
9 outreach coordinator and they are out reading with

10 the community and it's all good. It was not all  
11 good. It did not work. Nobody that I talked to in  
12 East Harlem that I represent felt connected to the  
13 Sports Foundation. Quite frankly it was a joke.  
14 And why I am willing to say yes because it's better  
15 to go do something to try to create a result. In  
16 no way unless we all work together are we going to  
17 be successful if we don't recognize that that kind  
18 of talk is just talk. We have a real opportunity  
19 to put resources and identify 20 schools to come up  
20 with a plan that really works. If we do this then  
21 we will have met our mandate because after all we  
22 represent private school kids and public school  
23 kids. We represent them both equally. And that's  
24 what I wanted to come here and say. I am going to  
25 vote, yes, but I will to tell you we have to get

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1 this one right.

2 MAYOR HOLLOWAY: Any other members who  
3 wishes to make a statement?

4 MS. BUDZIK: On behalf of the  
5 Comptroller's office who is also prepared to vote,  
6 yes, to authorizing the negotiations, but we will  
7 echo efforts that has been made by the Borough  
8 President's Office. And we share his position. We  
9 would like to see the negotiations, but we would  
10 like to see that open negotiations. It's critical  
11 that the City reach out to the community, the  
12 neighboring community and make sure that their  
13 needs are addressed and that they have access to  
14 the Island. Convenient and affordable access to  
15 the Island has always been a critical issue and I  
16 think efforts in that regard to improve access need  
17 to be strengthened. We will look carefully at the  
18 field allocation. The administration is proposing  
19 a 50, 40, 10 split. We have a lot of questions on  
20 how that 10 percent of the field will be allocated  
21 and so again we echo the Borough President's  
22 concerns. We also are support of the 2020 program  
23 that he referred.

24 MR. STRINGER: For the record,  
25 Comptroller, I would like to thank them their

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1 remarks. Council member and myself will be holding  
2 a town hall meeting the first week in April because  
3 we want to get direct input from everybody in the  
4 community. We are going to be doing a tremendous  
5 outreach. We expect hundreds and hundreds of  
6 people to come to have a discussion about it. So  
7 we are sort of creating a town hall meeting with  
8 the expectation that through our negotiation we  
9 would be able to show the comminute the fruits of  
10 our labor. And I look forward to energetically  
11 trying to sell the plan in the best positive way to  
12 the neighborhood. And we have a couple weeks to do  
13 it.

14 MR. HOLLOWAY: Any other member who

15 wishes to make a statement on this item?

16 I would like to make a statement on this  
17 item. First, I would like to thank the Borough  
18 President and the Comptroller for their comments on  
19 this. I would also like to thank Randall's Island  
20 Sports Foundation who has been a long term partner  
21 with the City working with the Parks Department to  
22 put public private partnerships like the one that  
23 is proposed here. And I should emphasize that no  
24 agreement has been reached yet. And while,

25 Comptroller, some general perimeters that they have  
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1 discussed. The whole point of the action of the  
2 Franchise and Concession Review Committee taken  
3 today is that it authorizes the Department to work  
4 with the Randall's Island Sports Foundation and,  
5 ultimately, subconcession in the schools to reach  
6 an agreement. As part of that whole process which  
7 is pending a positive outcome today is going to be  
8 undertaken, the City is committing to working with  
9 the Comptroller and Borough President Stringer and  
10 with Council member and the many other State  
11 Comptrollers who expressed views on this both  
12 positive and negative. I think we can all agree  
13 particularly these times when there is the  
14 opportunity to take advantage of the substantial  
15 public private partnership to, you know, produce a  
16 public benefit that the City should try to do  
17 whatever whenever it can. In terms of access  
18 issues. One outcome that was not undone by the  
19 last go around here was the Randall's Island task  
20 force which the City put together in connection  
21 with and at the same time it was not part of the  
22 agreement, the proposed agreement at that time.  
23 That has continued. I know there have been some  
24 positive developments there. I know the Borough  
25 President has put together and put forward a

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1 specific proposal, a 2020 proposal. Well, I can't  
2 speak to the specifics of what will come out of the  
3 discussions we are going to have over the next  
4 month. I can say that we are committed to working  
5 with all of the State Holders here and it's our  
6 intent to reach an agreement and arrangement, a set  
7 of commitments that everybody can feel is a good  
8 outcome for every one and move forward with this  
9 important agreement.

10 This is the beginning and I thank  
11 everybody for the work they put into this point and  
12 there is more work to do.

13 MR. STRINGER: I do want to thank the  
14 Mayor's Office and Deputy Mayor Lacat(ph) for  
15 signaling to us that we are going to work in a  
16 cooperative way. I want to thank you for making  
17 that clear and I look forward to working with the  
18 Deputy Mayor. When he is not roaming the streets  
19 we can certainly can get him in and tell him that I

20 said that.  
21 MAYOR HOLLOWAY: Any other member  
22 wishing to make a statement on this item? If not,  
23 I would like to move the item forward.  
24 Is there a motion?  
25 MR. STRINGER: Motion.  
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1 MAYOR HOLLOWAY: Is there a second?  
2 MR. MCMILLAN: Second.  
3 MAYOR HOLLOWAY: Thank you very much.  
4 With the clerk please take the vote?  
5 CLERK BUCHANAN: Office of the Mayor?  
6 MR. GELLER: Yes.  
7 CLERK BUCHANAN: Comptroller?  
8 MS. BUDZIK: Yes.  
9 CLERK BUCHANAN: Corporation Counsel?  
10 MR. FRIEDMAN: Yes.  
11 CLERK BUCHANAN: Office of Management  
12 and Budget?  
13 MS. URBANSKI: Yes.  
14 CLERK BUCHANAN: President, Borough of  
15 The Bronx?  
16 MR. RODRIGUEZ: Yes.  
17 CLERK BUCHANAN: President, Borough of  
18 Brooklyn?  
19 MR. OTONNO: Here.  
20 CLERK BUCHANAN: President, Borough of  
21 Manhattan?  
22 MR. STRINGER: Here.  
23 CLERK BUCHANAN: President, Borough of  
24 Queens?  
25 MR. MCMILLAN: Yes.  
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1 CLERK BUCHANAN: President, Borough of  
2 Staten Island?  
3 MR. COVINO: Yes.  
4 CLERK BUCHANAN: The resolution is  
5 adopted. That concludes the calendar. Thank you  
6 very much.  
7 MAYOR HOLLOWAY: Thank you very much.  
8 This meeting is adjourned.  
9 (Time noted: 2:58 p.m.)  
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C E R T I F I C A T I O N

I, MONIQUE CABRERA, a Shorthand Reporter and a Notary Public, do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and accurate transcription of my stenographic notes.

I further certify that I am not employed by nor related to any party to this action.

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MONIQUE CABRERA,  
Shorthand Reporter