



## **Minutes for the June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026 Hearing of the Commission on Government Efficiency**

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Commission on Government Efficiency (COGE) was held at New York Law School, at 185 W Broadway, New York at 5pm on June 9<sup>th</sup>, 2026.

Chair Gaspard called the meeting to order at approximately 5:20pm. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Emma Wolfe, Vice Chair
- Susan Kang, Secretary
- Henry Garrido
- Barika X. Williams
- Kathryn Wylde
- Carlina Rivera
- Kapil Longani
- Ruth Messinger
- Theodore Moore
- Ana Olivera
- Esther Rosario
- Marc V. Shaw

Chair Patrick Gaspard introduced the Commission and the focus of the meeting. Henry Garrido moved to approve minutes from the Kickoff Meeting, Ruth Messinger seconded, and all Commissioners approved the motion.

The Chair opened the floor for testimony, limited to three minutes per speaker.

- Tim Tompkins testified about the importance of public investment in public space and developing neighborhood-differentiation in MMR data.
- Jackson Chabot of Open Plans testified on streamlining outdoor dining.

- Susan Lee testified in favor of open primaries.
- Melanie Wessock testified in favor of open primaries.
- Jeffery Aron testified in favor of open primaries.
- Michael Hickey from Citizens NYC testified in favor of flexible payments to non-profits and procurement reform.
- Sam Panuccio testified in favor of open primaries and the importance of unions.
- Stacey Chametznik testified in favor of open primaries.
- Maria Danzilo of One City Rising testified in favor of open primaries.
- Michael Piccirillo of New York City District Council of Carpenters testified in favor of using unions for building.
- Bill Murray from the American Council of Engineering Companies of New York (ACEC New York) testified on procurement reform and the importance of speeding up OMB approval.
- Taylor Palmer from the American Council of Engineering Companies of New York (ACEC New York) testified on the importance of expedient contract approvals.
- Charles Diamond testified in favor of comprehensive procurement reform, advanced public procurement planning, and planning for emergency contracts.
- Robert Brunotte of LiUNA Local 79 Representative testified in favor of on-time payments and not cutting corners.
- Martha Snow of the Urban Design Forum testified in favor activating public space through clarifying permitting reforms, giving DOT grant-making authority, and making civil service more flexible.
- Devon Lomax DC9 Painters & Allied Trades testified on the importance of expanding apprenticeships and using union labor.
- Fabien Levy testified in favor of open primaries.
- Diego Opperman of the Iron Workers Local 40 testified on the importance of spending the City's entire allotted capital budget and streamlining the budget process.
- Councilmember Gale Brewer testified on reducing DDC administrative costs and funding for the public realm.
- Craig Covil of the Design Build Institute of America testified on the importance of design build contracts and having decisions be made lower in the agency hierarchy.
- Tristan Louis testified on procurement for digital infrastructure and the difference between procurement via capital expenditure vs. operational expenses.
- Nick Guargiglia of the NY Offshore Wind Alliance advocated in favor of offshore wind production and greater State coordination.
- Andrea Harris spoke in favor of open primaries.
- Ashley Roelofs of the Trust for Public Land testified on the importance of paying non-profits, building maintenance funding into capital projects, and streamlining capital process.

- Corey Hannigan of Transportation Alternatives testified in support of expedited street redesigns and revocable consent.
- Michael Grunert of Local 3 testified in favor of building with union labor.
- Bria Donohue American Institute of Architects New York (AIANY) testified in favor of expedited approval through launching a coordinated capital planning process and prioritizing qualified selection.
- Henry Sutherland of Local 3 IBEW on the importance of using the building trades to streamline building.
- Catherine Vaughan of Abundance New York on expedited permitting for housing and clean energy, consolidating building permitting within DOB, and waiving ULURP for City projects under \$5 million.
- Grace Rauh of Citizens Union testified in favor of funding and restructuring independent watchdogs.
- Christopher Loscalzo of Local 1010 LECET testified in favor of using unionized labor for roadway projects.
- Rachel Fauss of Reinvent Albany testified in support of independent budgeting for public watchdogs.
- Felice Farber of the Subcontractor Trade Association testified in narrowing the Comptroller's role in the procurement process and reforming the subcontractor approval process.
- Aaron Beinstein of Local 40 Ironworkers testified in support of labor safety for construction contracts and prevailing wage.
- Pedro Rodriguez testified in support of expedited street safety improvements and automatic enforcement.
- Marco Tang testified against standardized testing.
- Lauren Napier testified about financial and bureaucratic waste in the shelter system.
- Tricia Joyce testified on school recovery and parking issues in Lower Manhattan.
- Laeo Crnkovic-Rubsamen testified on barriers to building housing and on making DOB the single entity for permitting and inspections.

Chair Gaspard invited online attendees to submit written public comment. After hearing from members of the public, Chair Gaspard announced the date and time of the next hearing and closed the public comment portion of the meeting.

The meeting was adjourned on motion by the Chair, seconded by Barika Williams, and passed unanimously.

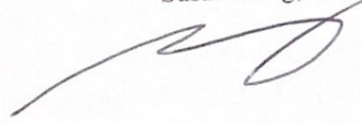
Respectfully submitted,

Solomon Medintz

New York City Commission on Government Efficiency

**Adopted:**

Susan Kang, Secretary

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Susan Kang', written over a faint horizontal line.

NYC Commission on  
Government Efficiency (COGE)