



## **Minutes for the July 8<sup>th</sup>, 2026, Hearing of the Commission on Government Efficiency**

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Commission on Government Efficiency was held at the Riverside Church at 490 Riverside Dr in Manhattan at 5:00pm on July 8<sup>th</sup> 2026.

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

- Patrick Gaspard, Chair
- Emma Wolfe, Vice Chair
- Susan Kang, Secretary
- Marco A. Carrión
- Dawn Pinnock
- Esther Rosario
- Barika Williams
- Ana Olivera
- Kapil Longani
- Henry Garrido
- Kathryn Wylde
- Theodore Moore
- Carline Rivera on Zoom
- Ruth Messinger on Zoom
- Marc Shaw on Zoom

Vice Chair Wolfe motioned to approve the minutes from the Commission's June 30, 2026 and July 1, 2026 public hearings. Commissioner Longani seconded the motion, and it was approved unanimously. The Chair opened the floor for testimony, limited to three minutes per speaker.

- Comptroller Mark Levine testified in favor of adopting charter amendments related to deposits to and withdrawals from the City's Rainy Day Fund, and in favor of implementing guidelines on the scope and timing of withdrawals.

- Public Advocate Jumaane Williams testified in favor giving the Office of the Public Advocate subpoena power in order to fulfill its Charter-mandated responsibility in Section 1109, in favor of the Department of Investigation's proposals shared with the Commission at the June 30, 2026 public hearing, and in favor of independent funding for the Commission on Public Information and Communications.
- Meisha Smith, Deputy Manhattan Borough President, testified in favor of consolidating permitting for housing construction, allowing DOB to amend the building code through rule-making, allowing DCAS to dispose of properties with more flexibility, speeding up procurement, and amending the way that Borough Presidents allocate capital funding.
- Department of Buildings Commissioner Ahmed Tigani testified in favor of consolidating waterfront permitting within DOB, allowing DOB to amend the building code through rulemaking, and expanding the number of DOB approvers for construction projects.
- Seth Bynum from the Office of the Deputy Mayor for Housing and Planning presented on the recommendations from the Streamlining Procedures to Expedite Equitable Development ("SPEED") Report.
- Samuel Eluto testified in favor of adding flexibility to city construction contracts and time extension procedures, and to reconvene the Mayoral Capital Process Reform Task Force.
- Michael Piccirillo testified on the dangers of streamlining construction processes at the expense of safety, and in favor of requiring that subcontractors are visible on the DOB Now portal.
- Bob Aveltrone testified about how to streamline processes without compromising safety.
- Tom Harris, President of the Times Square Alliance, testified in favor of moving pedicab oversight from DCWP to TLC, expanding multi-disciplinary homeless outreach, and increasing focus on and transparency into the resolutions of 311 complaints.
- Andrew Rein, President of the Citizens Budget Commission testified in favor of mandatory formula-driven submissions to the Rainy Day Fund, only permitting withdrawals from the Rainy Day fund in specific contexts, only permitting withdrawals up to 2/3 of the fund, and identifying a target level for the Rainy Day Fund.
- Bruce Baker testified about the challenges charter schools face.
- Katrina Long testified in favor of funding the Paraprofessional Respect Check.
- Emily Jacobi of Transportation Alternatives testified in favor of accelerating development of safety redesigns.
- Dr. Camelia Tepelus testified in favor of improving public space through BIDs.
- Servia Silva testified about the challenges home care providers face in getting compensated for their work, and the inefficiencies of DOE IT contracts.
- Michael Riley testified about the lack of parking and fake placard enforcement.
- Jessie Fields testified in favor of open primaries.
- Michelle Knappe testified in favor of open primaries.

- Hindy Schachter of Families for Safe Streets testified in favor of expedited street safety redesigns.
- Damien Glasser testified in favor of expedited street safety redesigns on Canal Street.
- Patrick Hall testified in favor of accountable parking enforcement by protecting commercial loading zones and creating a clear reporting pathway for blocked loading zones.
- Hayden Brockett of the Citizens Air Complaint Program testified about the importance of citizen reporting by creating a Department of Civilian Enforcement.
- Jeremiah Bournemann testified about the challenges paraprofessionals face, and the impact on students and the public school system.
- Suzanne Ventura testified in favor creating the Office of Circularity to eliminate waste.
- Faiza Khalid testified about the challenges paraprofessionals face.
- George Lee testified about the mountains of paperwork New Yorkers and government officials are forced to deal with.
- Ira Gershenhorn testified about a number of proposed DOT reforms.
- Adria Quinones of MetroPlus Health testified about the challenges agencies face procuring IT infrastructure.

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 at 8:04pm. The meeting was adjourned on motion by Kathryn Wylde, seconded by Esther Rosario, and passed unanimously.

**Adopted:**

Respectfully submitted,  
Solomon Medintz



**Susan Kang, Secretary  
Commission on  
Government Efficiency**