



Charter Revision Commission

MINUTES
OF THE
2024 NEW YORK CITY
CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION



MINUTES FOR THE MAY 29, 2024 MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held in the Roosevelt House Public Policy Institute Auditorium in Manhattan, at 1:00 pm on May 30, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 1:06 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Dr. Hazel N. Dukes
- Ken Ngai
- Kyle Bragg
- Reverend Herbert Daughtry, Sr.¹
- Ruben Díaz Jr.
- Lorraine Grillo
- Christopher B. Lynch²
- Stephanie McGraw
- Max Rose
- Jackie Rowe-Adams
- Bishop Gerald G. Seabrooks
- Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz

¹ Not present during motion to confirm Resolutions No. 1 - 3

² Not present during motion to confirm Resolutions No. 1 - 3

Upon motion by Chair Scissura as seconded by Vice-Chair Dukes, the following resolutions were considered:

Resolution No. 1

Resolution of the Charter Revision Commission to designate staff and establish authority to conduct business of the Commission.

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2024, the Mayor of the City of New York established the Charter Revision Commission pursuant to sections 36(4) and 36(6)(d) of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of New York has appointed thirteen individuals to serve as the New York City Charter Revision Commission (hereafter “the Commission”) pursuant to Section 36(4) of the Municipal Home Rule Law; and

WHEREAS, this Resolution is intended to promote the effective functioning of the Commission as it undertakes its mandate of reviewing the New York City Charter in its entirety; and

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Commission hereby appoints Diane Savino as Executive Director of the Commission and Edward Kiernan as General Counsel of the Commission;

And may it be further RESOLVED, that consistent with section 36 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, the Executive Director shall have the power to conduct the day-to-day business of the Commission, including but not limited to the authority to enter contracts on behalf of the commission, appoint and remove staff, fix their compensation, and establish policies and procedures for staff necessary to ensure the professional and orderly conduct of the staff’s work;

And may it be further RESOLVED, that the Executive Director may request and accept any and all services, facilities, materials, data or funds on behalf of the Commission in accordance with Municipal Home Rule Law § 36;

And may it be further RESOLVED, that the Commission delegates to the Chair, who may further delegate duties to the Executive Director, the power to take all steps necessary, consistent with any actions taken by the Commission, to ensure that the Commission meet as appropriate, including scheduling and providing notice of meetings and hearings, and preparing and distributing agendas and determining the order of business for meetings and hearings.

Dated: May 29, 2024

Confirmed by a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Resolution No. 2

Resolution of the Charter Revision Commission establishing an order of succession to the Chair.

WHEREAS, on May 22, 2024, the Mayor of the City of New York established the Charter Revision Commission pursuant to sections 36(4) and 36(6)(d) of the Municipal Home Rule Law of the State of New York; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor of the City of New York has designated Carlo Scissura to serve as Chair of the Commission, Hazel Dukes to serve as Vice-Chair of the Commission, and Kenneth Ngai to serve as Secretary of the Commission.

WHEREAS, this Resolution is intended to ensure continuity of operations of the Charter Revision Commission in the absence of the Chair; and

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the Commission hereby designates Vice-Chair Hazel Dukes to act in place of the Chair should he be unable to execute the duties of his office;

And may it be further RESOLVED, that should the Chair be unable to execute the duties of his office, Vice Chair Hazel Dukes shall assume all the duties and responsibilities of the Chair until a new Chair is designated by the Mayor consistent with Section 36 of the Municipal Home Rule Law or the term of the Charter Revision Commission concludes.

Dated: May 29, 2024

Confirmed by a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Resolution No. 3

Resolution of the Charter Revision Commission to allow remote participation by Commissioners with an extraordinary circumstance.

WHEREAS, pursuant to section 103-a of the Public Officers Law, the Charter Revision commission (“Commission”) held a public meeting on May 29, 2024, at which it considered the adoption of a resolution to allow certain use of videoconferencing to conduct its meetings pursuant to the requirements of Article 7 of the Public Officers Law (also known as the Open Meetings Law); and

WHEREAS, remote participation in Commission hearings and meetings offers flexibility to Commissioners and benefits the public by enabling greater participation in the hearing and meeting process.

Now, therefore, be it RESOLVED that the use of limited videoconferencing to conduct meetings of the Commission is hereby authorized in conformance with the requirements of the Open Meetings Law and this Resolution;

THAT a minimum number of commissioners sufficient to constitute a quorum of the Commission, shall be present in a physical location or locations where the public can attend in person; and

THAT where a quorum of Commissioners is physically present at a Commission hearing or meeting where the public can attend in person, any Commissioner not needed to fulfill the Commission's quorum requirement may attend and participate in such hearing or meeting by videoconference from any location, and without providing access to members of the public to such location, provided that such commissioner is unable to physically attend the meeting due to extraordinary circumstances, which include disability, illness, caregiving responsibilities, and any other significant or unexpected event that precludes the Commissioner's physical attendance at such meeting; and

THAT a Commissioner participating in a meeting by videoconference shall be capable of being seen, heard and identified while the open portion of such meeting is occurring; and

THAT where a videoconferencing is used to conduct a meeting of the Commission, members of the public may view Commission hearings and meetings by video or attend in person, except where the Commission is in executive session; and

THAT when videoconferencing is used to conduct a public hearing, members of the public may participate in person, by videoconference, or by any other remote means established by the Commission; and

THAT any Commissioner wanting to participate in a meeting or hearing of the Commission by videoconference shall, prior to such meeting or hearing, notify the Executive Director of such commissioner's intent to do so and obtain their consent there; and

THAT the authorization described in this Resolution applies also to meetings of committees and subcommittees of the Commission. This Resolution shall take effect on May 30, 2024.

Dated: May 29, 2024

Confirmed by a vote of 11 in favor, 0 opposed, and 0 abstentions.

Upon adoption of the resolutions, introductions of the Commissioners were made.

Alex Kipp of the New York City Conflicts of Interests Board presented on the ethics obligations of serving as Commissioners to the New York City Charter Revision Commission.

Rachel Kane and Benjamin Miller of the New York City Law Department summarized the history of the New York City Charter and outlined the responsibilities of the Commission.

A motion was made by Chair Scissura to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rowe-Adams and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 2:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ivy Chiu
Special Counsel
New York City Charter Revision Commission



MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 5, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the 2024 New York City Charter Revision Commission was held at Queens Borough Hall in Queens, New York at 10:00 a.m. on June 5, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 10:01 a.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Dr. Hazel N. Dukes¹
- Ken Ngai²
- Kyle Bragg
- Reverend Herbert Daughtry, Sr.
- Ruben Díaz Jr.
- Lorraine Grillo
- Stephanie McGraw
- Max Rose³
- Jackie Rowe-Adams
- Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz⁴

The Chair acknowledged the presence of a quorum. Introductions of the commissioners present were made.

¹ Attended via teleconference

² Attended via teleconference

³ Attended via teleconference

⁴ Attended via teleconference

The Commission held a public hearing during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter.

Irak Cehonski, Director of Budget of the Queens Borough President's Office, urged the Commission to review the borough budget allocation formula under Section 102 of the Charter to ensure more equitable funding to Queens—the fastest growing borough.

Danielle Brecker, a member of Community Board 2 Queens, testified on the need for Community Boards to have the ability to enter binding agreements with developers seeking community board approval. Breckler noted that community boards currently lack the ability to effectively require developers to include affordable housing and other community amenities in proposed developments.

Yiatin Chu testified (1) in opposition to the current mandate for City Council advice and consent on various mayoral appointments; (2) in support of open primaries because the current closed system effectively dilutes the Asian electorate vote, many of whom are unaffiliated with a political party; and (3) in opposition to portions of Department of City Planning's proposed City of Yes initiative, which fails to adequately address local community concerns.

Lauretta Humphrey testified on the need for additional funds to support infrastructure needs, especially current issues associated with the rising water table in Queens. She also opposes current tax moratoriums for private developers.

Frank Morano testified in favor of non-partisan elections, asking that they be presented to the public for referendum.⁵ He argued New York City has historically held non-partisan elections

⁵ Testified remotely

and comparable jurisdictions in California and Chicago have successfully held non-partisan elections.

Kimberley Comes testified in support of additional funding for infrastructure concerns, specifically to address flooding concerns in Far Rockaway.

Sherif (no last name provided) testified in support of the proposal for open primaries because current unaffiliated voters like himself lack an effective voice in the current electoral system. He also testified on the need for infrastructure spending amid frustration with current traffic and parking concerns in Queens.⁶

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Chair closed the public hearing portion of the meeting. A motion was made by Chair Scissura to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioners Grillo and Rowe-Adams and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commissioners present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 10:56 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ivy Chiu
Special Counsel
New York City Charter Revision Commission

⁶ Testified remotely



MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 6, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the 2024 New York City Charter Revision Commission was held at Staten Island Borough Hall in Staten Island, New York at 10:00 a.m. on June 6, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Dr. Hazel N. Dukes¹
- Ken Ngai
- Kyle Bragg
- Reverend Herbert Daughtry, Sr.²
- Ruben Díaz Jr.
- Lorraine Grillo
- Christopher B. Lynch³
- Stephanie McGraw⁴
- Max Rose
- Jackie Rowe-Adams
- Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz⁵

¹ Attended via teleconference

² Attended via teleconference

³ Attended via teleconference

⁴ Attended via teleconference

⁵ Attended via teleconference

The Chair acknowledged the presence of a quorum. Introductions of the Commissioners present were made. The Chair announced upcoming hearings will be held on Thursday, June 13th at New York Law School in Manhattan and Monday, June 24th at Curtis High School in Staten Island.

The Commission held a public hearing during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter.

Daniel L. Master, Jr., Legal Counsel to the Staten Island Borough President, proposed requiring local laws with fiscal impact statements to include a statement of compliance with the “fair share” provision of the Charter (see Charter Section 203). The additional statement of compliance would encourage consideration of a local law’s impact on the community and encourage a more equitable distribution of each borough’s share of the burdens and benefits of city facilities.

New York State Assemblyman Michael Tannousis of District 64 proposed requiring public hearings for public safety local laws to meaningfully engage agencies and communities on local laws’ proposed impact.⁶

Frank Morano argued for non-partisan elections to be presented to the electorate for referendum. He argued non-partisan elections lead to greater voter turnout and public cost savings. Commissioners Ruben Díaz Jr., Kyle Bragg, and Max Rose commented on the advantages and disadvantages of non-partisan elections. The Chair requested additional expert testimony at future hearings.

⁶ Testified remotely

Ann Marie Akash testified on the Human Resources Administration's (HRA) implementation of the CityFHEPS ("City Fighting Homelessness and Eviction Prevention Supplement") program.

Mona Davids testified (1) on behalf of the New York City School Safety Coalition that under the current voting system City Council members are voted in with less than 5% of registered Democrats and consequently do not adequately represent the community interests; (2) in opposition to the City Council's proposal to require advice and consent on various mayoral appointments on behalf of the New York City Parents Union; and (3) in opposition to the rollout of ranked choice voting in her personal capacity because it did not appear to increase voter turnout in her district.

New York City Council Member Joann Ariola of District 32 opposed City Council partisanship in public safety laws.⁷

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Chair closed the public hearing. A motion was made by Chair Scissura to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioners Bragg, Grillo, and Rowe-Adams and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:28 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ivy Chiu
Special Counsel
New York City Charter Revision Commission

⁷ Testified remotely



MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 13, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held in New York Law School in Manhattan, at 5:00 p.m. on June 13, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 5:15 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Dr. Hazel N. Dukes
- Ken Ngai¹
- Kyle Bragg
- Christopher B. Lynch
- Stephanie McGraw
- Max Rose
- Jackie Rowe-Adams

The Chair acknowledged the presence of a quorum. Introductions of the commissioners present were made. The Chair announced upcoming hearings in the Bronx on June 17, 2024 and in Brooklyn on June 20, 2024.

The Commission held a public forum during which it heard testimony from experts as well as members of the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter regarding fiscal responsibility and other topics members

¹ Attended via teleconference.

of the public wished to raise. Throughout the hearing, the Commissioners asked periodically for details and clarification on the testimony provided.

Kathy Wylde, President of the Partnership for NYC, commented on fiscally responsible practices that could alleviate the housing affordability crisis.

NYS Assemblymember Deborah J. Glick commented on the nature of the charter commission process and the housing crisis, which she views as the City's biggest issue.

James Bristow of the Office of Management and Budget and Matt Penfold of the Department of Finance described the respective roles of their agencies in promoting fiscal management and responsibility.

Louisa Chafee, Director of the Independent Budget Office shared ideas to improve fiscal responsibility with improved transparency and time limits on emergency contracts.

Richard (Bo) Dietl argued that City Council was impeding effective policing, and the Commission should give power back to the Mayor.

Andrew Rein of the Citizens Budget Commission made recommendations for fiscal integrity regarding the Rainy Day Fund, the Retiree Health Benefits Trust, local legislation, budgeting accuracy, debt service costs, performance management, and resident feedback. On the same panel, Edmund McMahon of the Empire Center for Public Policy made recommendations regarding local legislation, the Mayor's financial plan and prohibitions on the use of long-term borrowing.

Mitchell Moss, the Henry Hart Rice Professor of Urban Policy and Planning at New York University, made recommendations regarding prudent spending.

City Comptroller Brad Lander spoke about proposals previously submitted to the Commission in writing regarding Rainy Day fund policy, a City savings program, debt affordability, infrastructure and capital planning, and late payment of vendors.

City Council Member Gale Brewer appeared via Zoom to thank the Commission and say that she would testify at a later date.

Barbara Blair of the Garment District Alliance commented via Zoom regarding the fair share laws.

Erica Vladimir commented on the CCRB's budget, an independent investigatory body for harassment claims against elected and appointed officials, and succession of the Mayor.

Jeanne Victor of the Equal Employment Practices Commission suggested proposals regarding the fiscal independence of EEPC, additional enforcement measures for the EEPC, and EEPC's jurisdiction.

Howard Slatkin of the Citizens Housing & Planning Council testified regarding an idea to make the housing budget go further.

David Schwartz of the NY Association of Wholesalers and Distributors commented about the illegal trafficking and sale of untaxed cigarettes.

Layla Law-Gisiko of City Club of New York proposed that registered lobbyists be prohibited from appointments to task forces, working groups and boards of the City.

Ben Tucker of YAFFED testified about improvement to the quality of education at failing Yeshivas.

Goran Svorcan proposed the banning of private parks.

Tiffany Fulton of Silent Voices United, Inc. and C3 testified about youth services.

Frank Morano testified via Zoom about non-partisan elections and the absence of a partisan label on the ballot.

Andrea Gordillo on behalf of CB3 testified about formalizing support for community boards and funding for urban planners to support ULURP responsibilities and condemned the 60-day limitation on shelter stays for families of public school students; she advocated for waiving such rule for asylum-seeker families.

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Chair closed the public hearing portion of the meeting. A motion was made by Chair Scissura to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGraw and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Sabrina Hassan
Deputy General Counsel
New York City Charter Revision Commission



MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 17, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held in NYC Health+Hospitals/Lincoln Hospital in the Bronx, at 5:00 p.m. on June 17, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 5:20 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Dr. Hazel N. Dukes
- Ken Ngai¹
- Kyle Bragg
- Christopher B. Lynch²
- Stephanie McGraw
- Jackie Rowe-Adams

Introductions of the commissioners present were made.

The Commission held a public forum during which it heard testimony from experts concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter regarding government and election reform. The Commission then heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter.

Rafael Salamanca, Councilmember for the 17th District and Chair of the Land Use Committee, urged the Commission to amend the City Charter to grant sanitation police

¹ Attended via teleconference.

² Attended via teleconference.

enforcement authority on all city-owned land to combat illegal dumping. He emphasized that this change would greatly increase quality of life for New York citizens. Commissioner Rowe-Adams asked for Mr. Salamanca's input on land-use. Mr. Salamanca emphasized there is a need for affordable housing.

Susan Lerner, Executive Director of Common Cause NYC and Chair of Rank the Vote NYC, testified on election reform options such as open primaries or partially closed primaries that would allow unaffiliated voters to participate in primary elections, but suggested the Charter Revision Commission defer election reform to a later commission due to time constraints. She also voiced support for ranked choice voting and consolidating elections to even numbered years. Commissioner Bragg agreed there is a need to increase voter turnout. Chair Scissura noted any election reform may involve state and federal issues.

Ben Weinberg, Director of Public Policy at Citizens Union, recommended amending the Charter to establish minimum timelines for future Charter Revision Commissions. Weinberg also expressed support for ranked choice voting, consolidating elections to even-numbered years to address racial age gaps and achieve cost savings, and open primaries to allow unaffiliated voters to vote in primary elections to increase voter turnout.

John Ketcham, Legal Policy Fellow and Director of Cities Policy at the Manhattan Institute, testified on election reform options and expressed support for ranked choice voting. He suggested retaining party names on the ballot and allowing endorsements to appear alongside candidate names. Additionally, he testified to require the Comptroller to publish emergency procurements for review.

Mona Davids testified in opposition of ranked choice voting in City Council elections and the expansion of City Council's advice and consent over mayoral appointments. She also called

for the removal of the Public Advocate's office, citing cost concerns, and advocated for increased police presence to enhance public safety in the Bronx.

Melissa Mark-Viverito, former City Council Speaker, testified in support of ranked choice voting, stating that it significantly increased voter turnout and diversity in representation.³

Frank Morano testified in support of ranked choice voting and recommended expanding it to general elections. He also suggested eliminating the signature requirement for candidates to get on the ballot and instead proposed requiring a filing fee of 1% of the salaried office position.⁴

Claire Stottlemeyer, an attorney for the Legal Aid Society, testified on the need to increase voting participation among incarcerated individuals to allow them a full and fair opportunity to vote.⁵ She proposed establishing voting sites in all New York jails and amending section 1057(a) to address the needs of incarcerated individuals by ensuring timely submission of voter registration forms.

Lena Cohen, Senior Manager of United Neighborhood, testified in support of the need to improve the City's human services program contract procurement process. She proposed amending the Charter to set timeframes for each phase of the procurement process to ensure timely payment to non-profits and continued services to all New York citizens in need. She also testified in support of ranked choice voting stating it increased voter turnout.⁶

Gloria Kim, testified on the need to enhance the contracting services process for human service program contracts. She proposed setting timelines for the Procurement Policy Board and mandating that they publish reports for increased transparency. She also urged the Commission to

³ Testified remotely

⁴ Testified remotely

⁵ Testified remotely

⁶ Testified remotely

grant MOCS authority over agency contracts, and to allow vendors to collect interest from the City for payment delays under City contracts.⁷

Pedro Suarez testified in support of the even distribution of methadone clinics throughout the boroughs, and empowering communities to have greater control over the organizations and businesses permitted in their areas.⁸ He also testified to address the issue of unlicensed street vendors, urging the Commission to determine accountability for the unsustainable number of unlicensed vendors, and possibly providing guidance for the vendors to obtain licenses.

Roxanne Delgado, member of Community Board 11, testified in support of increased police presence to enhance public safety and called for the removal of the Public Advocate's office.⁹ She urged the Commission to consider non-partisan elections or to expand ranked choice voting to general elections. Additionally, she proposed allowing the District Managers of Community Boards to be elected by the public rather than by the board alone, arguing that this would improve accountability and representation.

Michael Darryl-Torres testified against City Council's advice and consent over mayoral appointments and against further curtailment of executive power.

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Chair closed the public hearing portion of the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamza Suhail
New York City Charter Revision Commission

⁷ Testified remotely

⁸ Testified remotely

⁹ Testified remotely



MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 20, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held in the FDNY Headquarters in Brooklyn, at 5:00 p.m. on June 20, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 5:13 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Ken Ngai
- Kyle Bragg
- Reverend Herbert Daughtry, Sr.
- Christopher B. Lynch¹
- Stephanie McGraw
- Max Rose²
- Jackie Rowe-Adams³

Introductions of the commissioners present were made.

The Commission held a public forum during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter regarding public safety. Throughout the hearing, the Commissioners asked periodically for details and clarification on the testimony provided.

¹ Attended by teleconference

² Attended by teleconference

³ Attended by teleconference

- Antonio Reynoso, Borough President of Brooklyn, testified on the importance of citywide comprehensive planning in enhancing public safety. He proposed a future land use map that goes beyond zoning and considers multiple factors as a growth and retention strategy, because the current zoning map is insufficient to demonstrate how New York City can accommodate future growth. Antonio Reynoso also proposed establishing a new office to support community board operations in carrying out their Charter mandated duties. Chair Scissura inquired about the proposed structure of the new community board office and potential changes to the appointment process. Reynoso responded that the new office would function as a back office independent of the borough president's office.
- Howard Singer, Deputy Chief of Staff at the New York City Department of Corrections (DOC), testified in support of including sunset clauses in all reporting bills to eliminate outdated reports. He also advocated for the use of gender-neutral language throughout the Charter, suggesting terms like "prisoner" and "inmate" be replaced. Mr. Singer further suggested adding a new section to the Charter provisions governing the DOC by requiring the City Council Speaker to seek input from DOC on any relevant legislation before they are introduced.
- Jason Shelly, Assistant Commissioner for External Affairs at the FDNY, in his testimony to the Commission expressed concern over resources being diverted to new reporting obligations at the expense of FDNY's need to prioritize actual emergencies. Mr. Shelly also called for gender-neutral language within the FDNY section of the Charter. Chair Scissura asked if gender-neutral terms could be

implemented through legislation by the City Council as an alternative approach to amending the Charter by referendum⁴.

- Bob Barrows, Deputy Commissioner of Strategic Initiatives at the NYPD, testified on the necessity of increased public input on bills concerning public safety. He proposed (1) allowing more public input on bills that implicated public safety; (2) encouraging lawmakers to engage directly with the agency the proposed bill impacted, and (3) a greater investigation of the financial impact of such bills. Deputy Commissioner Barrows also highlighted the strain on resources due to extensive reporting obligations and suggested that only critical reports should be required.
- Carolina Chavez, First Deputy Director of the Mayor's Office of Criminal Justice (MOCJ), testified in support of greater public involvement in the legislative process for bills regarding public safety. She emphasized the need for increased agency input to enhance transparency, protect integrity, and build public trust. Chair Scissura asked if Council Members with legislative ideas should approach the Commissioner of the respective agency or if the Commissioner should approach the council members with new ideas. Jason Shelly, Assistant Commissioner for External Affairs at the FDNY, opined that the respective agency should be consulted before legislation is passed.
- Public Advocate Jumaane Williams testified in support of the City Council's role in the advice and consent process and called for independent funding for the Commission on Public Information and Communication (COPIC). He proposed

⁴ New York City Council General Counsel Jason Otano, in attendance, noted that a Charter modification of this nature was within the City Council's jurisdiction.

granting subpoena power to the Public Advocate and establishing charter mandated office to manage a multi-agency rapid response for school shootings. Each agency would have a dedicated contact to respond and engage with the community and schools after NYPD pulls back. He also expressed a need for a plan in place to determine and solve the causes of the school-shootings, with an ultimate future goal of gradually decreasing NYPD dependance and presence in schools. Public Advocate Jumanne Williams also proposed removing school public safety responsibilities from the NYPD. Commissioner Bragg agreed with Commissioner Rowe-Adams that increasing public safety is a collective effort but disagreed with removing policing infrastructure from schools.

- Council Member Lincoln Restler testified on the short timeframe of the Charter Revision Commission and proposed either narrowing the Commission's scope or extending the timeline to the 2025 ballot. Council Member Restler testified in support of ranked-choice voting and suggested establishing an independent office to investigate sexual harassment claims within the City. Council Member Restler also called for a two-year lobbying ban on elected officials and agency heads after leaving office and supported adding more mayoral appointments to the advice and consent of the City Council.
- Patrick Hendry, President of the NYPD Police Benevolent Association, testified in support of increased public input and mandating public hearings in each borough on legislation affecting public safety. He called for strengthening due process for officers especially in processes before the Civilian Complaint Review Board (CCRB).

- Jim Brosi, President of the Uniformed Fire Officers Association, emphasized the need for more stakeholder input on public safety legislation. He raised concerns about the burden of paperwork and reporting requirements on resources and called for zoning provisions to address NYPD and FDNY needs in providing emergency services.
- Benny Boscio, President of the Correction Officers' Benevolent Association, in his testimony, expressed concerns about excessive blame placed on corrections officers. He advocated for more agency input before passing new legislation affecting corrections and suggested creating a dedicated panel of correction policy experts and field personnel for regular briefings with Council Members. Mr. Boscio opposed the ban on punitive segregation, citing safety concerns, and opposed unrestrained prisoner transport.
- Andrew Quinn, General Counsel for the Sergeants Benevolent Association NYPD, testified in support of mandating public and agency input before passing legislation concerning public safety and departmental policies. He raised concerns about hiring and retaining experienced officers, blaming City Council legislation for damaging morale through legislation such as the "How Many Stops Act" and the Diaphragm Compression Bill.
- Robert Camacho, Chair of Community Board 4, testified in support of holding city agencies more accountable and called for increased community input. He emphasized the need to support the NYPD in performing their duties.

- Hailey Nolasco, Director of Government Relations for the Center for Justice Innovation, testified on the input from community boards and non-profits in the legislative process for public safety bills, including.
- Hailey Gorenberg, testified in support of a charter mandate to preserve and expand urban green space, expressing concerns about paving for a sports complex in Mount Prospect Park.
- Paulette Healy, testified in support of creating a commission for people with disabilities, stating the current offices lacked the resources to accommodate the needs of disabled individuals. She cited concerns about the absence of NYPD training to identify people with disabilities.
- Dr. Kim Best, 79th Precinct Community Council President, testified in support of the need for more community input to ensure transparency and understanding of neighborhood-specific needs.
- Minister Sherrani Perri, in her testimony, called for more jobs, afterschool, and summer programs to enhance public safety, stating that economics can solve community issues. Commissioner Bragg agreed with creating more opportunities for younger individuals to help keep them off the streets and out of trouble.
- John Riccotone, First Vice President of the Community Education Council District 20 of Brooklyn, testified in support of more public input on public safety bills.⁵ He called for more public safety legislation by the City Council and criticized the COVID-19 vaccine mandate as unlawful and a cause for departures of needed police officers. He further criticized bail reform, stating that it caused violent felons

⁵ Testified remotely

to be released from prison and proposed mandating a ride-along for each elected official. Lastly, Riccatone was against removing metal detectors from schools and voiced strong support for the NYPD.

- Amaury Dujardin, Policy Manager at Citizens Union, testified on the timeline of the CRC, and suggested working past the deadline or not making any major changes to the Charter.⁶ He stated that the appointment of the Police Commissioner should be subject to the advice and consent of the City Council. He opposed the proposal for lengthy public review on public safety regulations.
- Natasha Duncan, in her testimony, expressed concerns on the Commission's timeline and process.⁷ She called for increased police accountability.
- Yiatin Chu testified in support of the repeal of the "How Many Stops Act", stating only the Mayor and Police Commissioner should have the authority to dictate public safety laws.⁸ She also proposed eliminating the Public Advocate's office, emphasized the need for more school safety agents, and called for ending New York City's sanctuary city status.
- Amit Pratap Shah, Member of Community Board 6, testified in support of increasing public input on public safety regulations to enhance transparency.⁹ He further suggested extending the public testimony time to allow the public to fully express their concerns.

⁶ Testified remotely

⁷ Testified remotely

⁸ Testified remotely

⁹ Testified remotely

- Jean Han testified in support of putting up referendum the reinstatement of a masking requirement in public gatherings.¹⁰ She opposed New York City’s sanctuary city status and criticized the “How Many Stops Act” as ineffective and detrimental to public safety. Lastly, Han proposed eliminating the Public Advocate’s office.
- Samy Feliz, in his testimony, expressed concerns on the Commission’s timeline and process.¹¹ He voiced support for the “How Many Stops Act” and stated that there needed to be more transparency and accountability in the NYPD.
- Maria Danzilo testified in support of recommending specific qualifications and term limits for community board members.¹² She also stated Council Members with conflicts of interest should not be able to write legislation.
- Donghui Zang, testified in support of the repeal of the “How Many Stops Act” and New York City’s sanctuary city status.¹³ He voiced support for the NYPD and stated that they needed to dedicate resources to actual emergencies and not paperwork.
- Mona Davids, Founder and President of the New York Charter Parents Association and the New York City Parents Union, testified in support of funding the NYPD and called for the repeal of the “How Many Stops Act”.¹⁴ She further opposed advice and consent, stating only the Mayor and the Police Commissioner should dictate police policy.

¹⁰ Testified remotely

¹¹ Testified remotely

¹² Testified remotely

¹³ Testified remotely

¹⁴ Testified remotely

- Minister Irene Estrade testified on the importance of supporting the NYPD and stated that only the Mayor and Police Commissioner should write police policy with no input from the City Council.¹⁵ She supported removing the Public Advocate's office and increased accountability for community board leaders.
- Christopher Leon Johnson proposed eliminating the Public Advocate's office, repealing the "How Many Stops Act" through a November 2025 ballot initiative, and repealing New York City's sanctuary city status. He also testified on the need for increased safety measures for corrections officers and proposed repealing the Humane Alternatives to Long-Term Solitary Confinement (HALT) Act.
- Raul Rivera, in his testimony, criticized the lack of transparency in the City Council and called for more public input on bills affecting the public. He called for increased police funding and proposed eliminating the Public Advocate's office.
- Franscico Marte, Founder and President of the Bodega and Small Business Association, testified on the need for transparency in drafting legislation and on the need to have consequences for small crimes or theft for deterrence purposes. He opposed defunding the police.
- Vishnu Mahado testified about his concerns regarding the over-65 Medicaid law and the use of irrevocable trusts in Medicaid planning.¹⁶
- Limor Nesher testified in support of restoring the masking ban for gatherings of 50 people or more.¹⁷ She opposed New York City's sanctuary city status.

¹⁵ Testified remotely

¹⁶ Testified remotely

¹⁷ Testified remotely

- Quiann Simpkins testified in support for the NYPD and testified on the need to keep school safety agents a part of the NYPD, stating the office has been successful in increasing school safety.¹⁸ She further stated that politicians need to implement housing and community changes and called for the removal of the Public Advocate's office. Lastly, she recommended bail reform.

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Chair closed the public hearing portion of the meeting. A motion was made by Chair Scissura to adjourn. The motion was thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamza Suhail
New York City Charter Revision Commission

¹⁸ Testified remotely



MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 24, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission was held at Curtis High School in Staten Island, at 5:00 p.m. on June 24, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 5:12 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Ken Ngai
- Kyle Bragg¹
- Christopher B. Lynch
- Max Rose
- Jackie Rowe-Adams
- Dr. Hazel Dukes
- Stephanie McGraw

The Chair acknowledged the presence of a quorum. Chair Scissura made a motion to adopt the minutes of May 29th, June 5th, and June 6th meetings of the Commission. Commissioner Rose seconded the motion, which was thereafter adopted unanimously by all the Commission members present. Introductions of the commissioners present were made.

The Commission held a public forum during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New

¹ Attended via teleconference

York City Charter. The Commissioners periodically asked for clarification on the testimony presented throughout the hearing.

Vickie Palladino, Council Member for District 19, testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status for referendum on the November ballot.²

Richard Flanagan, in his testimony, recommended (1) New York City create a new position of elected vice-mayor akin to the Vice President's role at the federal level; (2) non-partisan elections at the mayoral level; and (3) direct election of community board members.

Hal Wacker testified in support of various electoral reforms including but not limited to (1) extending ranked choice voting to all elections, (2) reducing all office terms to two years, (3) eliminating district residency limitations by allowing voters to vote for candidates and sign petitions to vote for any candidate regardless of district, (4) reform campaign finance matching, and (5) revising exhausted votes in ranked choice voting.

Laura LoBianco Sword, Chair of the Staten Island Democratic Party, testified in opposition to open primaries.

Lois Giambrone testified against City of Yes implementation.

Frank Morano testified in support of proposing non-partisan elections on the general election and making all community districts coterminous with City Council districts.

Tony Carrasquillo, Stephanie Prassos, Mark Flynn, and Denise Zayas testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum.³

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Chair closed the public hearing portion of the meeting. A motion was made by Chair Scissura to

² Testified remotely

³ Testified remotely

adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Dr. Dukes and was thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamza Suhail
New York City Charter Revision Commission



MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 26, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held at the NYC Department of Design and Construction in Queens, at 5:00 p.m. on June 26, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 5:10 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Dr. Hazel N. Dukes
- Kyle Bragg
- Lorraine Grillo
- Christopher B. Lynch
- Stephanie McGraw
- Jackie Rowe-Adams

The Chair acknowledged the presence of a quorum. Introductions of the commissioners present were made. Chair Scissura made a motion to accept the recommendations of the Charter Revision Commission report as published on June 24, 2024. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grillo, and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The Commission held a public forum during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter.

Robert Holden, Council Member for the 30th District, testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum. He further testified in support of the Charter Revision Commission's preliminary report recommendations of (1) requiring fiscal impact

statements whenever legislation is passed that creates an unfunded mandate; (2) more community engagement on legislation that concerns public safety; and (3) expanding the Department of Sanitation's jurisdiction to clean and enforce sanitation laws on all city-owned land. Council Member Holden opposed the "How Many Stops Act". Commissioner Bragg inquired if the City Council could repeal New York City's sanctuary city status by legislation.

Magalie D. Austin, the Executive Deputy Commissioner of the NYC Department of Design and Construction (DDC), testified in support of establishing a separate agency for M/WBE, stating that the compliance aspect in awarding contracts should be centralized.

Michael J. Garner, Chief Business and Diversity Officer of the NYC Mayor's Office of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises, testified in support of creating a centralized agency for M/WBE, and placing that proposal on the ballot for referendum. He stated that the creation of a centralized agency would allow contracts to be awarded in a more inclusive and cost-effective manner.

Maya Powell read out a written statement by Nantasha Williams, Council Member of District 27. Council Member Williams testified that the Equal Employment Practices Commission (EEPC) needed a budget and staff increase to fulfill their charter mandated functions.

Samuel Padilla, a M/WBE contractor, testified in support of the creation of a single centralized M/WBE agency. He stated that this would enhance efficiency and accountability and centralize data collection and analysis.

Rohan Dufriedas, a M/WBE contractor, testified in support of the creation of a single centralized M/WBE agency. He stated that the current system for awarding contracts was not efficient.

Everett Perry, a M/WBE contractor, testified in support of the creation of a single centralized M/WBE agency stating that doing so would help all businesses.

Victor Trombettas testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum.

Joy Amanda testified in opposition of removing the surety bond requirement for elected officials. She further voiced her concerns about the lack of clarity as to what defines public safety legislation but agreed there needs to be more public engagement.

Alex Vega testified to (1) repeal New York City's sanctuary city status, and (2) hold a recall vote for all elected and appointed officials in New York City.

Claudine Thuilot testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum.

Joi Schlapp testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum.

Frank Morano testified in relation to his disagreement with the Preliminary Report of the Charter Revision Commission, stating that there was insufficient mention of electoral reform as a recommendation.¹ He further testified in support of the community board restructuring, requiring a filing fee for candidates to get onto the ballot, and placing non-partisan elections on the ballot for referendum.

Stephanie (no last name provided) testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum.²

Maria Danzilo testified in support of a proposal to require the Comptroller to hold an advanced degree in either finance or law and related experience as a prerequisite to assuming the

¹ Testified remotely

² Testified remotely

position.³ She further suggested tightening New York City's conflict of interest laws, so that the Comptroller has no say in who gets appointed to the Conflict of Interest Board. Lastly, she supported placing non-partisan elections on the ballot for referendum.

Special Hagan testified in support of proposals to (1) require commissioners at every agency receive performance evaluations that assess their adherence to M/WBE goals; (2) improve monitoring of the M/WBE program; and (3) enhance provisions for enforcing penalties on M/WBE contractors.⁴

Oneximo Feliz testified in support of (1) placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum, and (2) requiring the Comptroller to hold an advanced degree in finance or law.⁵

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Chair closed the public hearing portion of the meeting. A motion was made by Chair Scissura to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bragg and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamza Suhail
New York City Charter Revision Commission

³ Testified remotely

⁴ Testified remotely

⁵ Testified remotely



MINUTES FOR THE JUNE 27, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held in Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, at 5:00 p.m. on June 27, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Secretary called the meeting to order at approximately 5:10 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Ken Ngai ¹
- Kyle Bragg²
- Reverend Herbert Daughtry, Sr.
- Christopher B. Lynch
- Jackie Rowe-Adams

Introductions of the commissioners present were made.

The Commission held a public forum during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter.

Michael J. Garner, Chief Business and Diversity Officer of the NYC Mayor's Office of Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises reiterated his previous testimony about the importance of an independent centralized M/WBE agency. He stated that this would result in cost savings and the inclusive award of contracts. Commissioner Rowe-Adams inquired about the number of M/WBE companies in New York. Mr. Garner replied that there were 11,500 certified

¹ Attended virtually

² Attended virtually

companies but only 1,600 had won contracts at the prime level or were working at the subcontractor level. Commissioner Lynch also inquired about the hierarchy in the proposed M/WBE office.

Robert Holbrook, Executive Director of Get Stuff Built for the Office of the Mayor of NYC, testified in support of transferring waterfront permitting authority to the Department of Buildings, on the importance of maintaining the city's waterfront, and stated that there needed to be an efficient system for contractors to obtain all permits necessary from a single agency, as opposed to going to different agencies to obtain permits.

Ana Diaz, an M/WBE contractor, testified on her personal experience about the importance M/WBE mentorship programs and stated an independent centralized M/WBE agency can further those goals.

Barbara Blair, President of the Garment District Alliance, testified on establishing a framework of principles for fair share stating that there was a lack of centralized oversight for fair share criteria. She proposed revising the Charter to (1) require that non-profits contracted to perform city services be included and counted as a city facility; and (2) require an agency proposing a potential sighting to submit a neighborhood impact report which would demonstrate that the facilities serve the needs of the immediate geographic region, except where that need was created by the unfair over concentration of similar existing facilities by the city and state.

Daniel Golliher, Founder of Maximum New York, testified in support of a change to the title of comptroller to “Chief Financial Officer,” stating that it would help voter education and literacy.

Rodneyse Bichotte Hermelyn, Chair of the Kings County Democratic Committee, testified in support of establishing an independent centralized agency for the M/WBE and stated the

importance of having mentorship programs in every agency to increase minority and women workers in the construction field. Commissioner Rowe-Adams inquired about the outreach being done for M/WBE contractors. Chair Rodneyse stated that there was a newsletter and several forums to advocate for legislation pertaining to M/WBEs.

Kwame Amoaku, Deputy Commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Media and Entertainment (MOME), testified in favor of a proposal to amend the Charter to give MOME direct authority to issue film permits. He stated that the current system was inefficient and conflicted with administrative regulations.

Karl-Henry Cezar testified on the Charter Revision Commission's timeframe, questioning whether there was enough opportunity to solicit public engagement and whether the City had the resources to implement the Commission's recommendations.

Jarryd Rauch testified in support of increasing the Department of Sanitation's (DSNY) authority to enforce sanitation laws on all city-owned land. He stated that DSNY's authority had to be clearly defined in the Charter.

Andrea Biro testified in support of a proposal to remove the Sheriff's office from the Department of Finance. She further testified in opposition to removing the surety bond requirement and stated that elected officials should pay their own surety bonds that the public could claim against in the event of misconduct.

Mona Davids, on behalf of the School Safety Coalition, testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum.³

³ Testified remotely

Minister Irene Estrada-Rukaj testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum, and stated that police policy should only be dictated by the Mayor and the Police Commissioner, with no input from the City Council.⁴

Melkis Antigua raised concerns about issues in NYCHA apartments not being resolved.⁵ Chair Scissura referred him to the Mayor's Office of Community Affairs.

David Turner testified in favor of not putting forth anything on this year's ballot due to the short timeframe of the Charter Revision Commission.

Frank Morano testified in support of a proposal to require half of a community board's members be directly appointed by the council member and half by the borough president. He also proposed elections for a portion of community board members with defined terms in the future. He also proposed that if community boards reject a land use application that the City Planning Commission still intends to pursue, the land use application must be approved by two-thirds vote.⁶

Jay Sorid testified in support of proposals to (1) extend the deadline to submit public testimony by 30 days after community boards came back from recess; (2) hold elections for community board members instead of appointing them; (3) establish a of veto in the ULURP process; and (4) include state facilities in calculating fair share.⁷

Special Hagan testified her concerns about the fiscal outcome of centralizing the M/WBE agency and concerns about the growth of the mentorship program from its inception.⁸

Heba Khalil, Executive Director of Emgage Action's New York Chapter, testified in support of ranked choice voting and delaying electoral reform until further research is done on its

⁴ Testified remotely

⁵ Testified through a Spanish interpreter.

⁶ Testified remotely

⁷ Testified remotely

⁸ Testified remotely

effects.⁹ She stated that ranked choice voting helps with diversity, eliminates the need for runoff elections, and aligns with democratic values.

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Chair closed the public hearing portion of the meeting. A motion was made by Chair Scissura to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Rowe-Adams and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamza Suhail
New York City Charter Revision Commission

⁹ Testified remotely



MINUTES FOR THE JULY 8, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held at the Schomburg Center for Research in Black Culture in Manhattan, New York at 5:00 p.m. on July 8, 2024.

The Vice Chair, Dr. Hazel N. Dukes, presided at the meeting. The Vice Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 5:04 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Chair Carlo Scissura ¹
- Ken Ngai ²
- Kyle Bragg
- Ruben Díaz Jr.
- Lorraine Grillo
- Christopher B. Lynch
- Stephanie McGraw
- Max Rose
- Jackie Rowe-Adams

The Vice Chair acknowledged the presence of a quorum. Vice Chair Dukes made a motion to adopt the minutes of the June 13th, June 17th, June 20th, June 24th, June 26th, and June 27th

¹ Attended via teleconference

² Attended via teleconference

meetings of the Commission. Commissioner Bragg seconded the motion, which was thereafter adopted unanimously by all the Commission members present. Introductions of the commissioners present were made.

The Commission held a public hearing during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter.

Cordell Cleare, New York State Senator for District 30, testified in support of creating a centralized M/WBE agency, affordable housing and proposed restricting open ended land acquisition by private universities to increase available affordable housing units. Cleare recommended creating a Neighborhood Area Median Income to resolve the current disparities with Area Median Income (AMI) when calculating eligibility for affordable housing.

Inez E. Dickens, New York State Assemblywoman for the 70th District, testified in support of an independent M/WBE agency and stated that the award of contracts had to be more inclusive.

Jordan J.G. Wright, New York State Assemblyman-Elect for the 70th District, testified in support of centralizing the M/WBE agency. He stated M/WBEs needed stronger protection and more affirmative action programs.

Michael J. Garner, Chief Business and Diversity Officer for the City of New York, reiterated his testimony in support of creating a centralized M/WBE agency. He stated that doing so would hold agencies accountable, streamline payment processing, and award contracts in a cost effective and inclusive manner.

Pauline Ann Toole, Commissioner for the Department of Records and Information Services (DORIS) testified in support of consolidating the Department of Records and Information Services, and the Archival Review Board into a nine-person board. She described the history and

functions of the two boards and explained consolidation would increase efficiency and accountability.

Andrew Rein, President of the Citizens Budget Commission, testified in support of improving fiscal stability. He proposed (1) requiring the production fiscal impact statements earlier in the legislative process, (2) ensuring that the City's rainy-day fund is grown and used for the proper purposes, (3) limiting debt service to 15% of the City's tax revenue, and (4) conducting a resident survey every five years to ensure that the people are informed of the City budget.

Amaury Dujardin, Public Policy Manager at Citizens Union testified in opposition to (1) the proposal to require more public input in public safety bills, and (2) the proposal to require fiscal impact statements be produced earlier.

Keith L.T. Wright, County Leader of the Democratic Party of Manhattan testified in opposition to non-partisan elections. He further stated that more citywide elections should be conducted through ranked choice voting (RCV) to assess whether it increases voter turnout.

Garry Anthony Johnson, Chair of Economic Development for the NAACP, testified in support of centralizing the M/WBE agency.

Keaton Morris, an M/WBE contractor, testified in support of centralizing the M/WBE agency.

Jimmy Pan testified in support of bolstering accountability bodies in the Charter and stated that the Commission should use the preamble of the Charter as a rubric for evaluating proposals.

Adrienne Felton supported centralizing the M/WBE agency and recommended audits of older M/WBE contracts. She further recommended revising the affordable housing lottery housing program.

Marilyn Galfin, the Founder of Voices for Shelter Animals, proposed creating a new agency for animal welfare and removing animal welfare jurisdiction from the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene.

Gale A. Brewer, City Council Member for District 6, in support of increasing funding for oversight agencies and requiring a breakdown of the budget units of appropriation for different agencies. Council Member Brewer further testified in support of requiring the advice and consent by the City Council of certain mayoral appointments.

Adam Roberts, Policy Director for the Community Housing Improvement Program testified in support of a proposal to require fiscal impact statements include an analysis of financial impacts outside of governmental operations.

Everett Perry, an M/WBE contractor, testified in support of centralizing the M/WBE agency.

Michael Sisitzky, Assistant Policy Director of the New York Civil Liberties Union, testified against the proposal to require more public input for public safety bills, stating there was currently sufficient opportunity for public input.

Kai Rosenthal, Co-President for the League of Women Voters, testified in support of ranked choice voting and opposes reforming ranked choice voting until its impact is assessed through more election cycles.

Ibrahim Xavier Johnson testified in support of greater public input in the legislative process. He further testified in support of giving greater authority to community boards.

Miles Grant testified in support of a proposal to allow policy decisions be made by sortition, a process in which a random jury selection of public citizens are made into a decision-making body.

Greg Baggett testified in support of amending community board term limits. He proposed making board members into honorary members after a certain number of years, that would not have voting power in general board meetings.

Marsha Taylor testified in support of more M/WBE programs and requiring more accountability from oversight agencies.

Alpheaus Marcus testified in support of a proposal to require greater accountability from the NYPD. He recommended (1) a time limit for NYPD disciplinary hearings to expedite the process, and (2) rules of accountability for officers who ran the disciplinary hearings.

Julius Tajiddin testified on (1) strengthening community boards by mandating public members to serve, (2) notifying community boards of any construction in their district, (3) monitoring the sales of senior homes to ensure no foul play, and (4) spelling out the duties of whoever has police powers. Lastly, Mr. Tajiddin supported the proposal to expand DSNY's authority to all city-owned land and testified against removing any requirements for public hearings in the legislative process.

June Moses testified in support of greater recognition of the population living 40% below of the Area Median Income (AMI).

Sylvia Hunter testified in support of greater outreach to the senior population and youth by the Commission. Ms. Hunter also supported reforming the city's lottery system for affordable housing.

Marie Gentine testified against Local Law 18 of 2022, which requires short term rental hosts register with the Mayor's Office of Special Enforcement before renting out homes.

Chinnor Campbell testified in support of limiting the NYPD's power and the How Many Stops Act. He testified against additional public input in public safety legislation and also voiced his concerns about the time frame of the Charter Revision Commission.

John Dillard testified to express his interest in greater political activism.

Kaya Royal, and M/WBE vendor, testified in support of payment reform for M/WBE vendors.

Marlene Taylor, a primary medical care provider, testified on the need for greater resources to address mental illnesses in local neighborhoods.

Audria Lamberton testified in support of a proposal to require the Charter to formally recognize American Sign Language (ASL) as a "designated city language" and to provide essential governmental services in ASL.³

Miles (no last name provided) testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum.⁴

The Williams (no other name provided) testified in support of (1) placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum, and (2) the "How Many Stops Act".⁵

Christopher Leon Johnson testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status and the "How Many Stops Act" on the ballot for referendum.⁶ He further recommended requiring a ban on lobbyists from serving on community boards.

³ Testified remotely

⁴ Testified remotely

⁵ Testified remotely

⁶ Testified remotely

Susan Hatley, representing the Civil Rights Union of Vocal New York commented on the Commission's outreach efforts.⁷ She further stated that the preliminary report recommendations undermined the City Council's role.

Dolina Duzant, Co-Founder of the Malcom X Beatification Group, testified on (1) revising the current vendor licensing program to promote inclusivity, (2) restructuring the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene to respond to changes in communities, and (3) allowing rent stabilization rates in commercial property.⁸

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Vice Chair closed the public hearing. A motion was made by Vice Chair Dukes to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Lynch and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamza Suhail
New York City Charter Revision Commission

⁷ Testified remotely

⁸ Testified remotely



MINUTES FOR THE JULY 9, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held at the Staten Island University Hospital-North Campus in Staten Island, New York at 5:00 p.m. on July 9, 2024.

Secretary Ken Ngai, serving as Acting-Chair, called the meeting to order at approximately 5:11 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Chair Carlo Scissura¹
- Ruben Díaz Jr.²
- Christopher B. Lynch³
- Max Rose
- Jackie Rowe-Adams

Introductions of the commissioners present were made.

The Commission held a public hearing during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter.

Tom Hicks, Associate Executive Director of Staten Island University Hospital, welcomed the Commission to the hospital campus.

¹ Attended via teleconference

² Attended via teleconference

³ Attended via teleconference

James Clinton, on behalf of the Staten Island District Attorney (“D.A.”) Michael McMahon, testified on the need to have a more transparent criminal justice system. He expressed the D.A.’s support for obtaining the advice and consent of law enforcement prior to the passage of legislation concerning public safety.

James Moschella, General Counsel for the Detective Endowments Association, and Rick Simplicio, Vice President of the Detective Endowments Association, testified in support of the Charter Revision Commission’s preliminary report proposal for increased public input in public safety legislation. Mr. Moschella further proposed reforming the Civilian Complaint Board Review Board (CCRB), advocating to make the process fairer for officers being investigated and more transparent to the public.

Michael Ryan, Executive Director of the New York City Board of Elections, testified on the history of changes made to the election system, and future changes yet to be implemented. He expressed supported for deferring electoral reform until the effects of current changes to the election system can be fully evaluated.

Michael Arvanites, on behalf of Councilmember Kamilah Hanks, testified in support of (1) improving the payment process for non-profits, (2) granting Borough Commissioners a local funding revenue stream to enable local projects essential to their boroughs, (3) allowing all documentation for city services be submitted with an electronic signature, and (4) creating a new Office of Disaster Assistance to assist with smaller scale disasters.

Michael Trollo, on behalf of Concerned Citizens of Staten Island, testified in support of the proposal for more public input in legislation regarding public safety, further opining that increased public input should be required for other legislation as well.

George Tormo and Salvatore Montforte, members of Staten Island Strong, stated that the well-being of the elderly and veterans needed to be prioritized. They proposed enacting Staten Island Shore laws that would protect the elderly and veteran population from wrongful eviction from senior and assisted living facilities.

Agnes Van Dina, Vice President of the Oakwood Residents Civic Association, testified in support of (1) increased police presence in Staten Island; (2) funding the police; and (3) qualified immunity for police officers. She also proposed making community boards' land use advisements mandatory on the City Council.

Florence Petruzzelli testified on issues outside the purview of the Charter Revision Commission process. She was directed to the appropriate agency to raise her concerns.

Carla Mohan testified in opposition to New York City's sanctuary city status. She also voiced her concerns about public safety and the City of Yes.

John Felci testified in support of reviewing and amending New York City's sanctuary city status.

Bradley Tusk testified in support of a proposal to create a ballot initiative for a public hearing where the Mayor could decide whether to recommend the recall of state and local judges whose decisions did not align with the needs and views of the people.⁴

Audria Lamberton testified in support of proposals to (1) add a chapter to the Charter that specifically references the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and its protections, (2) recognize American Sign Language (ASL) as a designated city language so that reading materials are required to be translated into ASL, and (3) create a New York City Commission that provides guidance, support, and ADA enforcement for individuals with hearing disabilities.⁵

⁴ Testified remotely

⁵ Testified remotely

Liz Andrie testified in support of repealing New York City’s sanctuary city status and placing it on the ballot for referendum. She further testified against New York City’s right to shelter law.

Frank Rapacciuolo, Chief of Staff for Council Minority Leader Joesph Borelli, testified in support of a proposal to repeal and roll back New York City’s sanctuary city status.

Frank Morano testified in support of a proposal to require all Charter Revision proposals be treated equally on the ballot by preventing mayoral-appointed Commissions from overriding voter ballot initiatives.⁶ Additionally, he proposed a recurring ballot question to form a Charter Revision Commission every twenty years. Mr. Morano also called for (1) independent, baseline budget increases for community boards, (2) eliminating signature requirements to run for office and replacing them with a filing fee, and (3) implementing ranked-choice voting in general elections.

Jasmine Robinson testified in support of placing New York City’s sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum.⁷ She further supported the recommendations of the Commission outlined in the preliminary report.

Special Hagan testified on her concerns about the practical implementation of a new M/WBE agency and the citywide training initiative recently proposed by the Deputy Mayor of Public Safety.⁸

Edward Josey, President of the NAACP of Staten Island, testified on his concerns about the placement of shelters in underserved communities.⁹

⁶ Testified remotely

⁷ Testified remotely

⁸ Testified remotely

⁹ Testified remotely

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Acting-Chair closed the public hearing. A motion was made by Acting-Chair Ngai to adjourn. The motion was thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamza Suhail
New York City Charter Revision Commission



MINUTES FOR THE JULY 11, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held at Fordham University in the Bronx, New York at 5:00 p.m. on July 11, 2024.

Commissioner Grillo, serving as Acting-Chair, presided at the meeting. The Acting-Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 5:18 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Chair Carlo Scissura¹
- Kyle Bragg
- Ken Ngai²
- Reverend Herbert Daughtry, Sr.
- Ruben Díaz Jr.
- Christopher B. Lynch³
- Stephanie McGraw
- Jackie Rowe-Adams

Introductions of the commissioners present were made.

The Commission held a public hearing during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter.

¹ Attended via teleconference

² Attended via teleconference

³ Attended via teleconference

Francisco Moya, City Council Member for the 21st District, testified in support of the Charter Revision Commission's preliminary report recommendation to extend the Department of Sanitation's (DSNY) authority to clean all city owned land.⁴

Jason Otaño, General Counsel to the City Council, testified on two recommendations in the Commission's preliminary report: requiring legislative Fiscal Impact Statements (FIS) to be produced earlier in the legislative process and the harmonization of the budget process with the Council's legislative power.

Joshua Goodman, Deputy Commissioner of Public Affairs and Experience for the Department of Sanitation (DSNY) testified in support of (1) expanding DSNY's jurisdiction to include enforcement of cleanliness related laws and provide cleaning authority over all city areas, including parks, (2) amending the Charter to enable the Office of Street Vendor Enforcement (OSVE) to enforce vendor regulations on parks and other areas uniformly, and (3) amending the Charter to require containerization of refuse to eliminate black bags and promote rodent resistant waste disposal.

Patricia Murphy, from the Preserve Harlem's Legacy Historic Preservation, testified on the need to repurpose historic buildings instead of demolishing them, stating that there needed to be more community engagement in both preserving historic structures and developing new ones.

Richard Lee, Director of the City Council Finance Division, testified to clarify the current fiscal impact statement (FIS) process, explaining that these statements are initially prepared by the administration and then reviewed by the Council.

Charles Callaway testified in support of creating an independent M/WBE agency to monitor and support M/WBE businesses.

⁴ Testified remotely

Curtis Silwa, Founder and CEO of the Guardian Angels, testified in support of repealing New York City's sanctuary city status and placing it on the ballot for referendum.⁵

Vanessa L. Gibson, President of the Borough of Bronx, testified in support of proposals to (1) amend the Charter to assign the Department of Citywide Administrative Services (DCAS) responsibility for handling Equal Employment Opportunity (EEO) cases involving community board members, due to insufficient resources at the borough president level, (2) update the Charter to ensure that community board members, who are not city employees, can access required training via DCAS's system, (3) to include borough boards in the notification process for the city's comprehensive waterfront plan, as currently mandated by Section 205 of the Charter for elected officials and community boards, and (4) to amend Section 85-D to allow a borough board measure to pass with a simple majority of affirmative votes, rather than requiring a majority of members present.

Karen Wharton, Democracy Coalition Coordinator of Citizen Action, testified in support of retaining ranked choice voting (RCV) in municipal elections.⁶

Francisco Navarro, Senior Policy Advisory in the Mayor's Office of Operations, testified in his personal capacity to propose (1) eliminating the office of the Public Advocate, (2) converting the position of City Comptroller from an elected to an appointed role, (3) instituting a ban on former elected officials serving as agency heads for at least two years after leaving office, and (4) creating a petition process that allows the public to bring referendums to the general election each year.⁷

⁵ Testified remotely

⁶ Testified remotely

⁷ Testified remotely

Sharlene Jackson Mendez, Vice President of the Van Nest Neighborhood Alliance, testified in support of (1) repealing New York City’s sanctuary city status, and (2) requiring increased public input before legislation regarding public safety is passed.

Alejandro Madi-Cerrada urged the Commission to incorporate racial equity, diversity, and inclusion into any Charter amendments. He emphasized the need for increased resources for city agencies and programs to actively support the community and younger generations.

Roxanne Delgado testified in opposition to the “How Many Stops Act”. She further raised concerns about (1) greater oversight of community boards, (2) requiring financial qualifications for the position of Comptroller, and (3) revising the calculation of Area Median Income (AMI) in determining affordable housing.

Ms. [no first name provided] Hurley asked the Commission for information on funding for private schools.

John Felci reiterated his prior testimony to place New York City’s sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum.⁸ He also urged the Commission to review New York’s right to shelter law.

Karl Beecher suggested regulating building addresses to be more visible.⁹

Bernadette Ferrara, President of the Van Nest Neighborhood Alliance, testified in support of a proposal to include the requirement of voter IDs and in favor of placing New York City’s sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum, and the proposal to containerize refuse.¹⁰

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Acting-Chair closed the public hearing. A motion was made by Acting Chair Grillo to adjourn. The

⁸ Testified remotely

⁹ Testified remotely

¹⁰ Testified remotely

motion was seconded by Commissioner Lynch and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commissioners present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamza Suhail
New York City Charter Revision Commission



MINUTES FOR THE JULY 22, 2024 HEARING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION 2024

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held at the Queens Public Library Central Library in Queens, New York at 5:00 p.m. on July 22, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 5:08 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Dr. Hazel N. Dukes¹
- Kyle Bragg
- Ruben Díaz Jr.
- Lorraine Grillo
- Christopher B. Lynch
- Stephanie McGraw
- Max Rose²
- Jackie Rowe-Adams
- Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz³

Introductions of the commissioners present were made.

The Commission held a public hearing during which it heard testimony from the public concerning any comments, proposals, and recommendations for possible revisions to the New York City Charter.

¹ Attended via teleconference

² Attended via teleconference

³ Attended via teleconference

Crystal Hudson, City Council Member for the 35th District, testified in support of the expansion of advice and consent over mayoral appointments and placing it on the ballot for referendum.

Joann Ariola, City Council Member for the 32nd District, testified in support of placing New York City's sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum.⁴

Pierina Ana Sanchez, City Council Member for the 14th District, testified about (1) her concerns regarding the timeframe of the Charter Revision Commission and (2) advocated for the proposal to expand advice and consent. She also expressed her support for New York City's sanctuary city status.

Julie Won and Chi Ossé, City Council Members for the 26th and 36th Districts respectively, testified in support of the Council's proposal to expand of advice and consent.

Jennifer Gutiérrez, City Council Member for the 34th District, repeated her colleague's testimony about the timeframe of the Charter Revision Commission and urged the Commission to delay ballot proposals to the 2025 general election.

Sandy Nurse, City Council Member for the 37th District, testified about (1) her concerns regarding the timeframe of the Charter Revision Commission and (2) her support for expanding advice and consent and placing it on the ballot for referendum. Commissioner Lynch inquired about the number of public hearings before advice and consent was formally proposed. Council Member Nurse admitted there was only one hearing but stated this was the general procedure.

Shaun Abreu, City Council Member for the 7th District, testified in response to Commissioner Díaz Jr.'s question of whether the expansion of advice and consent would result in an imbalance of powers between the City Council and the Mayor's Office. Council Member Abreu

⁴ Testified remotely

stated the Mayor still has the ultimate power and the City Council has not rejected any of the Commissioners proposed by the Mayor thus far.

Shekar Krishnan, City Council Member for the 25th District, testified in opposition to the proposal for increased public input on legislation concerning public safety, stating that the Council already allows for public input. He further testified in support of expanding advice and consent and stated that no questions should be put on the ballot for referendum.

Shahana Hanif, City Council Member for the 39th District, testified in opposition to the Charter Revision Commission's preliminary report recommendations to require more public input on legislation concerning public safety. She further testified regarding (1) her support for expanding advice and consent and (2) retaining New York City's sanctuary city status.

Alexa Avilés and Chris Banks, City Council Members for the 38th and 42nd Districts respectively, testified their support of expanding advice and consent and New York City's sanctuary city status.

Jeffrey Baker, the Deputy Chief of Staff for Legislation and Policy at the New York City Council, testified in support of expanding advice and consent and stated that the City Council is always available to hear public input on proposed legislation. Mr. Baker also stated public hearings are not required. He also criticized the timeframe of the Charter Revision Commission and the transparency of mayoral policies, agency decisions and the Commission's final report which does not allow the public to comment. Chair Scissura repeated that the Commission was independent and transparent, citing the Commission has held 15 public hearings in which over 200 people testified and over 700 have submitted written testimony. Executive Director Sabino stated she had reached out to City Council Members prior to this hearing to testify.

Ariel Amaja proposed various technological updates regarding ad revenue and cybersecurity on MTA wifi, LinkNYC portals, and the 311 app.

Christopher Leon Johnson testified in support of repealing (1) New York City’s sanctuary city status and (2) the “How Many Stops Act.”

Phil Wong, Yanling Zhang, John Song, and Albin Lepiz all testified in support of repealing New York City’s sanctuary city status.

Airenakhue B. Omoragban opposed placing New York City’s sanctuary city status on the ballot for referendum, stating that it was outside the Charter Revision Commission’s purview.

Dorethea Willis, Theresa M. Racine, Mary A. Ruane, and Thomas Willis also testified in support of repealing New York City’s sanctuary city status and placing it on the ballot for referendum.

Obi Afriyie, a Community Organizer for the Criminal Justice NAACP Legal Defense and Educational Fund, Inc., testified about his concerns regarding the Commission’s timeframe and outreach efforts.

Vienna Levitan, Sam Esposito, Ying Tan, and Tammi Zorros testified in support of repealing New York City’s sanctuary city status and placing it on the ballot for referendum.

Jeremey Woodoff, on behalf of the Victorian Society New York, proposed granting the Landmarks Preservation Commission sole authority in designating and modifying scenic landmarks. Currently, authority is shared between the Landmarks Preservation Commission and the Public Design Commission.⁵

Linda Lam and John Schaffer echoed prior testimony and testified their support of reviewing New York City’s sanctuary city status and placing it on the ballot for referendum.⁶

⁵ Testified remotely

⁶ Testified remotely

Sarita Daftary testified in opposition to the Charter Revision Commission’s preliminary report recommendations to require more public input in legislation concerning public safety. Lastly, she stated that more oversight was needed in New York City jails.⁷

Phyllis Inzerillo, Co-President of the Howard Beach Lindenwood Civic, testified in support of repealing New York City’s sanctuary city status and placing it on the ballot for referendum.⁸

Sally Wong and Sally Ann repeated prior testimony supporting the repeal of New York City’s sanctuary city status and placing it on the ballot for referendum.⁹

Mona Davids, Founder of the School Safety Coalition, testified her opposition to (1) a recent City Council bill prohibiting NYPD’s use of a gang database and (2) reiterated her prior opposition to the expansion of advice and consent.¹⁰ She also testified in support of repealing New York City’s sanctuary city status and placing it on the ballot for referendum.

Candace Prince-Modeste, President of the NAACP Jamaica Branch, urged voters to participate in the upcoming elections and thoroughly review all ballot initiatives put forth.¹¹ She further voiced her support for the “How Many Stops Act”.

Barbara McNamara, Co-President of the Howard Beach Lindenwood Civic, testified in support of repealing New York City’s sanctuary city status and placing it on the ballot for referendum.¹²

Aracelia Cook of the 149th Street South Ozone Park Civic Association testified in support of repealing New York City’s sanctuary city status and placing it on the ballot for referendum.¹³

⁷ Testified remotely

⁸ Testified remotely

⁹ Testified remotely

¹⁰ Testified remotely

¹¹ Testified remotely

¹² Testified remotely

¹³ Testified remotely

Dr. Melissa Inniss, Operating Committee Coordinator for St. Ann's Church for the Deaf proposed (1) adding language to the Charter that specifically references the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) and its protections, (2) recognizing American Sign Language (ASL) as a designated city language so commonly distributed public materials are required to be translated into ASL, and (3) creating a New York City Commission to provide guidance, support, and ADA enforcement for individuals with hearing disabilities.¹⁴

Electra Holmes testified to urge the Commission to not act on the issue of New York City's sanctuary city status to the next election cycle.¹⁵

Michael Sisitzky, Assistant Policy Director at the New York Civil Liberties Union (NYCLU), testified to his concerns about the deadline to submit written public testimony for the Charter Revision Commission.¹⁶

After hearing from all those members of the public in attendance who wished to speak, the Chair closed the public hearing.

The Chair made a motion to adopt the minutes of the July 8th, July 9th, and July 11th meetings of the Commission. The motion was thereafter adopted unanimously by all the Commission members present.

A motion was made by Chair Scissura to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioners Bragg, Grillo, and Rowe-Adams and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commission members present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamza Suhail, New York City Charter Revision Commission

¹⁴ Testified remotely

¹⁵ Testified remotely

¹⁶ Testified remotely



MINUTES FOR THE JULY 25, 2024 MEETING OF THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION

A duly noticed meeting of the New York City Charter Revision Commission 2024 was held at the Brooklyn Public Library Central Library in Brooklyn, New York at 2:00 p.m. on July 25, 2024.

The Chair, Carlo Scissura, presided at the meeting. The Chair called the meeting to order at approximately 2:06 p.m. Also present were the following members of the Commission:

- Dr. Hazel N. Dukes
- Ken Ngai
- Kyle Bragg
- Reverend Herbert Daughtry, Sr.
- Ruben Díaz Jr.
- Lorraine Grillo
- Christopher B. Lynch
- Stephanie McGraw
- Max Rose
- Jackie Rowe-Adams
- Bishop Gerald Seabrooks

The Chair acknowledged the presence of a quorum. Introductions of the commissioners present were made.

Chair Scissura explained the process by which the Charter Revision Commission (CRC) would vote on the ballot proposals put forth in the Commission's final report, noting that CRC Executive Director Diane Savino would describe each of the proposed ballot questions prior to a roll call vote.

Ballot Proposal 1: Cleaning Public Property

The ballot question was read by Executive Director Savino. Commissioner Rowe-Adams made a motion to approve the first ballot question, which was seconded by Vice Chair Dukes. During the discussion, Commissioner Rowe-Adams clarified that the expansion of DSNY's authority over parks would run concurrently with the authority of the NYC Department of Parks and Recreation and would not affect staffing levels at the Department of Parks and Recreation. The motion to approve the first ballot question passed unanimously by a vote of twelve in the affirmative, with no votes in the negative, and no abstentions.

Ballot Proposal 2: Additional Estimates of the Cost of Proposed Laws and Updates to Budget Deadlines

The ballot question was read by Executive Director Savino. Commissioner Grillo made a motion to approve the second ballot question, which was seconded by Commissioner Rowe-Adams. The motion to approve the second ballot question was passed unanimously by a vote of twelve in the affirmative, with no votes in the negative, and no abstentions.

Ballot Proposal 3: More Notice and Time Before Votes on Public Safety Legislation

The ballot question was read by Executive Director Savino. Chair Scissura explained that, after reviewing all testimony, he directed staff to create an amended proposal to limit the requirements placed on the City Council. Executive Director Savino read a revised abstract. Chair Scissura then made a motion to substitute and approve the new charter language and abstract for

those in the proposed final report. Vice Chair Dukes seconded the motion. The motion to approve the amended third ballot question was passed unanimously with twelve votes in the affirmative, no votes in the negative, and no abstentions.

Ballot Proposal 4: Capital Planning

The ballot question was read by Executive Director Savino. Chair Scissura clarified that the additional information proposed to be collected would be for all city facilities and would give the public information on how funding decisions are made for all city facilities. Commissioner Seabrooks then made a motion to approve the fourth ballot question and Commissioner Grillo seconded the motion. The motion to approve the fourth ballot question passed unanimously with twelve votes in the affirmative, no votes in the negative, and no abstentions.

Ballot Proposal 5: Minority and Women-Owned Business Enterprises (MWBs), Film Permits, and Archive Review Boards

The ballot question was read by Executive Director Savino. Commissioner Bragg made a motion to approve the fifth ballot question. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGraw and thereafter passed unanimously with twelve votes in the affirmative, no votes in the negative, and no abstentions.

Final Report

Commissioner Seabrooks then made a motion to accept and approve the final report of the Charter Revision Commission in its entirety as amended by the actions at today's meeting with respect to ballot question number three in relation to more notice and time before votes on public safety legislation. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Bragg and subsequently passed unanimously with twelve votes in the affirmative, zero in the negative, and zero abstentions.

Resolution

A motion was made by Commissioner Dukes to adopt the resolution that directs the Commission's staff and the City Clerk to take necessary action to place the five approved questions on the November 2024 ballot for consideration by the voters of New York City and to educate voters about the approved proposals. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGraw and thereafter passed unanimously with twelve votes in the affirmative, no votes in the negative, and no abstentions. An executed copy of this resolution is attached to these meeting minutes.

Minutes

A motion was made by Chair Scissura to adopt the minutes of the July 22, 2024 meeting of the Commission. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Grillo, and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commissioners present.

Chair Scissura requested and the Commission granted unanimous consent to approve the minutes of the July 25, 2024 meeting after the minutes have been shared with Commissioners and Commissioners have had two weeks to provide comment on the proposed minutes.

A motion was made by Commissioner Dr. Dukes to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Commissioner McGraw and thereafter adopted unanimously by all Commissioners present.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 3:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Hamza Suhail
New York City Charter Revision Commission

Approved by the Chair on August 14, 2024 pursuant to unanimous consent granted by a vote of the Commission on July 25, 2025.



**RESOLUTION OF
THE NEW YORK CITY CHARTER REVISION COMMISSION**

dated July 25, 2024, in relation to the filing with the City Clerk of proposals revising the city charter and questions therefor for the purpose of having the same submitted to the electors of the City at the general election held November fifth, two thousand and twenty-four, and the adoption of a report relating thereto.

Resolved; that pursuant to Section 36 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, five proposals to amend the charter of the City of New York with the appropriate ballot questions and the amendments to be effected upon the approval of such questions are attached hereto, to be filed with the City Clerk of the City of New York on or before September twenty-ninth, two thousand and twenty-four; and be it further

Resolved, that the City Clerk of the City of New York shall take such action as may be required by law to provide for the submission of the said revisions to the electors of the City of New York at the general election to be held on November fifth, two thousand and twenty-four; and be it further


Resolved, that the Commission hereby adopts the report that is attached hereto; and be it further

Resolved, that the Commission hereby authorizes and delegates to the Chair, the Executive Director and other staff, and the Office of the Corporation Counsel the duty and power to take all necessary and/or appropriate actions to effectuate the placement of the questions on the ballot in accordance with section 36 of the Municipal Home Rule Law, including but not limited to the consolidation of amendments and changes presented to the Commission today into the relevant text, inclusion of non-substantive technical changes to the documents attached hereto, the finalization of ballot abstracts pursuant to law, substantially in the form attached hereto, the preparation of other material to be appended to the final report including documentation memorializing the proceedings of the commission, and other materials relevant to the Commission's deliberations, and the defense or commencement of litigation to effectuate such placement on the ballot, and to provide for such publication and other publicity as may be appropriate to ensure that the public is adequately informed about the proposals, including in reliance on the resources of the Office of the Mayor and other City agencies.

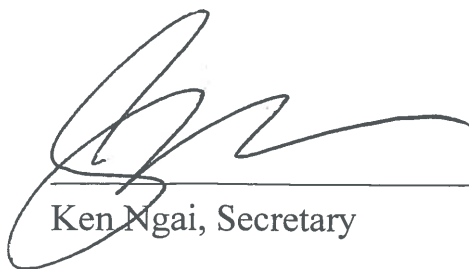
The foregoing resolution was adopted by the New York City Charter Revision by a vote of 12 in favor, 0 opposed, with 1 not present.



Carlo Scissura, Chair




Dr. Hazel N. Dukes, Vice Chair



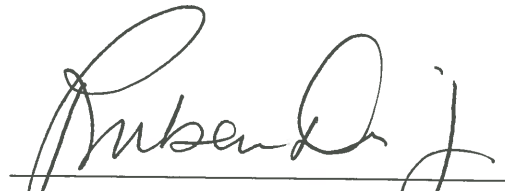
Ken Ngai, Secretary



Kyle Bragg, Commissioner



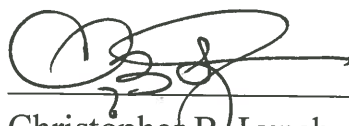
Rev. Herbert Daughtry, Sr.,
Commissioner



Ruben Diaz, Jr., Commissioner




Lorraine Grillo, Commissioner



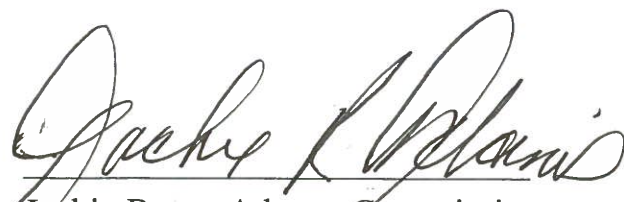
Christopher B. Lynch, Commissioner




Stephanie McGraw, Commissioner



Max Rose, Commissioner



Jackie Rowe-Adams, Commissioner



Bishop Gerald G. Seabrooks,
Commissioner

Rabbi Chaim Steinmetz, Commissioner