

## Annual Report to the City Council

### The Nuclear Disarmament and Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone Advisory Committee

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Local Law 7 of 2022 established a five-year advisory committee focused on nuclear disarmament and reinforcing New York City's commitment to being a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone (NWFZ).

The committee, chaired by Commissioner Zach Iscol of New York City Emergency Management (NYCEM), is comprised of seven members appointed by the Mayor and the Speaker of the City Council. All members of the Committee were appointed as of November 2023.

The committee is tasked with conducting a thorough review of the City's stance on nuclear weapons. Its responsibilities include drafting a resolution supporting the City's status as a nuclear weapons-free zone, defining the parameters of such a zone, and proposing mechanisms to educate communities about the impacts of nuclear weapons.

This annual report summarizes the activities and progress of this committee for 2024.

### Meeting Schedule

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The Committee met five times in 2024: February, May, October, November and December.

### Committee Progress

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Throughout 2024, the Committee has worked together to build upon progress from the previous year. The Committee focused on defining the parameters and requirements of a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone in New York City, and completed the draft of the resolution reaffirming support for New York City to remain a nuclear weapons free zone.

The following outlines the agreed upon goals and progress made this year.

#### Defining a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone

The Committee has decided on an updated definition of a Nuclear Weapons Free Zone for New York City. The definition draws on language found in treaties on disarmament and arms control, including the Treaty of the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), and historical Nuclear-Weapons Free Zones.

#### Reaffirming New York City's Support for a Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone

The Committee has finalized a draft resolution to uphold New York City's status as a nuclear weapons free zone and provide updated context to affirm this designation. The Committee has also agreed to develop a White Paper to accompany the draft resolution, which will examine New York City's view on nuclear weapons, and expand on the language in the draft resolution.

#### Public Education Campaign

The committee continues to work to design the framework for a robust public education campaign to inform communities about the impacts of nuclear weapons and the need for nuclear disarmament. This campaign will utilize various channels, including social media, community events, and educational workshops.

## Conclusion

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The Nuclear Disarmament and Nuclear Weapons-Free Zone Advisory Committee has made great progress in 2024. As we look toward 2025, we will focus on developing a White Paper to accompany the draft resolution, identify opportunities to promote the work of the Committee, particularly in tandem with the 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, and continue to work with community groups and advocates to ensure their voices are heard and included in the work.