

At Part \_\_\_\_\_ of the Supreme Court of the State of New York, held in and for the County of Richmond, at the Court house thereof located at 26 Central Avenue, Staten Island, New York on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016.

PRESENT: Hon. Philip G. Minardo  
JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT

In the Matter of

RONALD CASTORINA, JR. and  
NICOLE MALIOTAKIS,

Petitioners/Plaintiffs,

-against-

BILL DE BLASIO, in his official capacity as MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO, in her official capacity as the SPEAKER OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL,  
STEVEN BANKS, COMMISSIONER OF THE NEW YORK CITY HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, in his official capacity,  
MATTHEW BRUNE, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF THE NEW YORK CITY HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, in his official capacity, and  
RICARDO BROWNE, EXECUTIVE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, in his official capacity,

Respondents/Defendants,

For a Judgement Pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.

: INDEX NO.

: 80258/2016

: ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE WITH  
: TEMPORARY RESTRAINING  
: ORDER

Upon the annexed Affidavit of Petitioner RONALD CASTORINA, JR., ESQ., sworn to on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016, Petitioner NICOLE MALIOTAKIS, sworn to on the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2016, Affirmation of Jeffrey Alfano, Esq., affirmed to on

the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2016 and all of exhibits annexed thereto, and the Memorandum of Law dated the 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2016, and upon all the proceedings heretofore had herein, let the Respondents, or their attorneys show cause at Part DCM 6 held in and for the Supreme Court of the State of New York, in and for the County of Richmond, located at 26 Central Avenue, Staten Island, New York on the 26 day of JANUARY 2017 ~~December, 2016~~ at 9:30 o'clock in the forenoon of that day or as soon thereafter as counsel can be heard why an Order should not be made and entered granting the Plaintiff the following relief:

1. An Order pursuant to C.P.L.R. Section 7803(2) Prohibiting Respondents proceeding beyond the jurisdiction afforded to them as public officers and destroying governmental documentation collected in connection with the IDNYC program ;
2. An Order declaring New York City Administrative Code Section 3-115(e) and 68 RCNY 6-11 violated FOIL and denying the enforcement of any part of those sections violating FOIL;
3. Together with such other and further relief as to this Court may deem just, proper, and equitable.

**TEMPORARY RESTRAINING ORDER:**

**SUFFICIENT REASON APPEARING, THEREFORE, it is**

**ORDERED**, that pending the return date of this motion, the respondents are hereby enjoined and precluded from the destruction of any and all materials associated with the IDNYC program , and it is further

ORDERED, that service of a copy of this order, and the papers upon which it was granted upon the ~~Plaintiff's~~ <sup>Def's AND individuals by PERSAL.</sup> attorney via overnight delivery, on or before <sup>Service</sup> the 15 day of December, 2015 be deemed good, sufficient and timely service.

ENTER,



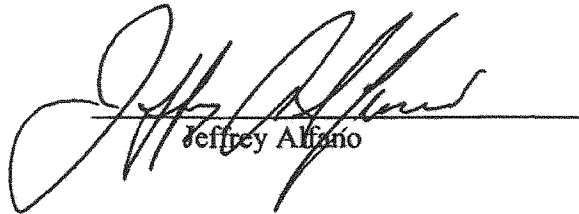
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Hon. Philip G. Minardo  
Justice of the Supreme Court



2. This affirmation is submitted to satisfy the requirements of rule 202.7(f).
3. The information contained associated with the IDNYC program is digital in nature and is very easily deleted by the custodians of the material.
4. The Mayor, the City Council Speaker, and numerous City representatives indicated their intentions to destroy the materials associated with the IDNYC program on or before December 31, 2016.
5. To the extent the Mayor, City Council Speaker and other city representatives have not destroyed the documents it will present a significant hardship to notify the Respondents in advance of this application seeking a temporary order preventing the destruction of the materials associated with the IDNYC program.

Dated: December 5, 2016  
Staten Island, NY



Jeffrey Alfano



## INTRODUCTION

1. This proceeding is brought under Article 78 of the New York Civil Practice Law and Rules (“C.P.L.R.”), New York Public Officers Law § 84 et seq. (the “Freedom of Information Law” or “FOIL”), and C.P.L.R. § 3001 against Respondents Mayor de Blasio, in his official capacity (“the Mayor”), the Office of the Mayor of the City of New York, Melissa Mark-Viverito, in her official capacity as the Speaker of the New York City Council, Steven Banks, Commissioner of the New York City Human Resources Administration/Department of Social Services (hereinafter “New York City HRA”), in his official capacity, Matthew Brune, Chief Operating Officer of the New York City HRA, in his official capacity, and Ricardo Browne, Executive Deputy Commissioner, Management Information Systems New York City HRA, in his official capacity.

2. On June 26, 2014, the New York City Council passed an enabling statute allowing the Mayor, through the New York City HRA, to create and administer New York City’s Municipal Identification Program (hereinafter, “IDNYC”).

3. Respondents threaten to destroy public records connected with the IDNYC program in contravention of New York State’s Freedom of Information Law before any administrative agency or court of competent jurisdiction evaluates legitimate FOIL requests.

4. Petitioners seek (1) an order pursuant to C.P.L.R. § 7803(2) prohibiting Respondents from proceeding with actions in excess of their jurisdiction as public officers; and (2) a declaration pursuant to C.P.L.R. § 3001 that 68 RCNY 6-11 (Confidentiality of IDNYC Card Eligibility Information) violates New York State’s Freedom of Information Law.

## PARTIES

5. Petitioner, Ronald Castorina, Jr., is a Member of the New York State Assembly representing the 62<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District covering the South Shore of Staten Island with his district office located at 7001 Amboy Road, Suite 202 E, Staten Island, New York 10307. The Assembly Member sits on the Committee on Banks.

6. Petitioner, Nicole Malliotakis, is a Member of the New York State Assembly representing the 64<sup>th</sup> Assembly District covering the East Shore of Staten Island and Bay Ridge, Brooklyn. The Assembly Member has a district office located at 11 Maplewood Place, Staten Island, New York 10306. The Assembly Member sits on the Committee on Banks.

7. Respondent Bill de Blasio is the Mayor of the City of New York. Upon information and belief, his principal place of business is located at City Hall, New York, NY 10007.

8. Respondent Office of the Mayor of the City of New York (the "Mayor's Office") is an "agency within the meaning of Public Officers Law § 86(3).

9. Respondent Melissa Mark-Viverito is the Speaker of the New York City Council. Upon information and belief, her principal place of business is located at City Hall, New York, New York 10007.

10. Respondent Steven Banks is the Commissioner of New York City HRA. Upon information and belief, his principal place of business is located at 4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich Street, 38<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10007.

11. Respondent Matthew Brune is the Chief Operating Office of New York City HRA. Upon information and belief, his principal place of business is located at 4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich Street, 38<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10007.



12. Respondent Ricard Browne is the Executive Deputy Commissioner of New York City HRA for Management Information Systems. Upon information and belief, his principal place of business is located at 4 World Trade Center, 150 Greenwich Street, 38<sup>th</sup> Floor, New York, New York 10007.

#### VENUE

13. Venue is proper in Richmond County pursuant to C.P.L.R. § 506(b) and § 7804(b) in that Petitioners submitted their FOIL requests from their district offices located on Staten Island. Staten Island residents provided the records sought by the Petitioners to the New York City government, and received IDNYC identification in New York City HRA offices located on Staten Island.

#### JURISDICTION

14. Respondents' threatened actions, destruction of governmental records currently on file with the City of New York, which form the basis of this Verified Petition and Complaint, exceed the jurisdiction and authority of executive officers named as Respondents to the action. The Respondents' collective threatened actions 1) supplant the judicial function of evaluating FOIL requests from the administrative agencies and reconsideration by the New York State Supreme Court; and 2) seek to hide governmental actions in contravention of the New York State Freedom of Information Law by fiat through the wholesale destruction of government documents, rather than utilizing stringent guidelines developed to protect disclosure of personal information. This Court, therefore, has jurisdiction over this proceeding pursuant to C.P.L.R. § 7801 *et seq.* and Public Officers Law § 84 *et seq.*

15. This Court also has jurisdiction pursuant to C.P.L.R. § 3001 to render declaratory relief.

## FACTS

16. On September 1, 2016, the Superintendent of the New York State Department of Financial Services (hereinafter “the Superintendent”) issued a letter to New York’s banking industry encouraging acceptance of IDNYC for banking and credit products. *See Exhibit A.*

17. On October 20, 2016, Petitioner, Assembly Member Castorina, wrote the Superintendent requesting the reconsideration of the sentiments contained that letter. *See Exhibit B.*

18. The Superintendent issued no response to Assembly Member Castorina’s letter, nor was it acknowledged in any other way.

19. In recent weeks Mayor de Blasio announced his intention to destroy all records associated with the issuance of the IDNYC program through his purported authority under 68 RCNY 6-11. *See Exhibit C.*

20. On November 28, 2016, Petitioners requested Respondents refrain from the destruction of any government documents submitted in connection with the IDNYC program. *See Exhibit D.*

21. On November 29, 2016, Respondents rejected Petitioners requests to preserve documents submitted in connection with the IDNYC program through Speaker Mark-Viverito statement to the press for Petitioners to “go ahead [and] sue us.” *See Exhibit E.*

22. On November 29, 2016, at 12:23:11 p.m., Assembly Member Castorina submitted a FOIL request seeking:

delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York City’s Municipal ID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayor’s Office in digital format.

Exhibit F.

23. On December 2, 2016, at 6:51:06 p.m., Assembly Member Malliotakis submitted a FOIL request seeking:

delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York City's Municipal ID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayor's Office in digital format.

Exhibit G.

24. Identification issued through the NYCID program expire five years after it is issued to an individual.

25. Regulations contained in the New York City Code permit the destruction of records associated with the NYCID program after two years solely at the discretion of the Respondents.

26. The New York City HRA regulation purportedly grants Respondents unilateral authority to destroy all records, in the name of preserving participant confidentiality, collected in connection with administering New York City's IDNYC program on or before December 31, 2016. *See* NYC Administrative Code § 3-115(e) and 68 RCNY 6-11.

27. Public statements made by City Council Member, Carlos Menchaca, to the New York Post on February 15, 2015, indicate Respondents chose December 31, 2016 to destroy documents, but not to end the program, simply for political purposes. *See* Exhibit H.

28. City Council Member Menchaca indicated clearly, "In case a Tea Party Republican comes into office and says, 'We want all of the data from all of the municipal ID programs in the country,' we're going to take the data." *Id.*

29. City Council Member Menchaca indicated further the December 31, 2016 document destruction date "allows us [the City Council] to prepare for any new leadership [in Washington, D.C.]". *Id.*

30. City Council Member Menchaca's comments led the New York Post to entitle the article concerning the NYCID program, "Municipal ID law has 'delete in case of Tea Party' clause." *Id.*

31. No legitimate government interest can be served by destroying records reasonably collected to ensure the integrity of a governmental identification system for strictly political reasons.

### CAUSES OF ACTION

#### **FIRST CAUSE OF ACTION SEEKING A PROHIBITION OF RESPONDENTS FROM DESTROYING GOVERNMENT RECORDS KEPT FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF A GOVERNMENTAL IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM**

32. Petitioners repeat and reallege paragraphs 1 through 36 as if fully set forth herein.

33. Article 78 provides an appropriate method to restrain public officers from proceeding in a manner which is not within, or exceeds, their jurisdiction.

34. Under FOIL executive government records are accessible to members of the public, governmental agencies, and other branches of both the federal and state governments.

35. FOIL permits the executive to redact governmental records submitted in accordance with administering programs run by executive agencies to protect the disclosure of participants' personal information.

36. FOIL permits, further, the denial of access to certain governmental records if expressly authorized by one of FOIL's specific exemptions. The limited statutory FOIL exemptions are to be construed narrowly, and the government bears the burden of demonstrating that documents fall within an asserted exemption.

37. FOIL does **not** permit the government to destroy all documents associated with any government program to protect any individuals' privacy rights for any reason, and clearly not for politically motivated reasons.

38. Respondents' public statements indicating their intention to destroy all documents, in whatever format, associated with the IDNYC program will cause, immediate and irreparable harm to the rights guaranteed to Petitioners and to the public at large under FOIL.

39. Respondents' publicly stated course of conduct will render FOIL useless and exceeds their jurisdiction under law.

40. This Court should issue an Order of Prohibition restraining respondents from exceeding their jurisdiction and destroying government documents in response to a federal election.

41. Petitioners have not made any previous request for relief requested herein.

**SECOND CAUSE OF ACTION SEEKING A  
DECLARATORY JUDGMENT THAT 68 RCNY 6-11 AND  
NEW YORK CITY ADMINISTRATIVE CODE § 3-115(E)  
VIOLATE THE PURPOSE OF FOIL GRANTING  
TRANSPARENCY TO GOVERNMENT PROGRAMS**

42. Petitioners repeat and reallege paragraphs 1 through 40 as if fully set forth herein.

43. The regulations promulgated by Respondents in 68 RCNY 6-11 and New York City Administrative Code § 3-115(e) contain no method for the public to access the records submitted in connection with the IDNYC program.

44. New York State policy requires full and open access to government.

45. The New York State legislature clearly maintains:

The people's right to know the process of governmental decision-making and to review the documents and statistics leading to determination is basic to our society. Access to such information

should not be thwarted by shrouding it with the cloak of secrecy or confidentiality.

Public Officers Law § 84.

46. The idea that democratically elected government officials may destroy records preventing their inspection by the public due to the results of a federal election is against the ideals of the United States and has no basis in law.

47. This Court should issue an Order declaring New York City's regulations run afoul of FOIL and deny the enforcement of only those provisions of the IDNYC program.

48. Petitioners have not made any previous request for relief requested herein.

#### **RELIEF REQUESTED**

WHEREFORE, Petitioners respectfully request this Court grant judgment:

a. Prohibiting Respondents from exceeding their jurisdiction and destroying governmental documentation collected in connection with the IDNYC program in contravention of FOIL;

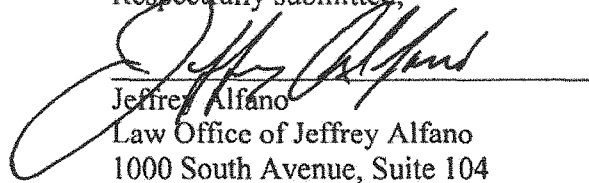
b. Declaring New York City Administrative Code § 3-115(e) and 68 RCNY 6-11 violate FOIL and denying the enforcement of any part of those sections in contravention to FOIL;

c. Awarding attorney's fees and reasonable litigation costs as allowed under Public Officers Law § 89; and

d. Granting such other and further relief as the Court deems just and proper.

Dated: December 5, 2016  
Staten Island, New York

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jeffrey Alfano", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and cursive.

Jeffrey Alfano  
Law Office of Jeffrey Alfano  
1000 South Avenue, Suite 104  
Staten Island, NY 10314  
Tel.: 718-701-1441  
*Attorney for Petitioners Ronald Castorina,  
Jr. and Nicole Malliotakis*

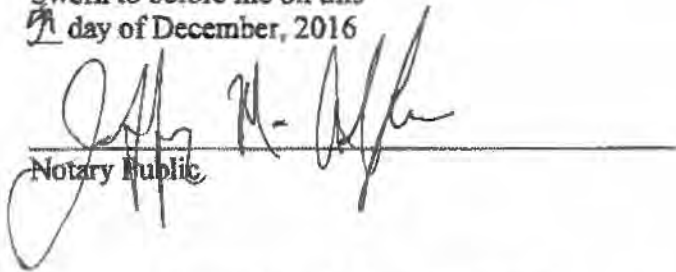
VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK    )  
                                  ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF RICHMOND )

Ronald Castorina, Jr. being duly sworn, deposes and says: That I am a petitioner in this proceeding, that I have read the foregoing petition and know the contents thereof; that the same is true to my own knowledge, except as to matters therein stated to be alleged on information and belief; and that as to those matters I believe them to be true.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Ronald Castorina, Jr.

Sworn to before me on this  
7 day of December, 2016

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

JEFFREY M. ALFANO  
Notary Public - State of New York  
No. 02AL6124696  
Qualified in Richmond County  
My Comm. Expires Mar. 28, 2008


2017



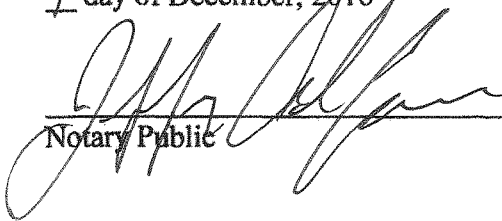
VERIFICATION

STATE OF NEW YORK    )  
                                  ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF RICHMOND )

Nicole Malliotaks, being duly sworn, deposes and says: That I am a petitioner in this proceeding, that I have read the foregoing petition and know the contents thereof; that the same is true to my own knowledge, except as to matters therein stated to be alleged on information and belief; and that as to those matters I believe them to be true.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicole Malliotakis

Sworn to before me on this  
1 day of December, 2016

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Notary Public

JEFFREY M. ALFANO  
Notary Public - State of New York  
No. 02AL6124696  
Qualified in Richmond County  
My Comm. Expires Mar. 28, 2009

2017

# EXHIBIT

A



NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT *of*  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

---

Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor

Maria T. Vullo  
Superintendent

September 1, 2016

Michael P. Smith  
President and CEO  
New York Bankers Association  
99 Park Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10016

William Mellin  
President  
New York Credit Union Association  
P.O. Box 15118  
Albany, NY 12212

Dear Mr. Smith and Mr. Mellin:

This letter provides guidance by the Department of Financial Services (the "Department") on whether the New York City Municipal Identification Card ("Municipal ID") can be used by banks and credit unions to verify the identity of prospective customers under New York's customer identification program ("CIP") requirements for customers who seek to open bank accounts.

The Department is committed to ensuring broad access to financial products and services for all consumers and recognizes the Municipal ID as one method to expand access to financial services in New York. For individuals, access to bank and credit union accounts helps preserve income, leads to savings and asset-building opportunities, and improves access to affordable credit opportunities. Indeed, access to banking services can improve the overall economic well-being of all New Yorkers and the New York economy.

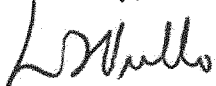
The Department is aware that the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (collectively, the "Federal Agencies") have previously provided

guidance on this issue in a letter dated April 30, 2015.<sup>1</sup> The federal CIP rule requires banks to have CIPs for account opening that use risk-based procedures for verifying the identity of each customer so that the bank can form a reasonable belief that it knows the true identity of the customer. The minimum information a bank must obtain is the prospective customer's name, date of birth, address and an identification number.<sup>2</sup>

The CIP rule does not prescribe a specific type of government-issued identification card for use by institutions. Institutions that rely on documentary forms of evidence to verify a customer's identity should have procedures in place to identify the types of documents the institution will accept for such verification. Accordingly, it is the Department's position that institutions may accept the Municipal ID as a means of documentary verification as provided in the institutions' CIP procedures.

The Department encourages New York state-chartered and licensed financial institutions to accept the Municipal ID as a form of acceptable identification card, utilizing procedures applied to all potential customers to assess the risk presented by the customer and any need for additional documentation or information.

Sincerely,



Maria T. Vullo  
Superintendent

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<sup>1</sup> See Federal Agencies' response letter (April 30, 2015). The Federal Agencies also concluded that the identification number included on all Municipal IDs satisfies the non-U.S. person identification number requirement contained in the federal CIP rules.

<sup>2</sup> 31 C.F.R. 1020.220; see 3 NYCRR Part 116.2



RONALD CASTORINA, JR.  
Assemblyman 62<sup>nd</sup> District

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

HONORED MINORITY MEMBER  
Committee on Cities

COMMITTEES

Banks  
Housing  
Labor  
Tourism, Parks, Arts and  
Sports Development

**BY REGULAR US MAIL**

October 20, 2016

Hon. Maria T. Vullo, Superintendent  
New York State Department of Financial Services  
One State Street  
New York, NY 10004

**RE: New York City Municipal Identification Card**

Dear Superintendent Vullo:

I write concerning your letter dated September 1, 2016, to the New York Bankers Association, and the New York Credit Association encouraging the banking community to accept New York City Municipal Identification Cards as adequate proof for opening a bank account. This form of identification is not like any other government identification that our banking institutions have relied upon in the past. In fact, the much less stringent standard of proof required to obtain an NYC Municipal ID Card is a great cause for concern, especially when utilized for financial services.

NYC Municipal ID Cards are not linked to a person's Social Security number and do not stringently vet the information presented as other government identification cards do. In fact, the NYC Municipal ID Card program allows for "stay at a homeless shelter for a period of fifteen (15) days" constituting adequate points toward proof of a person's residence.<sup>1</sup> One can envision the ease by which a terrorist or other criminal could easily obtain this form of identification to perpetrate criminal activity. I believe that you are opening the floodgates to the prospect of fraud, money laundering, and security breaches, all of which affect New Yorkers and our fellow Americans in a dangerous way.

Federal agencies<sup>2</sup> issued guidelines in 2015 requiring banks to have customer identification requirements. These guidelines require, at a minimum, a person seeking to open a financial account present a person's date of birth, address, and an identification number before a banking institution open an account generally, accomplished by presenting a valid driver's license. These guidelines were

<sup>1</sup> <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/ldays/card/documentation.page>

<sup>2</sup> Federal agencies referenced in your Municipal ID Letter include: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

promulgated to prevent fraud, and to foster greater security measures against those who seek to do us harm, domestically and abroad.

Your actions unilaterally, without any advice or review from the legislature or the public, instruct New York's banks to accept NYC IDs to access financial services in New York State. Your two-page Municipal ID Letter artfully released just before Labor Day Weekend, cites no authority giving you, alone, this power. It cites no legal analysis supporting your opinion. It does not speak to combatting fraud associated with obtaining the NYC ID. Your letter fails even to make mention of the very real Home Land Security Risks associated with using NYC IDs to access New York's financial service products. In short, your direction to New York's banking community lacks appropriate due diligence for the enormity of the action you undertook.

Your actions, in my opinion, attempt to circumvent the Legislature, and the people. In 2008 we learned, the hard way, what happens when fraud permeates our financial services system. We are only as strong as our weakest requirement. In recent weeks the integrity of the NYC ID program came into serious question.

I, therefore, respectfully request the following: 1) you rescind the opinions expressed in The Municipal ID Letter; 2) allow the people to voice their opinions regarding this matter in New York through the legislative process, and 3) you present a thorough and thoughtful legal analysis, to the legislature for consideration.

Very truly yours,



Renald Castorina, Jr.  
Member of the Assembly, 62<sup>nd</sup> District

# EXHIBIT

B

# EXHIBIT

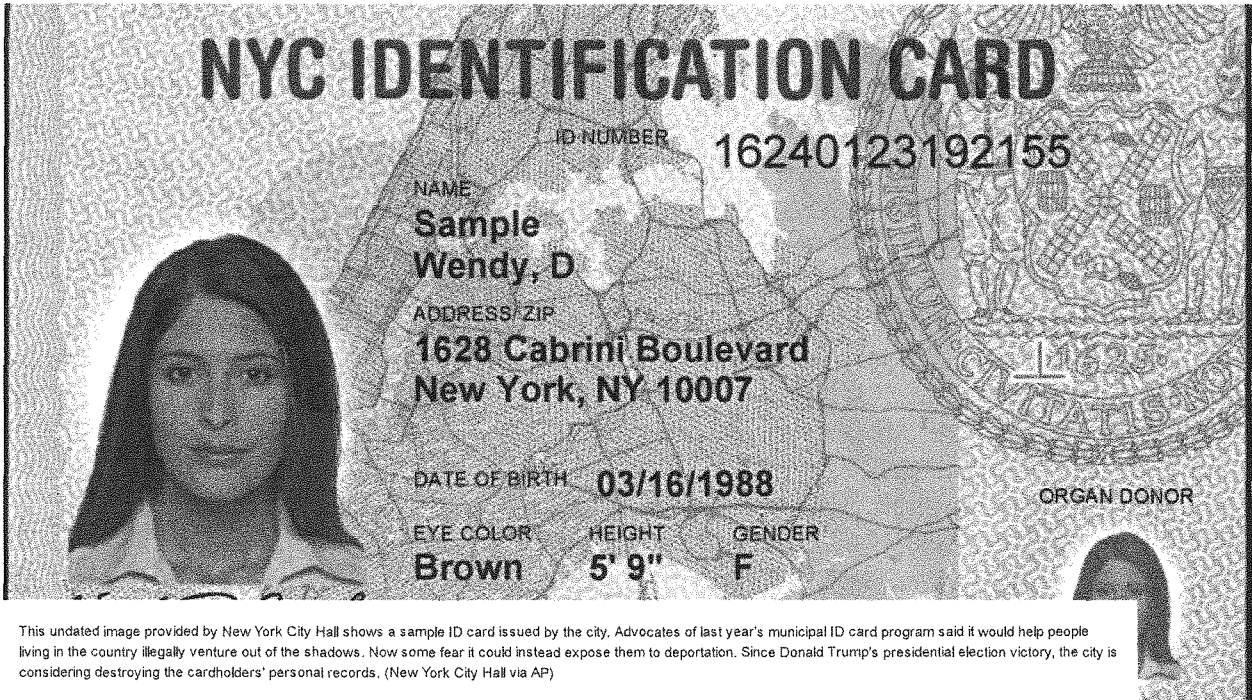
C



ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

# New York City may erase ID card data to protect illegal immigrants

Published November 15, 2016  
Associated Press



NEW YORK – When New York City launched the nation's biggest municipal ID card program last year, advocates said it would help people living in the U.S. illegally to venture out of the shadows.



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But since Donald Trump was elected president, city officials are instead fielding questions about whether the cards could put those same people at greater risk of being deported.

The city has vowed to protect cardholders' personal records and might even delete them using a kind of self-destruct provision that allows for the information to be destroyed at the end of the year.

At least one state lawmaker has criticized that idea, saying it could make it impossible to trace people if they have obtained cards fraudulently.

Some immigrants take comfort in the city's stance, while acknowledging they are still wary.

Alberto Saldivia got his "IDNYC" card this year after spending 15 years in the country without legal authorization.

"It did cause me considerable concern, because they have my information, also the information of my son," the 53-year-old Mexico native said through an interpreter.

But he felt reassured when Mayor Bill de Blasio said last week that the city would "absolutely" safeguard cardholders' identities. De Blasio, a Democrat, said officials would assess whether to delete the personal records, a provision that was built into the program partly over concerns about the possible election of a Republican president such as Trump, whose campaign promises included a vow to deport millions of people in the U.S. illegally.

Municipal ID programs began in 2007 in New Haven, Conn., and have expanded to about 10 cities, including Los Angeles and San Francisco. New York's program is the most ambitious, with more than 800,000 cardholders, many of them U.S. citizens or legal residents.

Officials encouraged everyone in the city to sign up, but the program was aimed at those without other forms of ID, including homeless people and, especially, the estimated 500,000 immigrants living illegally in the city. The ID would help them do such everyday things as cash a check or attend a parent-teacher conference at a public school, advocates said.

The program quickly proved popular, with New Yorkers waiting hours in line and months for appointments to register early on. Pope Francis received a ceremonial one during his visit to the city last year, and United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said the card would make him "a real New Yorker."

But civil liberties advocates sounded alarms about the city collecting identity documents that immigration authorities or law enforcement could request, with a judge's approval.

The program's backers included language that allows for destroying the applicants' identity and residency information at the end of 2016 if administrators do not move to keep them.

"Protecting it from a possible Republican president was just one of the reasons" for the provision, said City Councilman Carlos Menchaca, who wrote the law that created the program.

A critic of the program said deleting the records would only compound concerns about it.

"It's completely irresponsible to destroy the documentation of people who applied for a government-issued ID card," said state Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis, a Republican.

She said the proof-of-identity requirements may not be stringent enough to prevent fraud, and deleting the records would leave authorities "no way of knowing who these people are, how they obtained this documentation."

Some immigrants and their advocates remain hopeful that the IDs won't backfire. The extent of the program should thwart using it to target immigrants here illegally, since they represent only some of the cardholders, said Javier Valdes of Make the Road New York, an advocacy group that pushed for the program.

Juan Rosas Carrera plans to keep his appointment this weekend to get an IDNYC card, despite a friend's warning that it could be risky to give authorities his name and address. Rosas Carrera, a Mexican national and construction worker, has been living in the U.S. illegally for 17 years.

Still, he wants an ID card to open a bank account and feels it's worth the worry.

"I feel safe in New York. I also think that if you don't have a criminal record, nothing bad will really happen," said Rosas Carrera, 48. "But I am a bit worried about Trump."

## Trending in U.S.

- 1 **Why Trump was right to talk with Taiwan's president**
- 2 **I'm a Democrat and I'm ashamed at how tone deaf we've become**

# EXHIBIT

D

# Malliotakis, Castorina ask city not to destroy IDNYC docs



Assembly members Nicole Malliotakis and Ron Castorina Jr. speak against the IDNYC program in St. George on Monday, Nov. 28, 2016. (Rachel Shapiro/Staten Island Advance)



By [Rachel Shapiro | rshapiro@siadvance.com](mailto:rshapiro@siadvance.com)

[Email the author](#) | [Follow on Twitter](#)

on November 28, 2016 at 4:19 PM, updated December 02, 2016 at 7:05 AM

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - If city officials destroy documents collected from illegal immigrants who apply for municipal ID cards, they are creating a "slippery slope" and putting national security at risk, say Assembly members Nicole Malliotakis and Ron Castorina Jr., who are calling on officials to hold off.

The Republican Malliotakis **has opposed the IDNYC program** since its creation, as it exists primarily to provide undocumented immigrants with photo IDs, something that will help them come out of the shadows, proponents argue.

Her newly-elected colleague, Castorina, also objects to giving government-issued IDs to those in the country illegally, specifically **citing his opposition to allowing banks to accept the ID.**

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On Monday, the two Assembly Republicans spoke outside the Staten Island Business Center on St. Mark's Place in St. George, where city residents can obtain the ID cards.

They argue that the documents required to obtain an ID card are not solid proof of identification and residency in the city. The city doesn't consider legal status when determining whether to issue an ID card.

With Donald Trump's election, the liberal-leaning mayor and City Council are in favor of destroying the ID documents for fear they could be used to locate undocumented immigrants in the city and deport them.

Initially saying on the campaign trail that he hoped to deport the 11 million people in the country illegally, Trump has walked that back to deporting only those who commit crimes.

The city included a provision when it created the municipal ID program to destroy all personal records it collected if a "Tea Party Republican" wins the White House.

It was done for "political reasons" Malliotakis said. "That in itself is concerning."

She noted the 9/11 Commission Report, which states that many of the hijackers used fraudulent documents to obtain IDs.

"That's the concern we have today," she said.

If a person with a city municipal ID card uses it for nefarious reasons, investigators would need access to the documents given to the city. If they're destroyed, that could hinder justice, Malliotakis argued.

"It was a mistake to create this program and more of a mistake to destroy documents," she said.

While people applying for the ID must have three **points to confirm their identities** -- like U.S. or foreign passports, U.S. or foreign driver's licenses and U.S. or foreign birth certificates -- but they only need one to confirm their city residency.

That could be a utility bill, a bank statement or a letter from the city Housing Authority if the applicant lives in public housing.

Malliotakis often notes that one needs only to reside in a homeless shelter for 15 days before being considered a city resident, and a letter from the shelter management fulfills the requirement for one proof of residency.

IDNYC can't be used to obtain a driver's license, board an airplane, cross international borders or rent a car.

Castorina called the ID program an "unmitigated disaster" and "an issue of national security."

Castorina, a lawyer and former commissioner for the city Board of Elections, is researching whether destroying the documents is illegal -- if it is, he'll bring legal action against the city.

"We should not be issuing identification cards to people who are not here legally," he said.

He suspects that in many cases, fraudulent documents are used to obtain the IDs.

Those IDs may be used to get other IDs.

The term "slippery slope" was used several times by both Assembly members.

As for handing over documents to the federal government should it ask for it, "the City of New York has an obligation to follow the law," Castorina said. "The city is not above the federal government."

A City Hall spokesperson challenged the Assembly members' assertions that the ID program is lax and unsafe.

"The safety of New Yorkers is City Hall's top priority, and that includes the nearly 40 percent of city residents who are foreign born. We rely on law enforcement professionals from the NYPD to set the bar for security, and IDNYC consistently meets this high standard. Claims that IDNYC is being used by those intending serious harm is reckless fear-mongering - the IDNYC application process is similar to DMVs across the country, highly trained staff use state of the art technology to identify instances of fraud, and IDNYC cannot be used to obtain a driver's license, board a plane, or cross a border. Over 900,000 New Yorkers have IDNYC, and we are committed to protecting the privacy and security of our data. The City will make a decision regarding record retention in the near future."

*The story was updated to include a comment from the mayor's office.*

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# EXHIBIT

E



## City Council Speaker to GOP: 'Go Ahead and Sue Us' Over Proposed Immigrant Record Purge

By [Madina Toure](#) • 11/29/16 6:25pm



Surrounded by Council colleagues, Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito lauds the IDNYC program at a 2015 event. IDNYC

Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito offered a curt retort today to two Staten Island Republicans preparing legal action against the city over its plan to flush municipal identification records and to shield undocumented immigrants from President-elect Donald Trump: “go ahead and sue us.”



A legislative trap door in the bill that created the IDNYC program almost two years ago enables the city to trash the data files on its applicants, many of whom are foreign nationals lacking other forms of government paperwork, should a nativist president assume office. Assemblyman Ronald Castorina and Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis contended yesterday that this option, if Mayor Bill de Blasio utilizes it as proposed, could make it harder for federal law enforcement to track potential terrorists and criminals.

ADVERTISING

The two GOP lawmakers said they gearing up to take the city to court to force it to retain the documents.

“Go ahead and sue us,” Mark-Viverito, a fierce advocate for both IDNYC and the undocumented, spat out when the Observer asked about the potential suit at an unrelated press conference at City Hall today.

The speaker, a prominent surrogate for Hillary Clinton, has attacked Trump repeatedly on Twitter and vowed that New York City will remain a sanctuary city in spite of Republican threats of economic sanctions. She echoed the mayor today in pledging that the city will do whatever is necessary to protect the program and its applicants from federal incursions.

“There’s a law in place and the law is very explicit about how information is to be handled,” Mark-Viverito said during the City Council’s monthly pre-stated meeting. “We are looking at exploring those options and so we are gonna exercise whatever rights we have as the city. They want to raise the funds and they want to sue the city, they have every right to do so if that’s what they choose to do.”

And Malliotakis, for her part, caught wind of Mark-Viverito’s comments. She delivered an equally terse response.

“Arrogant,” she tweeted. “I guess as long as taxpayers will be footing the bill to defend her shady policies in court, it’s ok.”

The de Blasio administration, along with Mark-Viverito and advocates, has argued that IDNYC enables undocumented immigrants to partake in simple, run-of-the-mill activities that require proof of identification, such as opening a bank account. And while the mayor is still encouraging people to sign up for IDNYC, Mark-Viverito isn’t ready to do the same.

She said the city is reviewing its legal options.

“I have not taken that position,” she added. “Obviously we are very concerned about the [issue] now—between now and the end of the year and now and January 20—so we’re very clearly engaged in a conversation as I’ve indicated before about one, the data is secure right now and we’re going to retain a confidentiality.”

A City Hall spokesperson told the Observer yesterday that its staff carefully verify personal information used to obtain the municipal identifications, and that an IDNYC cannot be used to get a driver’s license, board a plane or cross a

border. The spokesperson also said the city relies on the NYPD to “set the bar for security.”

*This story has been updated to include a comment from Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis.*

*Disclosure: Donald Trump is the father-in-law of Jared Kushner, the publisher of Observer Media.*

NYC Council Speaker:  
Trump Security Costs  
are 'Unsustainable'  
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F

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NAME of FIELDS	DATA
<b>First Name:</b>	Ronald
<b>Last Name:</b>	Castorina Jr
<b>Address:</b>	7001 Amboy Road Suite 202 E
<b>City:</b>	Staten Island
<b>State:</b>	NY
<b>ZIP Code:</b>	10307
<b>Email:</b>	roncastorina@gmail.com
<b>Phone:</b>	718-967-5194
<b>Request:</b>	I request delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York Citys Municipal ID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayors Office in digital format.

# EXHIBIT

G

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NAME of FIELDS	DATA
<b>First Name:</b>	Nicole
<b>Last Name:</b>	Malliotakis
<b>Address:</b>	11 Maplewood Place
<b>City:</b>	Staten Island
<b>State:</b>	NY
<b>ZIP Code:</b>	10306
<b>Email:</b>	nysassembly60@gmail.com
<b>Phone:</b>	718-987-0197
<b>Request:</b>	I request delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York Citys MunicipallID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayors Office in digital format.



# EXHIBIT

## H

METRO

# Municipal ID law has 'delete in case of Tea Party' clause

By Tara Palmeri

February 16, 2015 | 11:27pm

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The city's new ID program allows for personal data to be destroyed at the end of 2016 in case a conservative Republican is elected president, the law's co-sponsor told The Post.

Photo: Dennis A. Clark

Get the shredders ready — the Tea Party could be coming.

The city's new municipal ID program allows for personal info provided by applicants to be destroyed at the end of 2016, in case a conservative Republican wins the White House and demands the data, the law's co-sponsor told The Post on Monday.

City Councilman Carlos Menchaca (D-Brooklyn) said the measure was crafted so data submitted by those seeking the cards can be destroyed on Dec. 31, 2016.

The cards are aimed at undocumented immigrants.

"In case a Tea Party Republican comes into office and says, 'We want all of the data from all of the municipal ID programs in the country,' we're going to take the data," he explained.

The next president assumes office Jan. 20, 2017.

"That date is an important signal to the future of immigration reform. That allows us to prepare for any new leadership," Menchaca said.

In order to get an ID, residents must provide their names, addresses, aliases, dates of birth and other information, making it easy for the feds to identify undocumented immigrants.

Menchaca said the Obama administration has shown no interest in going after the data, but he didn't want to take any chances on the next administration.

"Though we have not seen documents like this get requested at the level of the federal government, that could be a possibility, so that really allows us to protect the data," he said.

Immigrant advocates praised the provision.

"It's no secret that one of the biggest sticking points in the ID programs is ensuring that there's confidentiality, that immigrants are comfortably giving their information to the city," said Steven Choi, executive director of the New York Immigration Coalition.

"The sunset is part and parcel of the effort to ensure confidentiality."

The bill lets the city destroy the info if it determines it's no longer needed.

The cards were first available early last month. Demand has been overwhelming, with more than 200,000 appointments made for the cards in less than a month.

*Additional reporting by Bob Fredericks*

Filed under barack obama , bill de Blasio , carlos menchaca , municipal-id program , tea party





2. The address to my district office is 7001 Amboy Road, Suite 202 E, Staten Island, NY 10307.

3. I submit this affidavit in support of the instant special proceeding seeking an Order pursuant to CPLR § 7803(2) prohibiting the respondents from deleting, scrubbing or otherwise destroying any and all information submitted in connection with New York City's Municipal Identification Card program (hereinafter "IDNYC"); and a declaratory judgment determining 68 RCNY 6-11 (Confidentiality of IDNYC Card Eligibility Information) violates New York State's Freedom of Information Law (hereinafter "FOIL").

4. On November 29, 2016, at 12:23:11 p.m., I submitted a FOIL request seeking:

I request delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York City's Municipal ID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayor's Office in digital format.

*See Exhibit A.*

5. On September 1, 2016, the Superintendent of the New York State Department of Financial Services, Maria Vullo, provided a letter to New York's banking industry encouraging the acceptance of IDNYC for banking and credit products. *See Exhibit B.*

6. On October 20, 2016, I wrote Superintendent Vullo urging her reconsideration of sentiments contained in her letter. *See Exhibit C.*

7. I raised my concerns relating to the ease with which individuals may fraudulently utilize IDNYC to wreak havoc on New York's financial system. *Id.*

8. I additionally informed Superintendent Vullo her directive to New York's banking industry may run afoul of multiple federal regulations governing the national banking industry. *Id.*

9. Superintendent Vullo failed to respond or acknowledge my letter dated October 20, 2016.

10. Superintendent's actions leave me with no other option but to introduce legislation at the State level designed to prevent New York State banks from accepting IDNYC to utilize financial products. I, however, must access the IDNYC files to determine the level of due diligence performed by the City before issuing government identification.

11. In recent weeks Mayor De Blasio announced his desire to exercise his purported authority under 68 RCNY 6-11 and delete all records associated with the issuance of governmental identification through the IDNYC program. *See Exhibit D.*

12. When my colleague and co-petitioner, Nicole Maliotakis, and I requested Mayor De Blasio reconsider his position relating to IDNYC, respondent, City Council Speaker Mark-Verito, challenged us to sue to enforce the people's right to preserve and access information supporting the issuance of government issued identification. *See Exhibit E.*

13. If Mayor De Blasio, and members of his administration named here as co-respondents, destroy the IDNYC records I will be unable to conduct a legitimate investigation before preparing legislation affecting the rights of all New York citizens.

14. Any document destruction policy must, at the very least, maintain the records until the governmental identification expires. Here, IDNYC identification remains effective for five years, but the government purports to destroy the documents after only retaining them for two years. This course of conduct proves to be simply illogical and cannot provide the basis for transparent government espoused by the Mayor and Speaker.

15. The content of my FOIL request proves necessary to perform my duties as a member of New York State's Assembly. The documents used to support the issuance of a

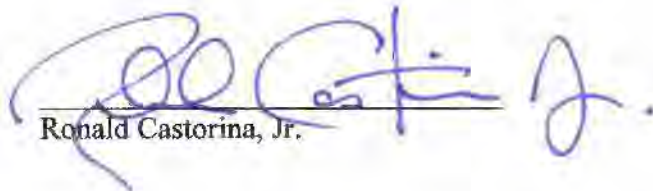
government identification card ought to remain intact to carry out legitimate governmental and public interests.

16. The content, manner, and timing of the disclosure of these governmental documents must remain subject to New York State's FOIL law.

17. Beyond my need to access these records for a legitimate state interest, the government must retain governmental identification records and their supporting documentation leading to its issuance as a matter of national security. It is conceivable, and likely, a person with nefarious intent could find their way into appropriating an IDNYC card, and may utilize same to propagate criminal acts, deleterious to the welfare of our city, state, and nation.

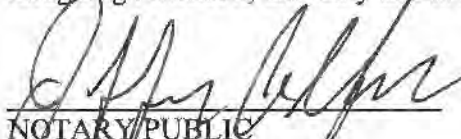
18. It would be incumbent upon law enforcement agencies to seek out aforementioned documentation for the purposes of crime solving, and/or crime deterrence. The destruction of this documentation would render such investigation an impossibility.

Dated: December 5, 2016  
Staten Island, NY

  
Ronald Castorina, Jr.

STATE OF NEW YORK    )  
  ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF RICHMOND )

On December 5, 2016, before me personally came Hon. Ronald Castorina, Jr., to me known, and known to be the individual described in, and who executed the foregoing Affidavit, and duly acknowledge to me that he executed the same.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
STATE OF NEW YORK

JEFFREY M. ALFANO  
Notary Public - State of New York  
No. 02AL6124696  
Qualified in Richmond County  
My Comm. Expires Mar. 28, 2017

2017

# EXHIBIT

A



## Thank You For Filling Out This Form

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NAME of FIELDS	DATA
<b>First Name:</b>	Ronald
<b>Last Name:</b>	Castorina Jr
<b>Address:</b>	7001 Amboy Road Suite 202 E
<b>City:</b>	Staten Island
<b>State:</b>	NY
<b>ZIP Code:</b>	10307
<b>Email:</b>	roncastorina@gmail.com
<b>Phone:</b>	718-967-5194
<b>Request:</b>	I request delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York Citys Municipal ID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayors Office in digital format.

# EXHIBIT

## B



NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT *of*  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

---

Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor

Maria T. Vullo  
Superintendent

September 1, 2016

Michael P. Smith  
President and CEO  
New York Bankers Association  
99 Park Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10016

William Mellin  
President  
New York Credit Union Association  
P.O. Box 15118  
Albany, NY 12212

Dear Mr. Smith and Mr. Mellin:

This letter provides guidance by the Department of Financial Services (the “Department”) on whether the New York City Municipal Identification Card (“Municipal ID”) can be used by banks and credit unions to verify the identity of prospective customers under New York’s customer identification program (“CIP”) requirements for customers who seek to open bank accounts.

The Department is committed to ensuring broad access to financial products and services for all consumers and recognizes the Municipal ID as one method to expand access to financial services in New York. For individuals, access to bank and credit union accounts helps preserve income, leads to savings and asset-building opportunities, and improves access to affordable credit opportunities. Indeed, access to banking services can improve the overall economic well-being of all New Yorkers and the New York economy.

The Department is aware that the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (collectively, the “Federal Agencies”) have previously provided

guidance on this issue in a letter dated April 30, 2015.<sup>1</sup> The federal CIP rule requires banks to have CIPs for account opening that use risk-based procedures for verifying the identity of each customer so that the bank can form a reasonable belief that it knows the true identity of the customer. The minimum information a bank must obtain is the prospective customer's name, date of birth, address and an identification number.<sup>2</sup>

The CIP rule does not prescribe a specific type of government-issued identification card for use by institutions. Institutions that rely on documentary forms of evidence to verify a customer's identity should have procedures in place to identify the types of documents the institution will accept for such verification. Accordingly, it is the Department's position that institutions may accept the Municipal ID as a means of documentary verification as provided in the institutions' CIP procedures.

The Department encourages New York state-chartered and licensed financial institutions to accept the Municipal ID as a form of acceptable identification card, utilizing procedures applied to all potential customers to assess the risk presented by the customer and any need for additional documentation or information.

Sincerely,



Maria T. Vullo  
Superintendent

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<sup>1</sup> See Federal Agencies' response letter (April 30, 2015). The Federal Agencies also concluded that the identification number included on all Municipal IDs satisfies the non-U.S. person identification number requirement contained in the federal CIP rules.

<sup>2</sup> 31 C.F.R. 1020.220; see 3 NYCRR Part 116.2

# EXHIBIT

C



RONALD CASTORINA, JR.  
Assemblyman 83rd District

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER  
Committee on Cities

COMMITTEES

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**BY REGULAR US MAIL**

October 20, 2016

Hon. Maria T. Vullo, Superintendent  
New York State Department of Financial Services  
One State Street  
New York, NY 10004

RE: **New York City Municipal Identification Card**

Dear Superintendent Vullo:

I write concerning your letter dated September 1, 2016, to the New York Bankers Association, and the New York Credit Association encouraging the banking community to accept New York City Municipal Identification Cards as adequate proof for opening a bank account. This form of identification is not like any other government identification that our banking institutions have relied upon in the past. In fact, the much less stringent standard of proof required to obtain an NYC Municipal ID Card is a great cause for concern, especially when utilized for financial services.

NYC Municipal ID Cards are not linked to a person's Social Security number and do not stringently vet the information presented as other government identification cards do. In fact, the NYC Municipal ID Card program allows for "stay at a homeless shelter for a period of fifteen (15) days" constituting adequate points toward proof of a person's residence.<sup>1</sup> One can envision the ease by which a terrorist or other criminal could easily obtain this form of identification to perpetrate criminal activity. I believe that you are opening the floodgates to the prospect of fraud, money laundering, and security breaches, all of which affect New Yorkers and our fellow Americans in a dangerous way.

Federal agencies<sup>2</sup> issued guidelines in 2015 requiring banks to have customer identification requirements. These guidelines require, at a minimum, a person seeking to open a financial account present a person's date of birth, address, and an identification number before a banking institution open an account generally, accomplished by presenting a valid driver's license. These guidelines were

<sup>1</sup> <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/identity/card/documentation.page>

<sup>2</sup> Federal agencies referenced in your Municipal ID Letter include: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

promulgated to prevent fraud, and to foster greater security measures against those who seek to do us harm, domestically and abroad.

Your actions unilaterally, without any advice or review from the legislature or the public, instruct New York's banks to accept NYC IDs to access financial services in New York State. Your two-page Municipal ID Letter artfully released just before Labor Day Weekend, cites no authority giving you, alone, this power. It cites no legal analysis supporting your opinion. It does not speak to combatting fraud associated with obtaining the NYC ID. Your letter fails even to make mention of the very real Home Land Security Risks associated with using NYC IDs to access New York's financial service products. In short, your direction to New York's banking community lacks appropriate due diligence for the enormity of the action you undertook.

Your actions, in my opinion, attempt to circumvent the Legislature, and the people. In 2008 we learned, the hard way, what happens when fraud permeates our financial services system. We are only as strong as our weakest requirement. In recent weeks the integrity of the NYC ID program came into serious question.

I, therefore, respectfully request the following: 1) you rescind the opinions expressed in The Municipal ID Letter; 2) allow the people to voice their opinions regarding this matter in New York through the legislative process, and 3) you present a thorough and thoughtful legal analysis, to the legislature for consideration.

Very truly yours,



Ronald Castorina, Jr.  
Member of the Assembly, 62<sup>nd</sup> District

# EXHIBIT

D

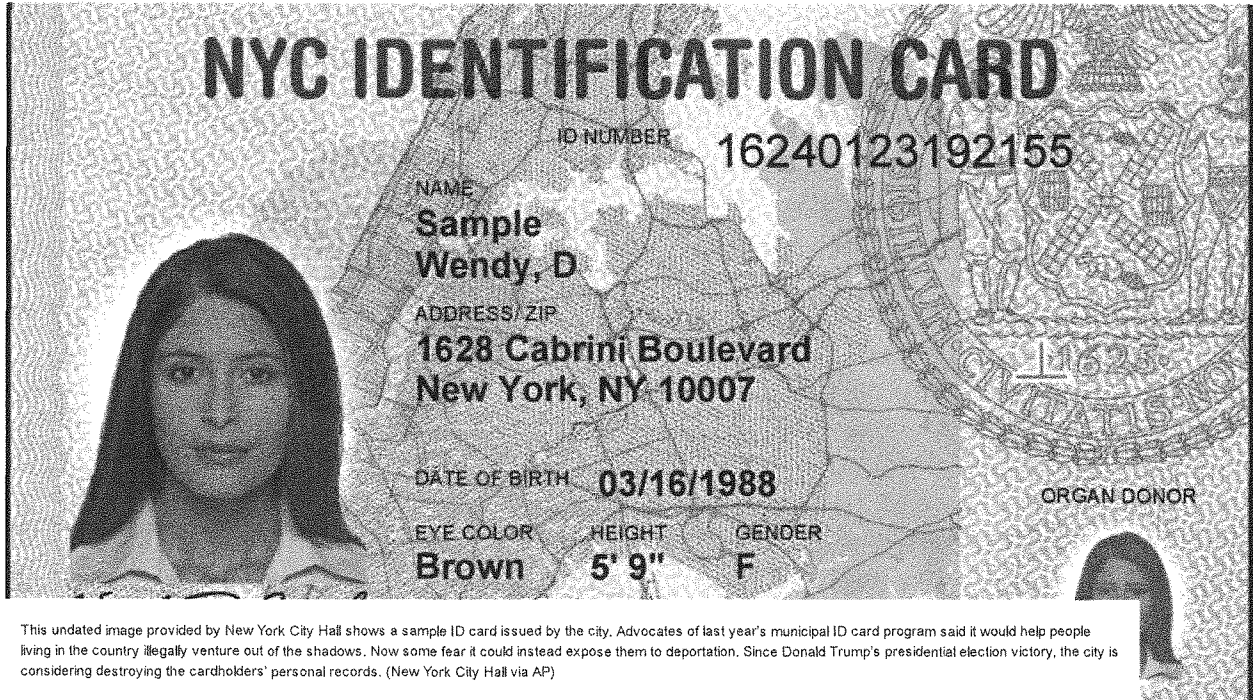


ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

# New York City may erase ID card data to protect illegal immigrants

Published November 15, 2016

Associated Press



This undated image provided by New York City Hall shows a sample ID card issued by the city. Advocates of last year's municipal ID card program said it would help people living in the country illegally venture out of the shadows. Now some fear it could instead expose them to deportation. Since Donald Trump's presidential election victory, the city is considering destroying the cardholders' personal records. (New York City Hall via AP)

NEW YORK – When New York City launched the nation's biggest municipal ID card program last year, advocates said it would help people living in the U.S. illegally to venture out of the shadows.



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But since Donald Trump was elected president, city officials are instead fielding questions about whether the cards could put those same people at greater risk of being deported.

The city has vowed to protect cardholders' personal records and might even delete them using a kind of self-destruct provision that allows for the information to be destroyed at the end of the year.

At least one state lawmaker has criticized that idea, saying it could make it impossible to trace people if they have obtained cards fraudulently.

Some immigrants take comfort in the city's stance, while acknowledging they are still wary.

Alberto Saldivia got his "IDNYC" card this year after spending 15 years in the country without legal authorization.

"It did cause me considerable concern, because they have my information, also the information of my son," the 53-year-old Mexico native said through an interpreter.

But he felt reassured when Mayor Bill de Blasio said last week that the city would "absolutely" safeguard cardholders' identities. De Blasio, a Democrat, said officials would assess whether to delete the personal records, a provision that was built into the program partly over concerns about the possible election of a Republican president such as Trump, whose campaign promises included a vow to deport millions of people in the U.S. illegally.

Municipal ID programs began in 2007 in New Haven, Conn., and have expanded to about 10 cities, including Los Angeles and San Francisco. New York's program is the most ambitious, with more than 800,000 cardholders, many of them U.S. citizens or legal residents.

Officials encouraged everyone in the city to sign up, but the program was aimed at those without other forms of ID, including homeless people and, especially, the estimated 500,000 immigrants living illegally in the city. The ID would help them do such everyday things as cash a check or attend a parent-teacher conference at a public school, advocates said.

The program quickly proved popular, with New Yorkers waiting hours in line and months for appointments to register early on. Pope Francis received a ceremonial one during his visit to the city last year, and United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said the card would make him "a real New Yorker."

But civil liberties advocates sounded alarms about the city collecting identity documents that immigration authorities or law enforcement could request, with a judge's approval.

The program's backers included language that allows for destroying the applicants' identity and residency information at the end of 2016 if administrators do not move to keep them.

"Protecting it from a possible Republican president was just one of the reasons" for the provision, said City Councilman Carlos Menchaca, who wrote the law that created the program.

A critic of the program said deleting the records would only compound concerns about it.

"It's completely irresponsible to destroy the documentation of people who applied for a government-issued ID card," said state Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis, a Republican.

She said the proof-of-identity requirements may not be stringent enough to prevent fraud, and deleting the records would leave authorities "no way of knowing who these people are, how they obtained this documentation."

Some immigrants and their advocates remain hopeful that the IDs won't backfire. The extent of the program should thwart using it to target immigrants here illegally, since they represent only some of the cardholders, said Javier Valdes of Make the Road New York, an advocacy group that pushed for the program.

Juan Rosas Carrera plans to keep his appointment this weekend to get an IDNYC card, despite a friend's warning that it could be risky to give authorities his name and address. Rosas Carrera, a Mexican national and construction worker, has been living in the U.S. illegally for 17 years.

Still, he wants an ID card to open a bank account and feels it's worth the worry.

"I feel safe in New York. I also think that if you don't have a criminal record, nothing bad will really happen," said Rosas Carrera, 48. "But I am a bit worried about Trump."

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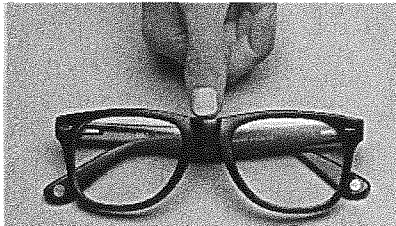
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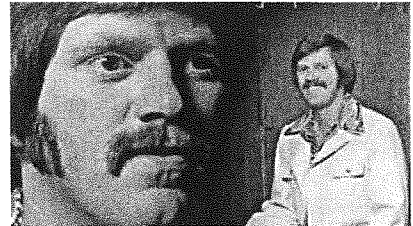
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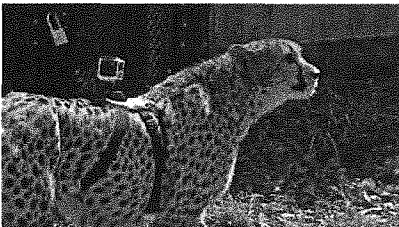
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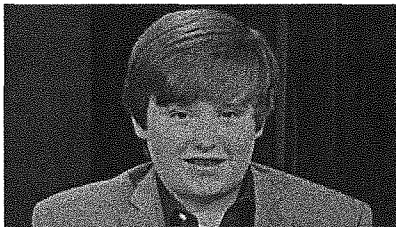
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# EXHIBIT

# E

# Malliotakis, Castorina ask city not to destroy IDNYC docs



Assembly members Nicole Malliotakis and Ron Castorina Jr. speak against the IDNYC program in St. George on Monday, Nov. 28, 2016. (Rachel Shapiro/Staten Island Advance)



By [Rachel Shapiro | rshapiro@siadvance.com](mailto:rshapiro@siadvance.com)

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on November 28, 2016 at 4:19 PM, updated December 02, 2016 at 7:05 AM

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - If city officials destroy documents collected from illegal immigrants who apply for municipal ID cards, they are creating a "slippery slope" and putting national security at risk, say Assembly members Nicole Malliotakis and Ron Castorina Jr., who are calling on officials to hold off.

The Republican Malliotakis **has opposed the IDNYC program** since its creation, as it exists primarily to provide undocumented immigrants with photo IDs, something that will help them come out of the shadows, proponents argue.

Her newly-elected colleague, Castorina, also objects to giving government-issued IDs to those in the country illegally, specifically **citing his opposition to allowing banks to accept the ID.**

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On Monday, the two Assembly Republicans spoke outside the Staten Island Business Center on St. Mark's Place in St. George, where city residents can obtain the ID cards.

They argue that the documents required to obtain an ID card are not solid proof of identification and residency in the city. The city doesn't consider legal status when determining whether to issue an ID card.

With Donald Trump's election, the liberal-leaning mayor and City Council are in favor of destroying the ID documents for fear they could be used to locate undocumented immigrants in the city and deport them.

Initially saying on the campaign trail that he hoped to deport the 11 million people in the country illegally, Trump has walked that back to deporting only those who commit crimes.

The city included a provision when it created the municipal ID program to destroy all personal records it collected if a "Tea Party Republican" wins the White House.

It was done for "political reasons" Malliotakis said. "That in itself is concerning."

She noted the 9/11 Commission Report, which states that many of the hijackers used fraudulent documents to obtain IDs.

"That's the concern we have today," she said.

If a person with a city municipal ID card uses it for nefarious reasons, investigators would need access to the documents given to the city. If they're destroyed, that could hinder justice, Malliotakis argued.

"It was a mistake to create this program and more of a mistake to destroy documents," she said.

While people applying for the ID must have three **points to confirm their identities** -- like U.S. or foreign passports, U.S. or foreign driver's licenses and U.S. or foreign birth certificates -- but they only need one to confirm their city residency.

That could be a utility bill, a bank statement or a letter from the city Housing Authority if the applicant lives in public housing.

Malliotakis often notes that one needs only to reside in a homeless shelter for 15 days before being considered a city resident, and a letter from the shelter management fulfills the requirement for one proof of residency.

IDNYC can't be used to obtain a driver's license, board an airplane, cross international borders or rent a car.

Castorina called the ID program an "unmitigated disaster" and "an issue of national security."

Castorina, a lawyer and former commissioner for the city Board of Elections, is researching whether destroying the documents is illegal -- if it is, he'll bring legal action against the city.

"We should not be issuing identification cards to people who are not here legally," he said.

He suspects that in many cases, fraudulent documents are used to obtain the IDs.

Those IDs may be used to get other IDs.

The term "slippery slope" was used several times by both Assembly members.

As for handing over documents to the federal government should it ask for it, "the City of New York has an obligation to follow the law," Castorina said. "The city is not above the federal government."

A City Hall spokesperson challenged the Assembly members' assertions that the ID program is lax and unsafe.

"The safety of New Yorkers is City Hall's top priority, and that includes the nearly 40 percent of city residents who are foreign born. We rely on law enforcement professionals from the NYPD to set the bar for security, and IDNYC consistently meets this high standard. Claims that IDNYC is being used by those intending serious harm is reckless fear-mongering - the IDNYC application process is similar to DMVs across the country, highly trained staff use state of the art technology to identify instances of fraud, and IDNYC cannot be used to obtain a driver's license, board a plane, or cross a border. Over 900,000 New Yorkers have IDNYC, and we are committed to protecting the privacy and security of our data. The City will make a decision regarding record retention in the near future."

*The story was updated to include a comment from the mayor's office.*

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2. The address to my district office is 11 Maplewood Place, Staten Island, NY 10306.

3. I submit this affidavit in support of the instant special proceeding seeking an Order pursuant to CPLR § 7803(2) prohibiting the respondents from deleting, scrubbing or otherwise destroying any and all information submitted in connection with New York City's Municipal Identification Card program (hereinafter "IDNYC"); and a declaratory judgment determining 68 RCNY 6-11 (Confidentiality of IDNYC Card Eligibility Information) violates New York State's Freedom of Information Law (hereinafter "FOIL").

4. On December 2, 2016, at 6:51:06 p.m., I submitted a FOIL request seeking:

I request delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York City's Municipal ID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayor's Office in digital format.

*See Exhibit A.*

5. On February 18, 2015, I wrote to Mayor Bill de Blasio, City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito, Councilmember Daniel Dromm, and Councilmember Carlos Menchaca, expressing grave concern about the city's plans to destroy the records of individuals who obtain IDNYC identification cards. *See Exhibit B.*

6. I suggested amending the law by removing the clause that permits the destruction of records, and replacing it with language that would require the retention of records acquired through the IDNYC application process or, at the very least, ensure that the determination made by the administering agency before the 2016 deadline is made in full consideration of our city's interest in law enforcement and counterterrorism. *Id.*

7. On May 5, 2015, New York City Immigrant Affairs Commissioner Nisha Agarwal, City Council Speaker Mark-Viverito, Councilmember Dromm, and Councilmember Menchaca responded to my letter, stating “the provision for review of the document retention provision...is meant to ensure that as IDNYC grows its anti-fraud protections remain strong, and that the balance between security and privacy remains accurate. Safety and security will remain paramount during the review process.” *See Exhibit C.*

8. I am currently researching potential legislation that would ameliorate the risk of an individual acquiring an IDNYC card under false pretenses.

9. In furtherance of the public’s interest with regard to the values of public safety and transparency in government, I require access to the documents acquired through the IDNYC application process to determine the level of scrutiny applied by the New York City Human Resources Administration in issuing identification cards.

10. In recent weeks Mayor de Blasio announced his desire to exercise his purported authority under 68 RCNY 6-11 and delete all records associated with the issuance of governmental identification through the IDNYC program. *See Exhibit D.*

11. When my colleague and co-petitioner, Ronald Castorina, Jr., and I requested Mayor de Blasio reconsider his position relating to IDNYC, respondent, City Council Speaker Mark-Viverito, challenged us to sue to enforce the people’s right to preserve and access information supporting the issuance of government issued identification. *See Exhibit E.*

12. If Mayor de Blasio, and members of his administration named here as co-respondents, destroy the IDNYC records I will be unable to conduct a legitimate investigation before preparing legislation affecting the rights of all New York citizens.

13. Any document destruction policy must, at the very least, maintain the records until the governmental identification expires. Here, IDNYC identification remains effective for five years, but the government purports to destroy the documents after only retaining them for two years. This course of conduct proves to be simply illogical and cannot provide the basis for transparent government espoused by the Mayor and Speaker.

14. The content of my FOIL request proves necessary to perform my duties as a member of New York State's Assembly. The documents used to support the issuance of a government identification card ought to remain intact to carry out legitimate governmental and public interests.

15. The content, manner, and timing of the disclosure of these governmental documents must remain subject to New York State's FOIL law.


16. Beyond my need to access these records for a legitimate state interest, the government must retain governmental identification records and their supporting documentation leading to its issuance as a matter of national security. It is conceivable, and likely, a person with nefarious intent could use fraudulent documents or reside in a New York City homeless shelter for 15 days to meet the city's requirements to obtain identification through the IDNYC program with the sole intention of exploiting it.

Dated: December 5, 2016  
Staten Island, NY

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Nicole Malliotakis

STATE OF NEW YORK )  
 ) ss.:  
COUNTY OF RICHMOND )

On DECEMBER 5, 2016, before me personally came Nicole Malliotakis, to me known, and known to be the individual described in, and who executed the foregoing Affidavit, and duly acknowledge to me that he executed the same.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
STATE OF NEW YORK

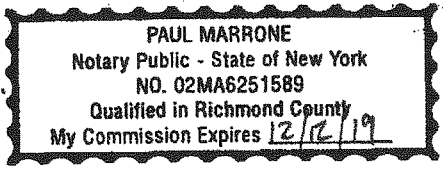


EXHIBIT  
A

### Thank You For Filling Out This Form

Shown below is your submission to **NYC.gov** on Friday, December 2, 2016 at 16:51:06

This form resides at <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/about/foil-request.page>

NAME of FIELDS	DATA
<b>First Name:</b>	Nicole
<b>Last Name:</b>	Malliotakis
<b>Address:</b>	11 Maplewood Place
<b>City:</b>	Staten Island
<b>State:</b>	NY
<b>ZIP Code:</b>	10306
<b>Email:</b>	nysassembly60@gmail.com
<b>Phone:</b>	718-987-0197
<b>Request:</b>	I request delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York Citys MunicipalID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayors Office in digital format.

EXHIBIT  
B





NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS  
Member of Assembly 64<sup>th</sup> District

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

RANKING MINORITY MEMBER  
Committee on Governmental Employees

COMMITTEES  
Banks  
Corporations, Authorities & Commissions  
Transportation  
Ways and Means

February 18, 2015

Hon. Bill de Blasio Mayor City Hall New York, NY 10007	Hon. Melissa Mark-Viverito Speaker City Hall New York, NY 10007	Hon. Daniel Dromm Councilmember 37-32 75 <sup>th</sup> Street Jackson Heights, NY 11372	Hon. Carlos Menchaca Councilmember 4417 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue Brooklyn, NY 11220
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Dear Mayor de Blasio, Speaker Mark-Viverito, Councilmember Dromm, and Councilmember Menchaca:

I write to you with regard to §3-115 of the New York City Administrative Code outlining the New York City Identification Card ("IDNYC) program, enacted by *Int. No. 253-A (2014)* co-sponsored by Councilmembers Dromm and Menchaca. My concern lies more specifically in subsection (e)(2) of the statute which states:

**On or before December 31, 2016, the administering agency shall review data collected in the report described in subdivision h of this section and make a determination regarding the continuing need to retain records ... and shall make any appropriate modifications to the policy for retention of records related to the New York city identity card program.**  
[emphasis added].

This provision orders the administering agency to ascertain, by the end of 2016, whether the records obtained through the program's administration should be retained or destroyed.

Subsection (e)(3) reads, subsequently:

**In the event that: (i) the administering agency fails to make a determination on or before December 31, 2016 pursuant to paragraph (2) of this subdivision, or (ii) the administering agency determines that records retention is no longer necessary, then the city shall not retain originals or copies of records provided by an applicant to prove identity or residency for a New York city identity card for longer than the time needed to review the application, and any such records in the city's possession prior to such date shall be destroyed on or before December 31, 2016 or, in the case of an application pending on such date, as soon as practicable after a final determination has been made regarding the application.**  
[emphasis added]

Alarminglly, this provision orders the city to destroy these records should the administering agency fail to enter the aforementioned determination by the required date, thereby creating a presumption that retention of records will not be necessary.

Even more alarming were statements made this week by Councilman Menchaca indicating the reason for the destruction of files would be politically motivated<sup>1</sup> and not based on the safety and security of all New Yorkers<sup>2</sup>. I find this reasoning wholly irresponsible.

While the intent of this statute was to provide undocumented residents, including those unlawfully residing within the country, with government-issued identification, individuals may be taking advantage of this program for malicious purposes. As you surely recall, the ensuing debate over *Int. 253-A* yielded concerns with regard to security and the potential use of the identification cards to pursue committing acts of terrorism. Many of the program's proponents responded to these concerns with arguments that the cards would actually increase security<sup>3</sup> and aid law enforcement<sup>4</sup> by identifying undocumented individuals living within New York City, providing an ancillary benefit used to build public support and persuade your colleagues in government. The purging of data authorized by subsection (e) would more than simply compromise this benefit, it would create a new risk to the safety of all New York City residents in that, should someone use the program to create a fake identity for malicious purposes, we would be left without the means to learn how he or she created it. The City of New York would have issued an estimate half million identification cards and have no record of who those identification cards were issued to. The records provided to the city in pursuit of the identification cards carry their own inherent value.

The ever-present fear of terrorism within our city has already been voiced with respect to this issue, but it must not be overlooked. While over a decade has passed since New York City was attacked on September 11, 2001, the threat endures. With the announcement of our nation's escalated role in fighting the most violent and brutal terrorist organization the world has ever known<sup>5</sup>, accompanied by reports on how the members of that organization are attempting to infiltrate and attack nations that oppose it<sup>6</sup>, now is not the time to take a political stance at the expense of our efforts to combat terrorism here at home. It is dangerous and misguided.

I strongly urge you to amend §3-115 of the New York City Administrative Code by striking subsection (e) and replacing it with language that would require the retention of records acquired through the IDNYC application process or, at the very least, ensure that the determination made by the administering agency before the 2016 deadline is made in full consideration of our city's interest in law enforcement and counterterrorism.

Furthermore, I remain concerned with how the program is fundamentally administered. Subsection (d) of the statute lists a variety of documents that can be provided in order to obtain an identification card,

---

<sup>1</sup> Christopher Mathias, *How New York City's Municipal ID Program Protects Immigrants From A Tea Party White House*, THE HUFFINGTON POST, Feb. 17, 2015.

<sup>2</sup> Tara Palmieri, *Municipal ID law has 'delete in case of Tea Party' clause*, N.Y. POST, Feb. 16, 2015.

<sup>3</sup> *Hearing on Intro. 253 To Create a New York City Identity Card Program Before the New York City Council Comm. on Immigration* (2015) (statement of Mindy Tarlow, Director of the Mayor's Office of Operations). ("Everyone needs identification to live in this city. In the name of 'Security' a lot of the buildings are asking for ID's before you are allowed to enter the building even public buildings are asking for ID's and if you don't have an ID you will not want to risk going into that building.")

<sup>4</sup> *Transcript of the Minutes of the Stated Meeting, June 26, 2014* (2014) (statement by Mark Levine, Member of the New York City Council). ("[G]ood law enforcement benefits from having IDs for anyone, which law enforcement officials have an encounter. Having identification facilitates law enforcement.")

<sup>5</sup> Letter from Barack Obama, President of the United States, to the United States Congress regarding Authorization for the Use of United States Armed Forces in connection with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, (Feb. 11, 2015).

<sup>6</sup> Tom Porter, *ISIS militants travel to Europe disguised as Syrian refugees*, INTERNATIONAL BUSINESS TIMES, Jan. 30, 2015.

ranging from a foreign national identification card<sup>7</sup>, to a written verification issued by a homeless shelter that the applicant has been in the city for at least 15 days<sup>8</sup>, to “any other documentation that the administering agency deems acceptable.”<sup>9</sup> While the IDNYC application requires the production of multiple documents, weighted in accordance of their reliability and ability to withstand scrutiny<sup>10</sup>, the lax restrictiveness of the statute would permit these requirements to be relaxed and allow the IDNYC program to lower the standard for application. I strongly urge you to amend §3-115 by explicitly identifying which documents are required or, at the very least, codify the requirements presently indicated on the IDNYC application.

My final concern lies in questions as to how the document requirements were promulgated. Were the U.S. Department of Homeland Security and the New York City Police Department Intelligence Division & Counterterrorism Bureau consulted during the creation of this program? Have you investigated, or considered, the ramifications of destroying files of hundreds of thousands of applicants who will now have government-issued identification cards? Further, can you identify controls that have been implemented to ensure that the documentation provided with an application is not fraudulent?

I thank you in advance for your consideration of my suggestions, and anxiously await your response to my questions.

Very truly yours,



Nicole Malliotakis  
Member of Assembly

cc: Hon. Vincent Gentile, Councilmember, 43<sup>rd</sup> District  
Hon. Vincent Ignizio, Council Minority Leader, 51<sup>st</sup> District  
Hon. Steven Matteo, Councilmember, 50<sup>th</sup> District  
Hon. Deborah Rose, Councilmember, 49<sup>th</sup> District

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<sup>7</sup> N.Y.C. ADMIN. CODE §3-115(d)(1)(viii).

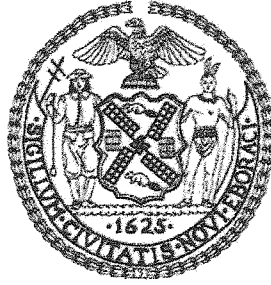
<sup>8</sup> Id. at §3-115(d)(2)(xi).

<sup>9</sup> Id. at §3-115(d)(3)(xii).

<sup>10</sup> IDNYC Application, [http://www.nyc.gov/assets/idnyc/downloads/pdf/application-materials/application\\_english.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/assets/idnyc/downloads/pdf/application-materials/application_english.pdf).

EXHIBIT  
C

MAY 0 8 2015



May 5, 2015

Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis  
District Office  
11 Maplewood Place  
Staten Island, New York 10306

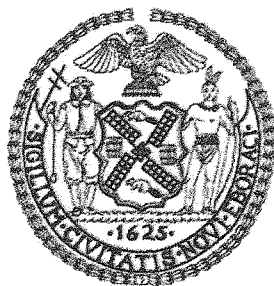
Dear Assemblywoman Malliotakis:

Thank you for your letter regarding IDNYC, the City's new municipal identification card program.

The City launched IDNYC in January. All eligible New York City residents 14 and older may now obtain the IDNYC card. The card was designed to be attractive and useful for all New Yorkers. IDNYC cardholders have access to, among many other benefits, free or discounted admission to cultural institutions and discounts at movie theaters and local businesses. The card is accepted by the NYPD as valid identification for many purposes, and it even doubles as a library card. Cardholders may access City buildings and services. Indeed, inclusion is critical to the success of the IDNYC card, as it brings diverse New Yorkers together and gives all the same benefits and opportunities. One City—one card. The availability of the card to all New Yorkers also reduces barriers to full participation in civic life for the elderly, homeless, immigrants, transgender and other communities that have historically had difficulty obtaining identification. That makes our City safer. Importantly, we found that those without identification very often do not engage law enforcement when they witness or are the victim of a crime. With the IDNYC card, vulnerable New Yorkers can come out of the shadows in a safe and secure environment.

Making sure that the IDNYC card is safe and secure was, of course, critical for us. In drafting the legislation establishing the IDNYC program, as well as the rules governing implementation, we took great care to minimize the possibility of fraud and maximize security and public safety. We consulted with experts, including the NYPD and its Intelligence Bureau, who contributed to the development of security and anti-fraud protections. These experts also helped us formulate document vetting protocols, as well as the quality control measures we adopted for IDNYC's critical backend verification process.

It bears noting that the City committed significant resources to building a robust and effective identification verification process.



Applicants may only obtain the card if they can provide sufficient acceptable documents to prove identity and New York City residency. We have established a strong supporting document criteria system and eligibility verification methods, not unlike those used by the state Department of Motor Vehicles to deter fraud. The initial identity verification process also utilizes facial recognition software, so that fraud may be detected during the renewal process. Important information appearing on all IDNYC cards, including cardholder's name, address, photo, and other information, is retained indefinitely.

The supporting document retention provisions and protocols, also established in consultation with the NYPD and other security experts, are designed to ensure the integrity of the card and the personal safety and privacy interests of New Yorkers. The provision for review of the document retention provision that you referenced in your letter, is meant to ensure that as IDNYC grows, its anti-fraud protections remain strong, and that the balance between security and privacy remains accurate. Safety and security will remain paramount during the review process.

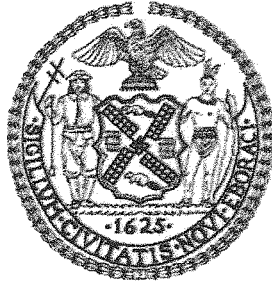
As a result of all these security measures, the NYPD has authorized police officers to accept the card as valid and sufficient identification for many interactions with the public. Further, the IDNYC card is considered so secure, that no fewer than twelve banking institutions in the City accept it for purposes of opening a bank account. While we are confident that the procedures and card design are strong fraud deterrents, we will remain vigilant regarding card-related security matters.

Thank you for your concern regarding these matters. If you have any further questions please contact Bitta Mostofi at 212-676-3024 or via email at [bmostofi@moia.nyc.gov](mailto:bmostofi@moia.nyc.gov).

Sincerely,

Nisha Agarwal  
Commissioner, NYC Office of Immigrant Affairs

Melissa Mark Viverito  
Speaker, New York City Council



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Dromm".

Daniel Dromm  
Chair, Committee on Education  
New York City Council  
IDNYC Bill Sponsor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carlos Menchaca".

Carlos Menchaca  
Chair, Committee on Immigration  
New York City Council  
IDNYC Bill Co-Sponsor

# EXHIBIT

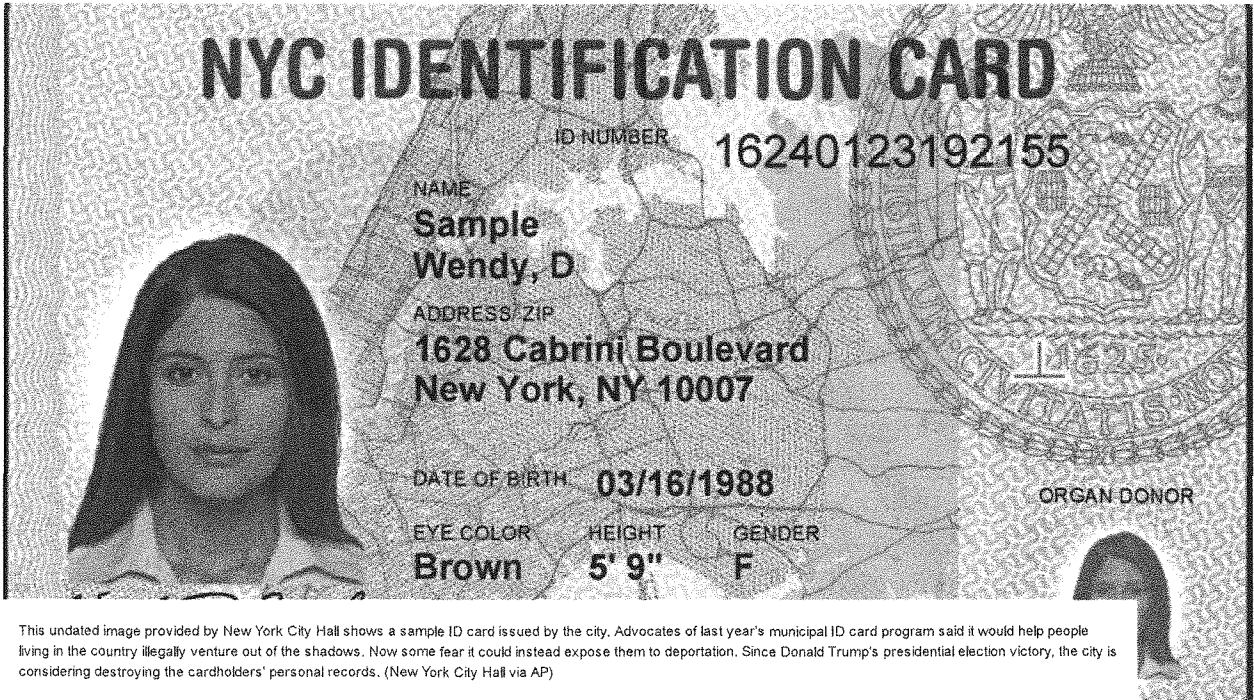
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ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

# New York City may erase ID card data to protect illegal immigrants

Published November 15, 2016  
Associated Press



This undated image provided by New York City Hall shows a sample ID card issued by the city. Advocates of last year's municipal ID card program said it would help people living in the country illegally venture out of the shadows. Now some fear it could instead expose them to deportation. Since Donald Trump's presidential election victory, the city is considering destroying the cardholders' personal records. (New York City Hall via AP)

NEW YORK – When New York City launched the nation's biggest municipal ID card program last year, advocates said it would help people living in the U.S. illegally to venture out of the shadows.



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But since Donald Trump was elected president, city officials are instead fielding questions about whether the cards could put those same people at greater risk of being deported.

The city has vowed to protect cardholders' personal records and might even delete them using a kind of self-destruct provision that allows for the information to be destroyed at the end of the year.

At least one state lawmaker has criticized that idea, saying it could make it impossible to trace people if they have obtained cards fraudulently.

Some immigrants take comfort in the city's stance, while acknowledging they are still wary.

Alberto Saldivia got his "IDNYC" card this year after spending 15 years in the country without legal authorization.

"It did cause me considerable concern, because they have my information, also the information of my son," the 53-year-old Mexico native said through an interpreter.

But he felt reassured when Mayor Bill de Blasio said last week that the city would "absolutely" safeguard cardholders' identities. De Blasio, a Democrat, said officials would assess whether to delete the personal records, a provision that was built into the program partly over concerns about the possible election of a Republican president such as Trump, whose campaign promises included a vow to deport millions of people in the U.S. illegally.

Municipal ID programs began in 2007 in New Haven, Conn., and have expanded to about 10 cities, including Los Angeles and San Francisco. New York's program is the most ambitious, with more than 800,000 cardholders, many of them U.S. citizens or legal residents.

Officials encouraged everyone in the city to sign up, but the program was aimed at those without other forms of ID, including homeless people and, especially, the estimated 500,000 immigrants living illegally in the city. The ID would help them do such everyday things as cash a check or attend a parent-teacher conference at a public school, advocates said.

The program quickly proved popular, with New Yorkers waiting hours in line and months for appointments to register early on. Pope Francis received a ceremonial one during his visit to the city last year, and United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said the card would make him "a real New Yorker."

But civil liberties advocates sounded alarms about the city collecting identity documents that immigration authorities or law enforcement could request, with a judge's approval.

The program's backers included language that allows for destroying the applicants' identity and residency information at the end of 2016 if administrators do not move to keep them.

"Protecting it from a possible Republican president was just one of the reasons" for the provision, said City Councilman Carlos Menchaca, who wrote the law that created the program.

A critic of the program said deleting the records would only compound concerns about it.

"It's completely irresponsible to destroy the documentation of people who applied for a government-issued ID card," said state Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis, a Republican.

She said the proof-of-identity requirements may not be stringent enough to prevent fraud, and deleting the records would leave authorities "no way of knowing who these people are, how they obtained this documentation."

Some immigrants and their advocates remain hopeful that the IDs won't backfire. The extent of the program should thwart using it to target immigrants here illegally, since they represent only some of the cardholders, said Javier Valdes of Make the Road New York, an advocacy group that pushed for the program.

Juan Rosas Carrera plans to keep his appointment this weekend to get an IDNYC card, despite a friend's warning that it could be risky to give authorities his name and address. Rosas Carrera, a Mexican national and construction worker, has been living in the U.S. illegally for 17 years.

Still, he wants an ID card to open a bank account and feels it's worth the worry.

"I feel safe in New York. I also think that if you don't have a criminal record, nothing bad will really happen," said Rosas Carrera, 48. "But I am a bit worried about Trump."

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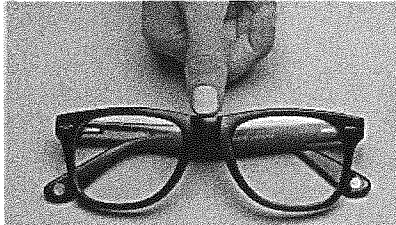
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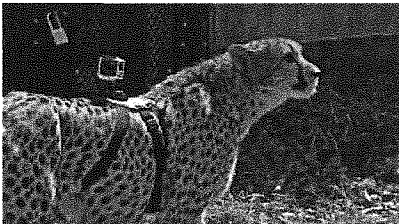
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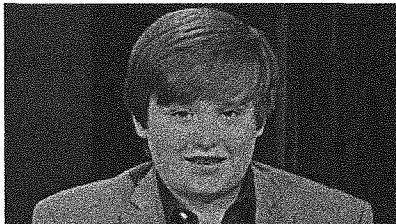
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# EXHIBIT

E

## Malliotakis, Castorina ask city not to destroy IDNYC docs



Assembly members Nicole Malliotakis and Ron Castorina Jr. speak against the IDNYC program in St. George on Monday, Nov. 28, 2016. (Rachel Shapiro/Staten Island Advance)



By [Rachel Shapiro | rshapiro@siadvance.com](mailto:rshapiro@siadvance.com)

[Email the author](#) | [Follow on Twitter](#)

on November 28, 2016 at 4:19 PM, updated December 02, 2016 at 7:05 AM

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - If city officials destroy documents collected from illegal immigrants who apply for municipal ID cards, they are creating a "slippery slope" and putting national security at risk, say Assembly members Nicole Malliotakis and Ron Castorina Jr., who are calling on officials to hold off.

The Republican Malliotakis **has opposed the IDNYC program** since its creation, as it exists primarily to provide undocumented immigrants with photo IDs, something that will help them come out of the shadows, proponents argue.

Her newly-elected colleague, Castorina, also objects to giving government-issued IDs to those in the country illegally, specifically **citing his opposition to allowing banks to accept the ID.**

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On Monday, the two Assembly Republicans spoke outside the Staten Island Business Center on St. Mark's Place in St. George, where city residents can obtain the ID cards.

They argue that the documents required to obtain an ID card are not solid proof of identification and residency in the city. The city doesn't consider legal status when determining whether to issue an ID card.

With Donald Trump's election, the liberal-leaning mayor and City Council are in favor of destroying the ID documents for fear they could be used to locate undocumented immigrants in the city and deport them.

Initially saying on the campaign trail that he hoped to deport the 11 million people in the country illegally, Trump has walked that back to deporting only those who commit crimes.

The city included a provision when it created the municipal ID program to destroy all personal records it collected if a "Tea Party Republican" wins the White House.

It was done for "political reasons" Malliotakis said. "That in itself is concerning."

She noted the 9/11 Commission Report, which states that many of the hijackers used fraudulent documents to obtain IDs.

"That's the concern we have today," she said.

If a person with a city municipal ID card uses it for nefarious reasons, investigators would need access to the documents given to the city. If they're destroyed, that could hinder justice, Malliotakis argued.

"It was a mistake to create this program and more of a mistake to destroy documents," she said.

While people applying for the ID must have three **points to confirm their identities** -- like U.S. or foreign passports, U.S. or foreign driver's licenses and U.S. or foreign birth certificates -- but they only need one to confirm their city residency.

That could be a utility bill, a bank statement or a letter from the city Housing Authority if the applicant lives in public housing.

Malliotakis often notes that one needs only to reside in a homeless shelter for 15 days before being considered a city resident, and a letter from the shelter management fulfills the requirement for one proof of residency.

IDNYC can't be used to obtain a driver's license, board an airplane, cross international borders or rent a car.

Castorina called the ID program an "unmitigated disaster" and "an issue of national security."

Castorina, a lawyer and former commissioner for the city Board of Elections, is researching whether destroying the documents is illegal -- if it is, he'll bring legal action against the city.

"We should not be issuing identification cards to people who are not here legally," he said.

He suspects that in many cases, fraudulent documents are used to obtain the IDs.

Those IDs may be used to get other IDs.

The term "slippery slope" was used several times by both Assembly members.

As for handing over documents to the federal government should it ask for it, "the City of New York has an obligation to follow the law," Castorina said. "The city is not above the federal government."

A City Hall spokesperson challenged the Assembly members' assertions that the ID program is lax and unsafe.

"The safety of New Yorkers is City Hall's top priority, and that includes the nearly 40 percent of city residents who are foreign born. We rely on law enforcement professionals from the NYPD to set the bar for security, and IDNYC consistently meets this high standard. Claims that IDNYC is being used by those intending serious harm is reckless fear-mongering - the IDNYC application process is similar to DMVs across the country, highly trained staff use state of the art technology to identify instances of fraud, and IDNYC cannot be used to obtain a driver's license, board a plane, or cross a border. Over 900,000 New Yorkers have IDNYC, and we are committed to protecting the privacy and security of our data. The City will make a decision regarding record retention in the near future."

*The story was updated to include a comment from the mayor's office.*

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**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
COUNTY OF RICHMOND**

In the Matter of

: INDEX NO. \_\_\_\_\_

RONALD CASTORINA, JR. and  
NICOLE MALLIOTAKIS,

Petitioners/Plaintiffs,

-against-

BILL DE BLASIO, in his official capacity as MAYOR OF THE  
CITY OF NEW YORK,  
THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO, in her official capacity as the  
SPEAKER OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL,  
STEVEN BANKS, COMMISSIONER OF THE NEW YORK CITY  
HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF  
SOCIAL SERVICES, in his official capacity,  
MATTHEW BRUNE, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF THE  
NEW YORK CITY HUMAN RESOURCES  
ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, in  
his official capacity, and  
RICARDO BROWNE, EXECUTIVE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,  
MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, HUMAN  
RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL  
SERVICES, in his official capacity,

Respondents/Defendants,

For a Judgement Pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and  
Rules.

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**MEMORANDUM OF LAW IN SUPPORT OF PETITIONERS/PLAINTIFFS'  
ORDER TO SHOW CAUSE**

---

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On The Brief  
Jeffrey Alfano

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## PRELIMINARY STATEMENT

Mayor de Blasio claimed: “I believe deeply in transparency” and want to make public “a whole swath of information” about “day-to-day government business.”<sup>1</sup> Mayor de Blasio investigated City agencies’ responses to Freedom of Information Law (“FOIL”) requests in his former role as Public Advocate. During that time he believed mayoral administrations must follow FOIL and concluded, “the bottom line here is: This is not an optional matter, and we have to stop letting people get away with it [ignoring/denying FOIL requests].”<sup>2</sup> Indeed, Speaker Mark-Viverito sang the praises of open government data this past April in response to the opening of the New York City School of Data conference celebrating the fourth anniversary of the city passing its first open data law. Speaker Mark-Viverito proclaimed this past Spring her vision of open government technology working “to tell a story, one that has rarely been told rightly before. I want our data to move people, organizations, and of course, governments to act differently.”<sup>3</sup>

Inexplicably Mayor de Blasio and Speaker Mark-Viverito, two champions of open government and transparency, seek the destruction of nearly 1,000,000 applications kept in connection with New York City’s Municipal Identification Program (“IDNYC”) before the close of the year. While both Mayor de Blasio and Speaker Mark-Viverito only recently voiced their intention to unilaterally destroy documents associated with the largest municipal government identification program in the country, they seek the benefit of a poison pill which destroys evidence of the IDNYC program but keeps the program alive.

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<sup>1</sup> Sally Goldenberg, *De Blasio to Disclose ‘Substantive’ Lobbyist Meetings*, POLITICO, May 27, 2014 attached to the Affirmation of Jeffrey Alfano (“Alfano Aff.”) as Exhibit A.

<sup>2</sup> Kate Taylor, *De Blasio Pushes on Information Requests*, *The New York Times*, Oct. 19, 2011. Alfano Aff. Exh. B.

<sup>3</sup> Kaela Sanborn-Hum, *New York City’s Evolving Approach to Open Data*, GOTHAM GAZETTE, April 11, 2016. Alfano Aff. Exh. C.

Council Member Menchaca unabashedly told the New York Post in February 2015, “In case a Tea Party Republican comes into office and says, ‘We want all the data from all of the municipal ID programs in the country,’ we’re going to take the data.”<sup>4</sup> The New York City Council and the Mayor’s Office selected the December 31, 2016, data destruction date simply to “allow us [the City Council] to prepare for any new leadership [in Washington, D.C.]” according to Council Member Menchaca.<sup>5</sup>

New York’s Freedom of Information Law (“FOIL”) contemplates restricting public access to public documents in limited circumstances. It does not consider the wholesale destruction of public records based on the political leanings of democratically elected officials. The presumption remains documents created in the public realm belong to the people and not individual administrations. This Court cannot and must not allow the Mayor, the Speaker, and their administrations from taking action far exceeding their collective jurisdictions. Simply stated, the Respondents announced a course of conduct concerning IDNYC records rejects every American ideal associated with the free and open operation of government.

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<sup>4</sup> Tara Palmeir, *Municipal ID law has ‘delete in case of Tea Party’ clause*, NEW YORK POST, Feb. 16, 2015, Alfano Aff. Exh. D.

<sup>5</sup> *See Id.*

## STATEMENT OF FACTS

### A. Creation of the IDNYC Program

The New York City Council (“Council”) sought to remedy a number of problems it saw when it adopted the IDNYC program. A major problem identified by the Council was finding a solution to provide valid identification for citizens who simply have no reason to drive cars. During hearings contemplating the introduction of a bill enabling the Mayor to create the IDNYC took testimony from many stakeholders before submitting the measure to the full Council. One such witness was Mindy Tarlow, the Director of Mayor’s Office of Operations. During her testimony before the New York City Council’s Committee on Immigration envisioned a municipal identification program relying on an administrative model similar to the State Department of Motor Vehicles. *See* Alfano Aff. Ex. E (Transcript of the Minutes of the Committee on Immigration, April 30, 2014) p. 34 lines 17-25 (considering application process); p. 35 lines 15-25 (considering fraud protection for the document). During the same committee meeting, Sue Dorn, a leader of Manhattan Together and Metro-IAF echoed Director Tarlow’s sentiment that a New York City Municipal Identification Card would provide a similar form of identification for her as an 80-year-old woman without the “hassle of dealing with New York Stat’s DMV.” *Id.* at p. 20 lines 22-25.

When the proposed legislation made it to the floor of the entire Council, Council Member Levine articulately explained his vote in favor of the measure. The Council Member stated:

New York City is among the localities in America with the lowest rates of driver’s license among its residents. Well under 60% among adults, and it’s plummeting among young people. That number is trending downward. This at a time when the circumstances in which we need IDs is rapidly proliferating... So this provides a solution for over 40% of adults in New York, a number which is growing, that do not have municipal IDs.

Alfano Aff. Exh. F (Transcript of the Minutes of the State Meeting, June 26, 2014) p. 61 lines 13-20).

In the end, IDNYC passed, in part, based on its modeling of the practices and procedures found in the administration of New York State's Department of Motor Vehicles ensuring the integrity of the identification.

However, the IDNYC program contains a provision permitting the destruction of documents submitted to the government to obtain the identification card. Identification issued through the NYCID program expires five years after it is issued to an individual. The New York City Code, however, permits the destruction of records associated with the NYCID program after two years solely at the discretion of the Respondents.

**B. Contemplation of The Destruction of Public Records in Violation of FOIL**

Council members identified the IDNYC enabling statute contained significant drafting flaws. *Id.* at p. 42 lines 23-25 and p. 43 lines 2-4<sup>6</sup> and p. 64 lines 7-19.<sup>7</sup> Glaringly, and identified by then-Minority Leader Vincent Ignizio, the enabling statute permitted the destruction of public records leading to serious concerns relating to proper policing within New York City and wherever IDNYC travel beyond the City's borders. *See* NYC Administrative Code 3-115(e), 68 RCNY 6-

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<sup>6</sup> Council Member Garodnick: "There are open issues here that we are delegating to the Mayor to sort out, including how to conclusively prevent fraud. I recognize the premium that is being placed on speed, but my preference for this institution would have been for the Council to work these questions out in advance."

<sup>7</sup> Council Member Greenfield: "[I]t certainly is a complicated issue in terms of Municipal ID, and I share the concerns that some of the members have raised. I think that we could have had some tweaks to the bill. We could have had more robust discussion on the bill, and we certainly could have improvements on the bill. But we in our position as elected official[s] don't get to vote on perfect legislation normal (sic). We generally get to vote on imperfect legislation and try to figure out the merits of said legislation."

11, New York City Local Law 35/2014, *see also* Alfano Exh. F (Transcript of the Minutes of the State Meeting, June 26, 2014) p. 52 lines 20-25, p. 53 lines 2-25.<sup>8</sup>

In the weeks following the effective date of the enabling statute and accompanying rules, the public learned the so-called drafting flaws were not included due to the speed of passage but were part of a methodically thought out plan to circumvent open government requirements contained in New York Freedom of Information Law.

In a New York Post article entitled “Municipal ID law has ‘delete in case of Tea Party’ clause” Council Member Menchaca bragged about the provision allowing the Respondents to destroy public records at the end of 2016 was “In case a Tea Party Republican comes into office and says, ‘We want all of the data from all of the municipal ID programs in the country,’ we’re going to take the data.” *See* Alfano Aff. Exh. D. While the article speaks about the document destruction provision of the law as a “sunset” provision, nothing can be farther from reality. The IDNYC program would not come to an end should Respondents exercise the document destruction provision before December 31, 2016. The program, instead, continues but the government records supporting the distribution of the government identification card would be destroyed.

**C. Petitioners’ Requests To Preserve Publicly Filed IDNYC Documents**

On September 1, 2016, the Superintendent of the New York State Department of Financial Services (hereinafter “the Superintendent”) issued a letter to New York’s banking industry encouraging acceptance of IDNYC for banking and credit products. *See* Alfano Aff. Exh. G. On October 20, 2016, Petitioner, Assembly Member Castorina, wrote the Superintendent requesting

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<sup>8</sup> Council Member Ignizio: “It then goes on to say that we will destroy that documents that we retain, that we are tak[ing] from those that are seeking [a municipal id].... I will vote no on this bill because I believe there are legitimate security concerns that have no[t] been adequately addressed in it, and notwithstanding the desire of my colleagues to act in a compassionate manner to ensure that people aren’t treated .. unfairly.”



the reconsideration of the sentiments contained that letter. *See* Alfano Aff. Exh. H. The Superintendent issued no response to Assembly Member Castorina's letter, nor was it acknowledged in any other way. In recent weeks Mayor de Blasio announced his intention to destroy all records associated with the issuance of the IDNYC program through his purported authority under NYC Administrative Code 3-115(e) and 68 RCNY 6-11. *See* Alfano Aff. Exh. I.

On November 28, 2016, Petitioners requested Respondents refrain from destroying any government documents submitted in connection with the IDNYC program. *See* Alfano Aff. Exh. J. On November 29, 2016, Respondents publicly rejected Petitioners requests to preserve documents submitted in connection with the IDNYC program through Speaker Mark-Viverito's statement to the press telling Petitioners to "go ahead [and] sue us." *See* Alfano Aff. Exh. K.

Petitioners require access to the governmental documents kept in connection with the IDNYC program in their roles as members of the New York State Assembly's Committee on Banks to introduce legislation concerning the ID's acceptance in banks governed by New York law. To preserve these documents Petitioners filed FOIL requests with New York City's Department of Human Resources Administration/Department of Social Services (hereinafter "New York City HRA").

On November 29, 2016, at 12:23:11 p.m., Assembly Member Castorina submitted a FOIL request seeking:

delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York City's Municipal ID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayor's Office in digital format.

*See* Alfano Aff. Exh. L.

Similarly, on December 2, 2016, at 6:51:06 p.m., Assembly Member Malliotakis submitted a FOIL request seeking:

delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York City's Municipal ID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayor's Office in digital format.

*See Alfano Aff. Exh. M.*

The Respondents offered no response to either FOIL request submitted by Petitioners.

## ARGUMENT

### POINT I

#### **NEW YORK'S FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW REQUIRES RESPONDENTS PRESERVE GOVERNMENT RECORDS SUBMITTED IN CONNECTION WITH THE IDNYC PROGRAM THIS COURT MUST ISSUE AN ORDER PROHIBITING RESPONDENTS FROM PROCEEDING WITHOUT JURISDICTION TO DESTROY THESE GOVERNMENT DOCUMENTS**

New York State Freedom of Information Law contemplates the preservation of the public record and liberal access to the workings of government by members of the public. The law states:

As state and local government services increase and public problems become more sophisticated and complex and therefore harder to solve, and with the resultant increase in revenues and expenditures, it is incumbent upon the state and its localities to extend public accountability wherever and whenever feasible. The people's right to know the process of governmental decision making and to review the documents and statistics leading to determinations is basic to our society. Access to such information should not be thwarted by shrouding it with the cloak of secrecy or confidentiality. The legislature therefore declares that government is the public's business and that the public, individually and collectively and represented by a free press, should have access to the records of government in accordance with the provisions of this article.

Public Officers Law § 84, *See also Newsday, Inc. v. Sise*, 71 NY2d 146 (1987) (Freedom of Information Law was enacted to provide the public with means to access to government records in order to encourage public awareness, understanding, and participation in government, and to discourage official secrecy; it is to be liberally construed, and its exemptions narrowly interpreted so that public is granted maximum access); *Tartan Oil Corp. v. Stat Dep't of Taxation & Fin.*, 239 AD2d 36 (3d Dep't. 1998) (All record of public agencies are presumptively open to public inspection, and Freedom of Information Law is to be liberally construed with its exceptions narrowly interpreted).

Respondents, as public officers, remain bound by New York's Freedom of Information Law. Respondents, consequently, must preserve rather than destroy public records as they indicate they will do, or have already done concerning the IDNYC program. Assuming Respondents continue to respect the Freedom of Information Law, this Court must issue an order of prohibition pursuant to C.P.L.R. § 7803(2) preventing Respondents from venturing beyond their jurisdiction as public officers by destroying documents associated with the IDNYC program. *See Bradford v. Helman*, 24 AD2d 937 (1<sup>st</sup> Dep't 1965) (holding a writ of prohibition acts only to forestall action and not to review action). Professor Siegel notes in his treatise, *New York Practice*, that "prohibition does not lie against strictly administrative action, but only against judicial and quasi-judicial action." Siegel, *NY Prac.* § 559 at 992 [5<sup>th</sup> Ed. 2011], *see also Roche v. Lamb*, 61 Misc.2d 633 (N.Y. Sup. Ct. 1969), app. dismissed, 33 AD2d 1102 (4<sup>th</sup> Dep't 1970), *aff'd*, 26 NY2d 54 (1970) (where city council was proceeding without or in excess of its jurisdiction, petitioner was entitled to judgment prohibiting such action). Here, Respondents' act in a quasi-judicial capacity rendering a unilateral determination of which records should be preserved and which should be destroyed when New York State law indicates public records must be preserved with the public granted liberal access to them.

The clear language of the enabling statute and the subsequent regulations enacted pursuant to that statute seek only to obfuscate public access to government records by failing to provide any avenue for members of the general public to review materials submitted in connection with the IDNYC program. *See NYC Administrative Code* § 3-115(c) and 68 RCNY 6-11. Respondents, instead, focused their energy devising a methodology wherein public records could be destroyed if the nation chose a member political party opposing their way of thinking as president. *See Alfano Aff Exh. D*. Such an action, if successful, represents a clear violation FOIL. *See Public*

Officers Law § 89(8) (“Any person who, with intent to prevent the public inspection of a record pursuant to this article, willfully conceals or destroys any such record shall be guilty of a violation.”)

Respondents actions cannot serve a legitimate governmental interest and represent actions taken well beyond their jurisdiction of elected public officers.

## POINT II

### **THE IDNYC ENABLING STATUTE AND SUBSEQUENTLY ISSUED REGULATIONS RESTRICTING ACCESS TO RECORDS ASSOCIATED WITH THE IDNYC PROGRAM AND CALLING FOR THEIR ARBITRARY DESTRUCTION VIOLATE NEW YORK STATE’S FREEDOM OF INFORMATION LAW.**

New York’s Freedom of Information Law punishes “any person who, with intent to prevent the public inspection of a record pursuant to this article, willfully conceals or destroys any such record.” Public Officers Law § 89. One of the stated purposes of enacting the IDNYC program was to provide citizens of New York City with access to identification which would ultimately be treated similarly to a New York State Driver License issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles. During floor debate, several members of the Council indicated the disparity between citizens living in New York City that do not drive cars against those with cars. In fact, Director Tarlow from the Mayor’s Office indicated the IDNYC program should function similar to the state Department of Motor Vehicles. In fact, Council Members noted the similarity between the IDNYC program and the licenses issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles to allay their concerns regarding the possibility of fraud inherent in any governmental identification program.

The Vehicle and Traffic Law governing New York State Driver Licenses contemplate both the transmission of personal information between governmental bodies and agencies, i.e. the Selective Service, and public access to records kept in connection with the business conducted by

the Department of Motor Vehicles. *See* VTL § 502 and § 508. In fact, the regulations of the Commissioner Motor Vehicles offer extensive rules concerning the public's access to motor vehicle records. *See* 15 NYCRR § 160 *et seq.* and 15 NYCRR § 161 *et seq.* Noticeably absent from these extensive regulations is any regulation permitting the Commissioner of the Department of Motor Vehicles, or the Governor, from destroying any information submitted by applicants to obtain an identification through the department.

New York City's IDNYC program vests authority to destroy governmental documents submitted in connection with that program in the unelected bureaucracy of New York City's HRA. *See* NYC Administrative Code § 3-115(c) and 68 RCNY 6-11.

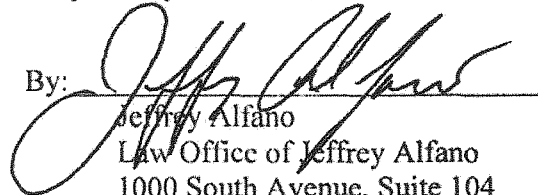
The precedent created by the IDNYC program's confidentiality provisions begin a slippery slope to government not by the people but rather by executive fiat. While such a solution created by the Council and the Mayor may have been crafted with the best intentions not meant to abridge the rights of New Yorkers, the road to hell is paved with good intentions.

## CONCLUSION

Petitioners respectfully request this Court grant its Order to Show Cause seeking 1) an Order of Prohibition preventing Respondents from exceeding the jurisdiction of their office; 2) an Order finding the confidentiality provisions of the IDNYC program in violation of New York State's Freedom of Information Law and declaring those portions of the IDNYC program permitting the destruction of public documents by New York City HRA and limiting public access to the same null and void, and 3) for such other and further relief as this Court deems just and proper.

Respectfully submitted,

By:



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1000 South Avenue, Suite 104

Staten Island, NY 10314

Attorney for Petitioners/Plaintiffs

Ronald Castorina, Jr. and Nicole Malliotakis

Dated: Staten Island, New York  
December 5, 2016





**SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEW YORK  
 COUNTY OF RICHMOND**

In the Matter of

RONALD CASTORINA, JR. and  
 NICOLE MALIOTAKIS,

Petitioners/Plaintiffs,

-against-

BILL DE BLASIO, in his official capacity as MAYOR OF THE  
 CITY OF NEW YORK,  
 THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK,  
 MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO, in her official capacity as the  
 SPEAKER OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL,  
 STEVEN BANKS, COMMISSIONER OF THE NEW YORK CITY  
 HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF  
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 MATTHEW BRUNE, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF THE  
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 ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, in  
 his official capacity, and  
 RICARDO BROWNE, EXECUTIVE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER,  
 MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, HUMAN  
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For a Judgement Pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and  
 Rules.

: INDEX NO.

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 : **AFFIRMATION OF**  
 : **JEFFREY ALFANO**  
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JEFFREY ALFANO, an attorney duly licensed to practice law in the Courts of the State  
 of New York, affirms the following under penalties of perjury:

1. I am the sole proprietor of the Law Office of Jeffrey Alfano, attorney for  
 Petitioners, Ronald Castorina, Jr. and Nicole Malliotakis. I am fully familiar with all facts and  
 circumstances pertaining to the within litigation following the review and analysis of the legal  
 file maintained by this office.

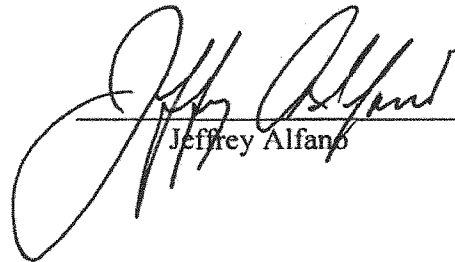
2. I annex true and correct copies of the following documents:
  - a. Sally Goldenberg, *De Blasio to Disclose 'Substantive' Lobbyist Meetings*, POLITICO, May 27, 2014, annexed as Exhibit A.
  - b. Kate Taylor, *De Blasio Pushes on Information Requests*, *The New York Times*, Oct. 19, 2011, annexed as Exhibit B.
  - c. Kaela Sanborn-Hum, *New York City's Evolving Approach to Open Data*, *Gotham Gazette*, April 11, 2016, annexed as Exhibit C.
  - d. Tara Palmeir, *Municipal ID law has 'delete in case of Tea Party' clause*, *New York Post*, Feb. 16, 2015, annexed as Exhibit D.
  - e. Transcript of the Minutes of the New York City Council Committee on Immigration, held on April 30, 2014, annexed as Exhibit E.
  - f. Transcript of the Minutes of the New York City Council State Meeting, held on June 26, 2014, annexed as Exhibit F.
  - g. Letter dated September 1, 2016 from Maria Vullo, Superintendent of the New York State Department of Financial Services to members of the banking community, annexed as Exhibit G.
  - h. Letter from Assembly Member Castorina to Superintendent Vullo dated October 20, 2016 annexed as Exhibit H.
  - i. Foxnews.com Associated Press Article, "New York City may erase ID card data to protect illegal immigrants" published November 15, 2016 annexed as Exhibit I.
  - j. Silive.com article, "Malliotakis, Castorina ask city not to destroy IDNYC docs" published November 28, 2016 annexed as Exhibit J.

k. Observer.com article, "City Council Speaker to GOP: 'Go Ahead and Sue Us' Over Proposed Immigrant Record Purge published November 29, 2016, annexed as Exhibit K.

l. FOIL request submitted by Assembly Member Ronald Castorina, Jr. on November 29, 2016, annexed as Exhibit L.

m. FOIL request submitted by Assembly Member Nicole Malliotakis on December 2, 2016, annexed as Exhibit M.

Dated: December 5, 2016  
Staten Island, NY



Jeffrey Alfano

# EXHIBIT

A

**POLITICO**

POLITICO NEW YORK



Bill de Blasio | Diana Robinson for the Office of Mayor Bill de Blasio

## De Blasio to disclose 'substantive' lobbyist meetings

By **SALLY GOLDENBERG** | 05/27/14 03:39 PM EDT

Mayor Bill de Blasio plans to disclose "substantive" meetings his administration conducts with lobbyists, continuing a practice he implemented when he was the city's public advocate.

"I've tried to, in my time as public advocate and continue as mayor, do something I believe in," he told reporters on Tuesday, in response to a question about the lack of media access to events on his public schedule. "For example, when I have any kind of substantive conversation on a lobbying matter with a lobbyist, I think that should be disclosed. We've done that voluntarily. That's a standard we'd like to see applied more broadly."

A spokesman later confirmed de Blasio "intends to implement" a similar practice as mayor.

The Associated Press posed the question following an unrelated press conference in Brooklyn, and subsequently posted a story that reported 20 percent of events de Blasio attends in his capacity as mayor are closed or restricted to reporters, according to his public schedules.

De Blasio acknowledged he could "do better" in making more information available to reporters and, by extension, the public.

"I believe deeply in transparency," he began. "We believe there is a whole swath of information that needs to be available to the public that we need to do a better job on, a lot of the day-to-day government business that is appropriately disclosable that we need to do a better job at."

But he defended the closed-door events, saying he is merely following the rules of the hosts and "it's not appropriate" to instruct them on their protocols.

"Oftentimes the choice would be, if you want to be a part of the event and that's their plan, you have to either come and accept that ground rule or not come at all. I think in many cases it would be unfair or unwise not to show up," he said.

The administration generally releases a transcript of his prepared remarks at private events via email.

That policy took shape after Capital reported in January that he delivered a pro-Israel speech at the American Israel Public Affairs Committee without listing the gala on his daily schedule.

At the time de Blasio described the omission as a courtesy to AIPAC, which requested the event be closed to press. Since then, the mayor's schedule has listed appearances that bar reporters.

"I think this is something we work on all the time, but I try to think about it from the perspective of what would be helpful for the public to know," he added on Tuesday.

In that vein, he said the public should be informed of the lobbyist meetings "because it has real impact on how people make decisions."

During the mayoral election last year, the *Daily News* published a story saying de Blasio did not actually publicize all his lobbyist meetings as public advocate. His spokesman said the office disclosed any that were requested of him, but not those he requested.

# EXHIBIT

## B



**The New York Times** | <http://nyti.ms/rbonjM>

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N.Y. / REGION

# De Blasio Pushes on Information Requests

By KATE TAYLOR OCT. 19, 2011

The New York City public advocate, Bill de Blasio, said Wednesday that he was starting an investigation into city agencies' responses to the state's Freedom of Information Law requests because he was concerned that the agencies were taking too long to release public information.

Mr. de Blasio said he also planned a new push for a City Council bill, introduced by his office last year, that would require agencies to report monthly how many requests they had received and how the requests were handled.

"It's just gotten ridiculous lately," Mr. de Blasio said. He cited a request his own office made to the Education Department last November, asking for documentation on delays in school bus service.

"We get a lovely letter every month telling us they're working on it," Mr. de Blasio said, but the department has still not provided the documentation.

Mr. de Blasio, who is considering a run for mayor, said his office was planning to send letters to each of the city's commissioners, asking for a breakdown of all the FOIL requests received in the first quarter of 2011, including how quickly the agency responded and whether the request was granted.

He said that over the last two decades, some mayoral administrations “have thought it was clearly their responsibility to follow this law” while others withheld information.

But, he said, “the bottom line here is: This is not an optional matter, and we have to stop letting people get away with it.”

Some of the most public clashes over FOIL requests have involved the New York Police Department. In 2007, the New York Civil Liberties Union sued the department after it declined to turn over computerized data on people who had been stopped and frisked. This week, the group filed a lawsuit challenging the department’s refusal to disclose the daily schedules of Commissioner Raymond W. Kelly.

John Kaehny, the executive director of Reinvent Albany, an organization that promotes greater transparency and accountability in state government, said there was a general consensus that city and state agencies’ compliance with the Freedom of Information Law “has been sliding over the last decade.” But, he added, “no one knows, because we don’t have any rigorous analysis or data.”

Mr. Kaehny said there were numerous factors contributing to a slip in compliance, among them that many agencies had made it possible to file requests online, leading to an enormous increase in requests, without making any comparable advances in efficiency in their method of responding. Agencies have also, he said, gotten better at gaming the system — rarely directly denying requests, but instead providing only partial information and “evolving their practices to kind of ooze through every crack” in the law.

But, Mr. Kaehny said, he was not sure that a City Council-passed measure would solve the problem. “Anytime the legislature imposes a reporting mandate on the executive,” he said, “and it does not align with what the agency or the mayor are trying to do, it’s ignored.”

A spokeswoman for Mayor Michael R. Bloomberg declined to comment on Mr. de Blasio’s investigation.

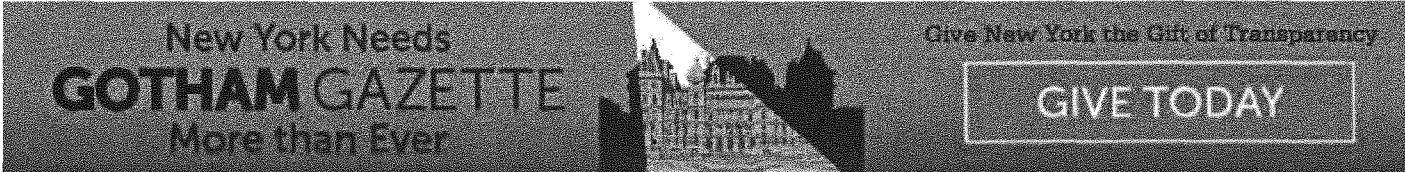
A version of this article appears in print on October 20, 2011, on page A27 of the New York edition with the headline: De Blasio Pushes on Information Requests.

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# EXHIBIT

# C



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## New York City's Evolving Approach to Open Data (/city/6272-new-york-city-s-evolving-approach-to-open-data)

April 11, 2016 | by [Kaela Sanborn-Hum \(/component/contact/contact/102\)](/component/contact/contact/102)

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(photo: Rob Bennett/Mayoral Photography Office)

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During the first weekend of March, the New York City School of Data - a network of advocates, activists, and professionals for an open data ecosystem - hosted a day of panels and workshop sessions in recognition of the international day celebrating open data and the fourth anniversary of the city passing its first open data law. City Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito and Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer, who have each promoted open data initiatives, delivered keynote remarks at the event.

"As someone who represents some of the most vulnerable, yet resilient New Yorkers in this city, I want to make data a priority," Mark-Viverito said at the gathering of tech advocates, civic hackers, and public officials. "I want our work to tell a story, one that has rarely been told rightly before. I want our data to move people, organizations, and of course, governments to act differently."

What Mark-Viverito was getting at - something discussed in several forms over the course of the event and on an ongoing basis - is the idea of using data about civic life, people's needs, and government services to make things work better while ensuring equity.

Late last year, the City Council approved the final bills (<http://council.nyc.gov/html/pr/121615stated.shtml>) of a package amending and adding to the 2012 Open Data law, which created the Open Data Portal, but the legislative action has been met with mixed reviews and questions about the portal's effectiveness remain.

The portal is intended to increase information available to the public about city services and government operations. According to the de Blasio administration, "New Yorkers can use this data to make informed decisions, become more engaged in their communities, solve tough problems, or turn their dreams into a reality."

Data available includes (<https://data.cityofnewyork.us/dashboard>) the extent to which city school buildings are being used, taxi trip pickups and dropoffs, tree censuses, requests made to the city's 311 help line, general city budget spending, and much more.

The two newest laws seek to ensure city agency compliance with the Open Data Law, particularly regarding timely release of data, and updates to the Open Data Portal with information released through Freedom of Information Law requests (often known as FOILs). Both are part of ongoing efforts to make the portal more useful. The more quickly data is released, the more useful it is.

On Nov. 30 of last year, Mayor Bill de Blasio signed into law (<http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/893-15/mayor-de-blasio-signs-legislation-creating-office-labor-standard>) the five prior bills from the open data package.

"In 2012 we set a new bar for transparency and civic engagement with passage of the most comprehensive open data law in the country," said (<http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/893-15/mayor-de-blasio-signs-legislation-creating-office-labor-standard>) Anne Roest, Department of Information Technology

and Telecommunications (DoITT) Commissioner. "To be as effective as it can for all New Yorkers, open data needs to be usable data – and these bills will help us achieve that goal."

While "open" is important, "usable" is really the key word, according to data experts.

The open data law and portal are part of efforts to make government transparent and accountable. In theory, data is to be made easily available – and in a useful format – for interested parties, who can use it to help solve city problems. The portal currently offers 1400 data sets through dozens of city agencies and other entities.

As stated by the Mayor's Office of Data Analytics, "The Open Data Law mandates full coverage of all City public data by 2018. The value is clear – every time a new data set is published on the NYC Open Data Portal, there are new opportunities for users to find insight."

While there is a wealth of information available, and hundreds of data sets still to come online, it is not always clear who uses the open data portal and to what end. How many New Yorkers even know about the availability of so much data?

And, getting back to usability, there are also significant questions about the format in which data sets are often published.

Still, open government advocates continue to say that it is an essential feature and push to see it improved. Public, usable data, they say, is key to holding government accountable and opening up policy-making to a broader audience, including people outside of government able to help solve a wide variety of problems.

BetaNYC, a nonpartisan group comprised of civic hackers and technologists that has worked with government actors to improve the city's embrace of civic tech and open data, features a digital [project list](http://projects.betanyc.us/#/) (<http://projects.betanyc.us/#/>) currently being developed by the NYC tech community. [HeatSeekNYC](http://heatseeknyc.com) (<http://heatseeknyc.com>), "a web-enabled hardware platform to detect heating violations in NYC", and [NYC Bus Adherence](http://nathanjohnson.nyc/nycbusperformance/) (<http://nathanjohnson.nyc/nycbusperformance/>), "tools for analyzing and visualizing MTA Bus performance data," are two examples of data-based projects moving civic discourse.

Since the passage of [the 2012 open data law](http://www.nyc.gov/html/doitt/html/open/local_law_11_2012.shtml) ([http://www.nyc.gov/html/doitt/html/open/local\\_law\\_11\\_2012.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/doitt/html/open/local_law_11_2012.shtml)), there have been other modifications. In 2014, de Blasio signed into law [two transparency bills](http://benkallos.com/press-release/mayor-bill-de-blasio-signs-two-transparency-bills-law-announces-public-private-partner) (<http://benkallos.com/press-release/mayor-bill-de-blasio-signs-two-transparency-bills-law-announces-public-private-partner>) which require the City Record, a daily publication of city business, to be published on the open data portal in a machine-readable format; the City Charter, the Administrative Code, and the Rules of the City of New York to be published online; and the compilation of laws updated within 30 days of any change.

In July 2015 the de Blasio administration released a new plan for the portal, [Open Data for All](http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/487-15/de-blasio-administration-releases-open-data-all-city-s-new-open-data-plan) (<http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/487-15/de-blasio-administration-releases-open-data-all-city-s-new-open-data-plan>), which emphasizes community partnership and focuses on making data sets accessible and user-friendly for all New Yorkers.

"[Open Data for All] means it will be easier for people, even those with no programming experience – like myself – to find the information they want, and better ways to utilize that information," said (<http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/news/487-15/de-blasio-administration-releases-open-data-all-city-s-new-open-data-plan>) de Blasio.

De Blasio's rhetoric shows a typical shift from remarks by his predecessor, Mayor Michael Bloomberg ([http://www.nyc.gov/portal/site/nycgov/menuitem.c0935b9a57bb4ef3daf2f1c701c789a0/index.jsp?pagelD=mayor\\_press\\_release&catID=1194&doc\\_name=http://www.nyc.gov/html/om/html/2012a/pr081-12.html&cc=unused1978&rc=1194&ndi=1](http://www.nyc.gov/portal/site/nycgov/menuitem.c0935b9a57bb4ef3daf2f1c701c789a0/index.jsp?pagelD=mayor_press_release&catID=1194&doc_name=http://www.nyc.gov/html/om/html/2012a/pr081-12.html&cc=unused1978&rc=1194&ndi=1)), who remarked that sharing data with the public "[catalyzes] the creativity, intellect, and enterprising spirit of computer programmers to build tools that help us all improve our lives." The evolution of the portal is aimed at ensuring that every New Yorker, not only computer programmers, will be able to utilize and benefit from the information being made available.

The Mayor's Office of Data Analytics (MODA) and DoITT led a citywide engagement tour ([http://www.nyc.gov/html/analytics/html/initiatives/open\\_data.shtml](http://www.nyc.gov/html/analytics/html/initiatives/open_data.shtml)), assessing the needs and priorities of New Yorkers, across user types and domain areas. Throughout the fall, Dr. Amen Ra Mashariki, Chief Operations Officer at MODA, met with CUNY students, community groups, civic leaders, and others. MODA intends for the engagement tour to culminate in a Open Data Summit.

"[The summit] will bring people together who we've engaged over the citywide tour and let them know what we've heard from them and then we will identify strategies," Dr. Mashariki told Gotham Gazette in an interview late last year.

In October, Dr. Mashariki testified before the City Council Committee on Technology, reporting on the progress of the tour at that point and the portal in general. He announced that the Open Data Portal (<https://data.cityofnewyork.us/data>) contained 1,386 data sets -- up from 1,268 in 2014. Still, City Limits reported ([http://citylimits.org/2015/12/15/nycs-open-data-law-lacks-teeth-lags-deadlines/?utm\\_source=twitterfeed&utm\\_medium=twitter](http://citylimits.org/2015/12/15/nycs-open-data-law-lacks-teeth-lags-deadlines/?utm_source=twitterfeed&utm_medium=twitter)) late last year that datasets due to be published are missing deadlines and that there has been little enforcement of the law. Mashariki said ([http://www.nyc.gov/html/doitt/downloads/pdf/MODA\\_Open\\_Data\\_Testimony\\_2015.pdf](http://www.nyc.gov/html/doitt/downloads/pdf/MODA_Open_Data_Testimony_2015.pdf)) it will not be the number of published data sets that will determine the success of the portal: "The ultimate success [will be] in the number of New Yorkers who use open data in their daily lives. And that's not just the tech-savvy New Yorkers – it's all New Yorkers, in all five boroughs."

At the "summit," MODA and DoITT will identify strategies seeking to build an open data ecosystem prioritizing expanded access to data sets, high data quality, and enhanced portal usability. "Increased access to data is critical for open government and transparency in the digital age," said Minerva Tantoco, the city's Chief Technology Officer.

Technical and community engagement challenges remain as the open data portal continues to be refined and expanded. It is one often lower-profile way in which the de Blasio administration's reputation for government transparency and effectiveness will be formed.



## Technical challenges for the open data portal

"There are currently many challenges," said Ben Wellington, visiting assistant professor in the City & Regional Planning program at The Pratt Institute and creator of the increasingly popular data science and policy blog [Quant NY \(http://iquantny.tumblr.com/\)](http://iquantny.tumblr.com/). "One of them is the wide use of PDF documents. PDF is inherently difficult to analyze, so when an agency is forced to release data but doesn't necessarily want to have it widely used, PDF is an opportune way to do that. "

PDF documents, unlike an Excel spreadsheet, are not in machine-readable format, which Wellington and others argue creates a long-term problem for civic technologists who end up spending a large amount of their time extracting data rather than analyzing it.

"It's just not a good use of advocates' time," Wellington told Gotham Gazette. Wellington has become known for using government data to show trends, point out problems, and identify potential solutions. He delivered a popular [TED talk \(https://www.ted.com/speakers/ben\\_wellington\)](https://www.ted.com/speakers/ben_wellington) in 2014 using big data to give insight for the "worst" places to park in New York City. Wellington's blog features many articles crunching numbers to illuminate topics from "Trump's Unpaid Bills" to pay raises for City Council members.

City Council Member and Chair of the Committee on Technology James Vacca has concerns regarding another aspect of city data - like with quality, the timely release of data from city agencies leaves much to be desired. Vacca sponsored a bill [passed by the City Council \(http://council.nyc.gov/html/pr/121615stated.shtml\)](http://council.nyc.gov/html/pr/121615stated.shtml) and signed into law by Mayor de Blasio, which mandates a city office or agency examine the compliance of mayoral agencies posting public data sets under the open data law.

"Some agencies are not as diligent as they should be when it comes to posting information, there has to be good coordination among the city agencies," Vacca explained. "Right now, there really is no enforcement mechanism if agencies don't comply. We are dependent upon cooperation, which is great, but we need an enforcement mechanism."

Wellington suggests that a position should be created in every city agency - an "open data liaison" - to act as a point of contact for the public and be responsible for any inquiries about information released by the agency. "Today, there's no way for the public to understand who's responsible for any dataset," Wellington noted, which can only further obfuscate any process of data clarification, sourcing or transparency.

The New York City Transparency Working Group (NYCTWG), a collection of civic technologists, data advocates, and good government groups, has [argued \(http://nyctwg.org/openfoil/\)](http://nyctwg.org/openfoil/) that FOIL (Freedom of Information Law) requests should be published online through a centralized tracking system akin to the open data portal. Earlier this month, the de Blasio administration launched "[the OpenRECORDS portal \(https://a860-openrecords.nyc.gov/\)](https://a860-openrecords.nyc.gov/)." It is "designed to streamline the process of submitting, tracking, and responding to Freedom of Information Law (FOIL) records requests as we work toward becoming a more transparent and effective government," the mayor's press office said in an announcement.

Along with Vacca's bill, another also approved by the City Council and signed by the mayor requires agencies to individually review all data released through FOIL requests and determine if the information should be posted on the open data portal. The thinking goes that if one person or group is interested in a certain data set, others probably are, and that if the information is being released publicly in one sense, why not make it generally available.

In 2013, then-Public Advocate Bill de Blasio released a transparency report card (<http://archive.advocate.nyc.gov/foil/report>) in which he called for a mandate to publish online the most commonly-sought information through FOIL requests, asserting "proactive disclosure will save time and resources by posting minutes, public schedules and license data online for easy access."

As mayor, it took de Blasio some time, testing the patience of open data advocates, but he has now launched a systemized and centralized portal for FOIL requests.

### **Community engagement and outreach**

Noel Hidalgo, co-founder and executive director of BetaNYC, believes that Open Data for All is helping to facilitate more public involvement in the open data portal and wants open data to be used regularly to solve civic problems.

"We're at the point [with open data] where it's not just about making an app but about making a culture, an understanding of how to use data for improving New York," Hidalgo told Gotham Gazette.

Last year, Mayor de Blasio announced a public-private partnership to launch Computer Science for All (<http://www1.nyc.gov/office-of-the-mayor/education-vision-2015-computer-science.page>), a computer science education program for every city public school student. As a new generation of students learn web design and coding technologies, Hidalgo hopes it will translate to increased interest and participation in civic hacking.

"We fundamentally believe that there is an opportunity to enhance digital literacy through civic education and we would love to see that embedded within the computer science program," Hidalgo said on behalf of BetaNYC.

One essential question for open data is whether it is being used beyond the Ben Wellingtons and Noel Hideos of the world. In other words, are community activists and those without advanced data science training using the city data?

Juan Camilo Osorio, Director of Research at the NYC Environmental Justice Alliance (NYC-EJA), says, like Hidalgo, that a cultural shift is necessary to understand the capacity for individuals to be involved in an open data ecosystem. Osorio wants to challenge the model that community organizations function only for public outreach. "These organizations are part of community-based planning and can do research provided with the right technical and financial resources," he said.

Osorio thinks the open data portal has great potential to be used by community organizers - not just computer programmers or data analysts.

Moreover, he believes the city has a bigger responsibility beyond publishing information on the portal: "It's not just about opening access, [in order to use it] you still have to know what is the right agency that would have the data you need and then you will also need to have the basic capacity to process that data. The city should going a few steps further providing the tools and training to learn how to work with that information."

City Council Member Ben Kallos, a software developer and long-time advocate for government transparency who now chairs the Council's governmental operations committee, agrees that free trainings should be offered for New Yorkers interested in learning how to use the open data portal. He suggests partnering with the city's three public library systems (New York Public Library, Brooklyn Public Library and Queens Public Library) to train librarians who can teach patrons to use the open data portal as a research resource. Featuring the open data portal on library websites and other logical online research centers would be helpful in expanding usership and public awareness.

Kallos acknowledged that New Yorkers must have basic access in order to use the open data portal.

"I want to make sure that every low-income New Yorker has access to free and affordable broadband and low-cost computers. That would mean everyone in NYCHA should have free broadband and that anyone who is low-income should have an affordable internet plan," Kallos told Gotham Gazette. "In order to have a modern government, we need to make sure that everyone can connect."

Dr. Mashariki, of the Mayor's Office of Data Analytics, certainly sees the portal as a long-term work in progress. "There's no day I foresee where we stop and say you know, the portal is perfect and it's at its most usable and we've expanded to it the point where we can't expand it anymore," he said. "This is always going to be a strategy that we're going to have to adapt and adopt as needed to ensure new uses and new capabilities."

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by Kaela Sanborn-Hum for Gotham Gazette

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# EXHIBIT

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METRO

# Municipal ID law has 'delete in case of Tea Party' clause

By Tara Palmeri

February 16, 2015 | 11:27pm

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The city's new ID program allows for personal data to be destroyed at the end of 2016 in case a conservative Republican is elected president, the law's co-sponsor told The Post.

Photo: Dennis A. Clark

Get the shredders ready — the Tea Party could be coming.

The city's new municipal ID program allows for personal info provided by applicants to be destroyed at the end of 2016, in case a conservative Republican wins the White House and demands the data, the law's co-sponsor told The Post on Monday.

City Councilman Carlos Menchaca (D-Brooklyn) said the measure was crafted so data submitted by those seeking the cards can be destroyed on Dec. 31, 2016.

The cards are aimed at undocumented immigrants.

"In case a Tea Party Republican comes into office and says, 'We want all of the data from all of the municipal ID programs in the country,' we're going to take the data," he explained.

The next president assumes office Jan. 20, 2017.

"That date is an important signal to the future of immigration reform. That allows us to prepare for any new leadership," Menchaca said.

In order to get an ID, residents must provide their names, addresses, aliases, dates of birth and other information, making it easy for the feds to identify undocumented immigrants.

Menchaca said the Obama administration has shown no interest in going after the data, but he didn't want to take any chances on the next administration.

"Though we have not seen documents like this get requested at the level of the federal government, that could be a possibility, so that really allows us to protect the data," he said.

Immigrant advocates praised the provision.

"It's no secret that one of the biggest sticking points in the ID programs is ensuring that there's confidentiality, that immigrants are comfortably giving their information to the city," said Steven Choi, executive director of the New York Immigration Coalition.

"The sunset is part and parcel of the effort to ensure confidentiality."

The bill lets the city destroy the info if it determines it's no longer needed.

The cards were first available early last month. Demand has been overwhelming, with more than 200,000 appointments made for the cards in less than a month.

*Additional reporting by Bob Fredericks*

Filed under barack obama , bill de Blasio , carlos menchaca , municipal-id program , tea party

# EXHIBIT

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CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

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TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

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April 30, 2014  
Start: 10:06 a.m.  
Recess: 1:48 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers  
City Hall

B E F O R E: CARLOS MENCHACA  
Chairperson

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Mathieu Eugene  
Daniel Dromm  
Peter A. Koo  
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.  
Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito  
Fernando Cabrera  
Ydanis A. Rodriguez  
Antonio Reynoso  
Jumaane D. Williams  
Mark Levine  
Brad S. Lander  
Deborah L. Rose  
Public Advocate Letitia James

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

Lucio Escamilla  
NYC Resident

Batya Miller  
Manhattan Together

Sue Dorn  
Member of Central Synagogue

Bryan Ellicott  
NYC Resident

Mindy Tarlow  
Director  
Mayor's Office of Operations

Nisha Agarwal  
Commissioner  
Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs

Steven Choi  
Executive Director  
New York Immigration Coalition

Johanna Miller  
Advocacy Director  
New York Civil Liberties Union

Emily Tucker  
Staff Attorney  
Center for Popular Democracy

Deyanira Del Rio  
Co-Director  
New Economy Project

Esther Sanchez  
Faith in New York

Jeong Min Yu  
MinKwon Center for Community Action



A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

Jason Chang  
National Federation of Community  
Development Credit Unions

Linda Sarsour  
Executive Director  
Arab American Association of New York

John Lugo  
Unidad Latina en Accion  
New Haven, CT

Eric Mar  
District 1  
San Francisco Board of Supervisors

Arely Gonzalez

Juan Carlos Gomez  
Make the Road New York

Jesus Castellanos  
Make the Road New York

Carlos Vasquez

Jojo Annobil  
Attorney  
Legal Aid Society

Jeff Foreman  
Policy Director  
Care for the Homeless

Jessica Orozco  
Director  
Immigration and Civic Engagement  
Hispanic Federation

Diana Reyna  
Brooklyn Borough Deputy President

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

Elana Redfield  
Representative  
Sylvia Rivera Law Project and  
Peter Cicchino Youth Project

Noah Lewis  
Staff Attorney  
Transgender Legal Defense and Education  
Fund

Lynly Egyes  
Attorney  
Sex Workers Project

Glenda Testone  
Executive Director  
New York City Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and  
Transgender Community Center

Mizue Aizeki  
Immigrant Defense Project

Mark Noferi  
Center for Migration Studies and  
New York City Bar Association

Annie Wang  
Co-Chair  
Comprehensive Immigration Reform Committee  
New York Chapter of the American  
Immigration Lawyers Association

Owen Rogers  
Picture the Homeless

Nancy Mageson [sp?]

Gabriela Sandoval Requena  
Policy Analyst  
Coalition for the Homeless

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

Rev. Getulio Cruz  
Pastor  
Monte Sion Christian Church  
Manhattan Together and Metro IAF

Laurie Izutsu  
Senior Staff Attorney  
Brooklyn Legal Services

Yolanda Castro  
Mexican Consulate

Lauren Burke  
Executive Director  
Atlas: DIY

Unknown Speaker  
The Fortune Society

Diane Steinman  
Director  
New York State Interfaith Network

Jeff Weiss  
Counsel  
Assemblyman Felix Ortiz's Office

Joseph Rosenberg  
Executive Director  
Catholic Community Relations Council

Louis Quinones  
Representing  
President George Miranda  
Teamsters Joint Council 16

Dr. Paule Cruz-Takash  
Oakland City ID

Ethan Carr  
MasterCard Worldwide

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

Hally Chu  
Representative  
Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer

Rev. Terry Troia  
Director  
Project Hospitality

Liam O'Doherty  
Pastor  
Our Lady of Good Counsel Parish

Bishop Orlando Findlayter  
Chairman  
Churches United to Save and Heal

Gene Judy  
First Nation Baptist Church

Prof. Raul Hinjosa  
UCLA

Daniel Rose  
MasterCard

Freddy Cruz Martinez  
Volunteer Leader  
Little Sisters of the Assumption Family  
Health Services, Manhattan Together and  
Metro IAF

[gavel]

[background comments]

CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: [Spanish] 00:00:17

and welcome to our City Council Chambers. I am Carlos Menchaca, Chair of the New York City Council's Committee on Immigration. This morning our Committee will consider Int. No. 253, a Local Law to amend the Administrative Code of the City of New York in relation to the creation of a New York City identity card program. I am proud to have co-sponsored this bill with my colleague, Council Member Danny Dromm.

The Notion of the New York City identity card is not a recent idea; in fact for many years now the City Council and advocates have learned of the many communities who lack access to basic City services and the foundation of this bill has come out of the experiences of our immigrant community here in New York. We repeatedly heard stories of families not being able to see a doctor or pick up a prescription because they do not have an ID We heard stories of parents who couldn't pick up their kids from school or attend PTA meetings in school because they didn't have an ID. We heard of people too scared to call the police for help or to report a

1  
2 crime simply because they didn't have identification.  
3 All of these stories made us realize that there is a  
4 serious problem and that we need to find a serious  
5 solution and that is what this bill is.

6           But immigrants are not the only New  
7 Yorkers who face these issues. In our years of  
8 researching we have learned that seniors, homeless;  
9 especially our homeless youth, the transgender  
10 community who struggle to obtain identification that  
11 affirms their gender expression, or making it more  
12 convenient, like people... or for people like me who  
13 ride a bike, or prefer to ride a bike, prefer to take  
14 public transportation; they could all benefit from a  
15 municipal ID program; this is what makes this concept  
16 so exciting. And our vision of impact doesn't stop  
17 there; whether you are born here or immigrated from  
18 another country or another state, we all know that a  
19 New Yorker is a special kind of person, and the truth  
20 is, when New York [background comments] acts, we have  
21 national and global impact; this card can go beyond  
22 giving people the right to identify themselves and  
23 access basic services, like bank accounts; this card  
24 has the ability to unite us as New Yorkers, giving us  
25 access to things that make New York New York; our

1  
2 world-class cultural institutions in every borough,  
3 our libraries in every borough, our Bike Share  
4 program, or maybe even one day our subway system.  
5 Int. No. 253 presents us with a New York solution to  
6 a New York challenge. This creation of a municipal  
7 ID card is of importance not only to me, but to my  
8 colleagues, including our great Speaker, Melissa  
9 Mark-Viverito, as well as Mayor de Blasio. I am  
10 happy that this initiative has wide support, both in  
11 City Hall and with the City Council. I look forward  
12 to hearing from the Mayor's Office of Immigrant  
13 Affairs and Operations, immigrant advocates and legal  
14 practitioners on how we can make the municipal  
15 identification card program the largest of its kind;  
16 the most successful of its kind. Int. 253 calls on  
17 the Mayor's Office of Operations to create a  
18 municipal identification program for all New York  
19 City residents. The New York City identity card will  
20 help thousands of New Yorkers who lack acceptable  
21 identification to access City services, feel safer in  
22 their communities and foster a feeling of unity for  
23 all New Yorkers; additionally, protections,  
24 protections would be built into the program to  
25 protect against fraud.

1  
2 I would like to thank everyone for coming  
3 to this morning's hearing and I would like to thank  
4 everyone in advance for their testimony. And due to  
5 the large number of witnesses here today, we will be  
6 putting the timer on all our witnesses and also to my  
7 colleagues, I will also ask you to keep your  
8 questions and comments brief of two minutes, and  
9 lastly, I would like to mention that we will be  
10 reading people's tweets throughout today's hearing;  
11 if you have a comment or a question regarding  
12 municipal IDs, we urge you to tweet your comment to  
13 @NYCCouncil with the #nycID and before we move  
14 further, I want to present to you our incredible  
15 Speaker, Melissa Mark-Viverito, who will be making an  
16 opening statement, someone that has been [Spanish]  
17 00:04:43 on this topic and so many other ones that  
18 are gonna bring more justice and more access and more  
19 safety to our New Yorkers, our great Speaker, Melissa  
20 Mark-Viverito.

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Chair  
22 Menchaca, [Spanish] 00:04:55, good morning; I have to  
23 say that this is an extremely exciting day  
24 personally, something that I have been fighting for,  
25 along with my great colleague Danny Dromm here for



1  
2 some time and know that this hearing is the first  
3 step towards achieving that ultimate goal of the  
4 largest municipal ID program in this country; very  
5 excited that we're having this hearing today.

6           Before I make my comments, I understand  
7 also we do have translation equipment [Spanish]  
8 00:05:24. If people need translation equipment, it  
9 is in the back and you can feel free to get that, so  
10 it's great that we have that available.

11           So again I wanna thank our great Chair,  
12 Carlos Menchaca, and thank Council Member Danny Dromm  
13 for the introduction of this vitally important  
14 legislation.

15           Currently many New York residents have  
16 difficulty getting access to basic public services  
17 because they do not have a government-issued ID card;  
18 this includes some of the most vulnerable among us.  
19 This legislation will change that, it will give  
20 anyone who lives in the five boroughs the opportunity  
21 to obtain a municipal identification card. The  
22 legislation will require City agencies to accept this  
23 card as a form of valid ID, so those who make use of  
24 this program can rest assured that with this ID card  
25 they will be able to access essential City services.

1  
2           The bill requires that the card be  
3 designed in a way that deters fraud, much like a  
4 driver's license or passport does. The Council is  
5 very serious about safety and security; we will  
6 explore ways to ensure that the ID cards are  
7 protected from fraud in this hearing and in continued  
8 conversations with stakeholders and the  
9 Administration. We do not want these ID cards to end  
10 up in the wrong hands and we wanna make sure every  
11 step is taken to safeguard users' identities and  
12 their privacy.

13           Other municipalities have seen success  
14 with their municipal ID programs; it is time to  
15 replicate that success on a larger scale here in New  
16 York City. This Council also looks forward to  
17 continuing our productive conversations with the law  
18 enforcement community, along with others from the  
19 senior, immigrant, LGBT, youth, and other communities  
20 who stand to benefit from this legislation. For too  
21 long the Federal Government has lagged behind on  
22 immigration reform and it's fallen to municipalities  
23 like New York to take the lead and I think that we've  
24 done quite a stellar job over the years of making it  
25 clear that our immigrant communities are welcome and

1  
2 that we will make sure that we do everything to  
3 protect them.

4           While we would like to also see action in  
5 Washington, we know that when New York City has big,  
6 bold ideas, like muni IDs, that often the rest of the  
7 country follows. This hearing is the next step; I  
8 look forward to hearing some of the testimony and let  
9 it be known and let it be clear that this is a  
10 priority for this New York City Council and we will  
11 have municipal IDs in New York City. Thank you.

12           CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you,  
13 Speaker. And now we'd like to hear some opening  
14 statements from prime sponsor, Danny Dromm, Council  
15 Member.

16           COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very  
17 much, Chair Menchaca; it's indeed a pleasure to be  
18 here today. I want to also start off by thanking  
19 Speaker Mark-Viverito for the translation equipment,  
20 because if I'm not mistaken, it's the first time  
21 we've had translation equipment and that is a great  
22 step forward; I am also going to be using that  
23 translation equipment for my hearing on Tuesday, my  
24 Education Committee hearing, so that is a great  
25 addition to the City Council and you are true to your

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2 word in terms of making these hearings more  
3 accessible to people, as you have done with many of  
4 the proposals put forth just last week, in terms of  
5 the budget and the transparency issues that we  
6 prioritize here in the Council.

7           You know, for many years Speaker Mark-  
8 Viverito and I have wanted to put forth this  
9 municipal ID program and now the time is right. We  
10 feel that in this Committee and in this Council we  
11 have great leadership; we have leadership from the  
12 Mayor's side of the fence as well, and we believe  
13 that we have come up with a very good proposal, one  
14 that will be a model for the rest of the country and  
15 one that will help to move all communities forward.  
16 The way that I look at this municipal ID is that it's  
17 a municipal ID for all, and we want to make sure that  
18 all New Yorkers avail themselves of this  
19 identification; that is crucial to the distribution  
20 of these IDs.

21           I wanna thank Chair Menchaca as well for  
22 his leadership on this issue and for fighting so hard  
23 from the moment he came in; I don't know that he was  
24 elected one day that he wasn't knocking at my door  
25 saying, where is that bill and we work very closely

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2 together to ensure that this piece of legislation has  
3 come out. When passed, this is going to be a major  
4 benefit for all New Yorkers, and Chair Menchaca, your  
5 fingerprints are all over this, so thank you for your  
6 leadership on this as well.

7 I do look forward to hearing from people  
8 today who will be giving testimony and we'll have a  
9 number of questions for the Administration, but this  
10 a very proud day for me and for us in the City  
11 Council, and thank you to everyone who has come to be  
12 a part of this historic day. Thank you very much.

13 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you, Council  
14 Member Dromm and I wanna second that partnership that  
15 we've built in the Council and as someone who's just  
16 come into the City Council, there's no one better to  
17 work with than our good Council Member Danny Dromm,  
18 who has been, and was the Chair of Immigration  
19 before, so it's just been a great thing to kinda take  
20 that mantle and to continue it and you have two  
21 fighters here. We have also other fighters in this  
22 incredible Immigration Committee, Council Member Koo  
23 and Council Member Eugene, thank you so much for  
24 being here; this is a Committee that is really made  
25 up of people who are incredibly passionate about this

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2 topic, but really making sure that immigrants in the  
3 City continue to prosper and get access.

4           So without further ado I wanna call up  
5 the first panel, and we'd like to invite up Batya  
6 Miller, Sue Dorn, Bryan Ellicott, [background  
7 comment] and Lucio Escamilla [sp?]. Thank you. If  
8 you have statements, we'll take them as well. We're  
9 gonna put the clock at two minutes; we know you have  
10 written testimony, so if you don't get through the  
11 testimony, just hand it over and we'll take the rest  
12 into record, and we'll start with.. well actually,  
13 we'll.. we're gonna.. let's start from the left over to  
14 the right, if that's okay. Go ahead, Mr. Escamilla.  
15 Thank you.

16           LUCIO ESCAMILLA: Hello, my name is Lucio  
17 Escamilla and I am member of Immaculate Conception  
18 church and a leader in South Bronx Churches and  
19 Metro-IAF. I know personally how important it is  
20 that all New Yorkers have access to an ID that is  
21 recognized everywhere in the City. In 2005 I was  
22 stopped by the police; they asked to see my ID. I  
23 showed them my Mexican Consulate ID card and a valid  
24 Michigan driver license and they claimed that both  
25 were fake; actually threw them on the ground; then

1  
2 they took me to a holding cell for the night. The  
3 next day the judge dismissed the case immediately and  
4 I was free to go, but I should not have had to spend  
5 the night in jail, my family should not have had to  
6 worry. And I know many people in my community, in my  
7 church who have also spent the night in the jail only  
8 because they did not have a recognized ID. The City  
9 of New York has to start to producing its own ID so  
10 that this never happens again. People should not be  
11 taken to the jail unnecessarily and the police should  
12 be able to spend their time on the real criminals.  
13 Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you, Mr.  
15 Escamilla.

16 BATYA MILLER: Do I have to press it  
17 again?

18 SUE DORN: No, it's on. [background  
19 comment]

20 BATYA MILLER: It's on. Okay. Hello, my  
21 name is Batya Miller and I am with Manhattan  
22 Together. I'm here today to talk about why it is  
23 useful and important for all of us to apply for a  
24 municipal ID. This City program would finally give  
25 countless New Yorkers an important benefit they now

1  
2 lack. While it will certainly help vulnerable New  
3 Yorkers like undocumented immigrants, the homeless  
4 and the formerly incarcerated, it would also improve  
5 my life and the lives of many others.

6 Like many other New Yorkers, I don't  
7 drive and I love living in a city where you don't  
8 need to. A driver's license has become the de facto  
9 photo ID all over the country, [background comment]  
10 I've somehow managed to squeak by all these years  
11 with... [interpose]

12 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Ma'am, can you  
13 speak closer to the mic so we can... we can hear you...  
14 [crosstalk]

15 BATYA MILLER: Oh, sorry. I've somehow  
16 managed to squeak by all these years with my  
17 university library card that has a photo on it and  
18 more recently my senior citizen MetroCard when I've  
19 been asked to show photo ID. Such situations have  
20 been stressful at times, as not everyone readily  
21 accepted them. I finally hit a brick wall several  
22 months ago when I went to return something at a major  
23 women's clothing chain; they would not refund the  
24 credit charge because they did not view either ID I  
25 showed them as official. I was not able to return



1  
2 the item and have never gone back to the store. As a  
3 non-driver I am really looking forward to receiving a  
4 New York City ID. The ID should be relatively easy  
5 to apply for at community-friendly places like  
6 libraries and congregations; it can then become a  
7 primary or the primary ID for the many non-drivers in  
8 this city, citizens and others. I know it will both  
9 simplify my life and link me in a small but  
10 significant [bell] way to other New Yorkers who  
11 contribute to the wonderful diversity of this great  
12 city.

13 [background comment]

14 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
15 for that.

16 SUE DORN: Good morning. My name is Sue  
17 Dorn and I am a member of Central Synagogue and a  
18 leader of Manhattan Together and Metro-IAF.

19 A hundred and ten years ago this summer a  
20 woman left the Ukraine with her three small children;  
21 she landed in Boston, made her way across the United  
22 States to Oregon where she met her husband who had  
23 gone there the year before. He eventually became a  
24 citizen, but between raising their 11 children and  
25 helping with their small grocery store, she never had

1  
2 the opportunity. Although life was so much better in  
3 the United States, she was never completely  
4 comfortable because she was not a citizen. As a  
5 result, for most of her life she always carried her  
6 alien registration card, this card, in the back of  
7 her mind she thought someone might pick her up and  
8 send her back to the Ukraine, separating her from her  
9 family and friends. This apprehension was so intense  
10 that she took the card with her to the hospital when  
11 she was on death's doorstep. I have this card  
12 because she was my grandmother. Even as a small  
13 child I understood her uneasiness and how much this  
14 card was a lifeline for her. No one should have to  
15 walk the streets without recognized identification,  
16 things happen, people get stopped, buses jump curbs,  
17 and in an era of increasing security, we all need ID  
18 to enter places where we have to go. The lack of an  
19 easy, accessible ID is a major problem for many,  
20 including immigrants, students whose permanent  
21 residents are elsewhere, the elderly, and those who  
22 do not drive. As an 80-year-old, I won't be driving  
23 much longer and would find it helpful to have an  
24 easy, attainable [bell] municipal ID than go through  
25 the hassle of dealing with New York State's DMV.

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2 Metro-IAF looks forward to working with the City to  
3 make sure this effort is implemented properly;  
4 outreach will be necessary to convince all New  
5 Yorkers why it's to their benefit to get the ID.  
6 I'll be among the first to be issued one; like my  
7 grandmother, I will always carry it.

8 [background comment]

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
10 for that.

11 BRYAN ELLICOTT: Good morning. My name  
12 is Bryan Ellicott and I fully support Int. 253 as an  
13 open and proud transgender man who is looking forward  
14 to the day when I feel appropriate, my appropriate  
15 gender marker is on my identification. I am pleased  
16 to see this legislation is co-sponsored by so many  
17 members of the City Council and this entire  
18 Committee.

19 The idea that New York City will allow me  
20 to decide that my true and proper gender identity is  
21 one displayed on this piece of identification is  
22 something I couldn't be more excited about. Think  
23 about the number of times a day you show your ID, any  
24 given day, looking at my New York State ID you know  
25 my name, my birth name, where I live and the gender I

1  
2 was born, and it doesn't look like I do now. As my  
3 transition has progressed, the idea of a female  
4 gender marker on my identification is something that  
5 brings a lot of distress and dysphoria to my life,  
6 especially going out with friends and coworkers, many  
7 who know I'm transgender and some that don't.

8           The protections of Title 8 in New York  
9 City define gender in the New York City Human Rights  
10 Law, as it was amended in 2002, as your actual or  
11 perceived gender identity; self-image; appearance and  
12 behavior or expression, or within the identity, self-  
13 image, behavior of the invil [sic] assigned at birth.  
14 New York State has very strict guidelines for  
15 changing your gender marker on pieces of  
16 identification, such as birth certificates and the  
17 Department of Motor Vehicles.

18           New York State [background comments]  
19 Administrative Code says a letter from a surgeon  
20 specifying date and place of your type of sexual  
21 reassignment, or gender reassignment surgery  
22 performed, an operative report and if additional  
23 medical information is needed to change your gender  
24 marker.

1  
2 New York City Administrative Code also  
3 states that in order to change your gender marker on  
4 your birth certificate you also need to have surgery.

5 Insurance companies do not cover these  
6 procedures and the State finds it unacceptable for  
7 you to change it without so. An estimated close to  
8 \$30,000 is needed to have these surgeries and then  
9 you get your gender markers changes; that's a lot of  
10 money, a lot of saving; a lot of fundraising on top  
11 of then having [bell] to spend money to have them  
12 changed. My suggestion to the Council is to ask for  
13 letters from either your health provider or the  
14 therapist that can provide your HRT; those are the  
15 letters that are needed by the New York State and New  
16 York City to change those identifications to prevent  
17 fraud.

18 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you, Bryan.  
19 And thanks to this first panel; clearly you've now  
20 heard from New Yorkers who are engaged in many  
21 reasons why municipal IDs could be beneficial. And  
22 so I'm gonna open it up to questions that Council  
23 Members have, but really I wanna actually start with  
24 you, Bryan on the suggestion you just gave us. Can  
25 you tell us a little bit about how that suggestion is

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2 different from current IDs that you might want to be  
3 able to get and how this municipal ID has to be a  
4 little bit different?

5           BRYAN ELLICOTT: This... [background  
6 comment] What is I'm asking is a suggestion is that  
7 you get the letter... that the letters... we can get  
8 those letters easily; the letters come from our  
9 therapists, we have to see a therapist in order to  
10 get hormone replacement therapy or from the doctor  
11 who already provides a hormone replacement therapy.  
12 Those letters doctors write easily, they write them  
13 pretty much within the five minutes you ask about  
14 them. What I'm not asking is that we have to have  
15 surgery in order to prove that we have our genders  
16 changed, all I'm asking is that we're allowed to use  
17 the same letters we need to have surgery and to say  
18 that we're ready to have surgery in order to get  
19 those IDs without the surgery.

20           CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Great. Thank you  
21 for that. And I just wanna let everyone know that  
22 our Council Members Koo, Eugene, Dromm, Espinal, and  
23 our Speaker are here today, thank you. And any  
24 questions from our council members for the panel?  
25 [background comment] Council Member Eugene.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very  
3 much, Mr. Chair. And I want to commend your to come  
4 in and thank each one of you from the panel, and  
5 thank you also, especially to you gentleman, for your  
6 courage, you know for explaining, sharing with us,  
7 you know what you went through because of the ID,  
8 your ID that you provided to the police officer; you  
9 were stopped and arrested. And my question to you,  
10 very simple; how do you think that you know the  
11 municipal ID will prevent such thing to happen?

12 [background comment]

13 LUCIO ESCAMILLA: The municipal ID is  
14 gonna help me about... I'm gonna work in the City like  
15 free and I can prove I live in New York City and also  
16 many of my families and especially in my church, in  
17 my community, where I know thousands of the people,  
18 they need that kind of ID to identify anywhere,  
19 especially open accounts in the bank, especially to  
20 go to probably places where they can show they live  
21 in New York.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very  
23 much. In your testimony Miss, you mentioned that  
24 outreach would be necessary and we know that, but  
25 since we are dealing with immigrants and we know the

1  
2 immigrant people are... they are facing so many  
3 challenges in everyday life, because of language,  
4 because of difficulty to navigate through the system;  
5 [background comments] what can you tell us, you know,  
6 what your organization can do in terms of reaching  
7 out to immigrant people, especially those who don't  
8 speak English, you know as a first language; what do  
9 you advise to do in term of outreach?

10 SUE DORN: I'm... I'm sorry; I...

11 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: In terms of  
12 outreach, you know... [interpose]

13 SUE DORN: In the outreach?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: outreach...

15 SUE DORN: Right.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: we know that  
17 immigrant people, all of us, especially I'm immigrant  
18 too...

19 SUE DORN: Right.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: and many of  
21 immigrant people, you know, they don't speak English  
22 proficiently, so whenever there is a service  
23 available in the City of New York, they'll face, you  
24 know, challenges in term of being able to navigate  
25 through the system and get the resources that are



1  
2 available to them. Do you have any idea, any  
3 thought, [bell] you know, any advice in terms of how  
4 to reach out [background comments] to immigrant  
5 people and especially those who don't speak English  
6 properly?

7 SUE DORN: Many are members of churches,  
8 synagogues, other congregations and through those  
9 organizations, through the social service agencies in  
10 their communities would be a great way to start with  
11 reaching out to people.

12 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
13 and we're actually... [crosstalk]

14 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you so  
15 much; appreciate that. Thank you.

16 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: gonna be hearing  
17 from.. from some faith leaders later today in  
18 testimony. I'm gonna hand it over to Council Member  
19 Dromm.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you, Chair  
21 Menchaca. So my question is kind of related a little  
22 bit to what Council Member Eugene was getting at as  
23 well. Not only the outreach to the community, but I  
24 was wondering if you might have ideas about how we  
25 would set up offices to begin to do the intake for

1  
2 the documentation so that people can actually apply.  
3 Where would places... what types of places would be  
4 most convenience for people to go to [background  
5 comments] to apply for the municipal ID?

6           BATYA MILLER: Well I think it's really  
7 important if we can possibly set up... [interpose]

8           CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Can you speak into  
9 the mic a little bit closer?

10           BATYA MILLER: It's really important if  
11 we can possibly set up places of application that are  
12 known and friendly to the community, whether that be  
13 congregations or libraries; [background comment] I  
14 think that's a way that... a non-threatening way that  
15 you're going to get people to come. You know, I  
16 think that's as important, those kinds of decisions,  
17 as the... making the process as least cumbersome as  
18 possible, but to have places that are friendly  
19 [background comment] to the community and perceived  
20 that way; I think especially churches would be a  
21 wonderful way of doing that, if you can.

22           BRYAN ELLICOTT: A suggestion I have is  
23 that we use, for the trans community, the LGBT  
24 centers we have in Manhattan, Staten Island and  
25 Brooklyn, as those are places the transgender

1  
2 community and even the immigration community feel  
3 safe; that we should use those as open houses to  
4 apply for the IDs.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: So one of the  
6 concerns that I have is ensuring that we have many...  
7 all New Yorkers, 8.5 million New Yorkers, applying  
8 for this card. I see an issue, moving forward, that  
9 if there is not some type of a benefit attached to  
10 it, that those who already have drivers licenses and  
11 other types of identification might not be as  
12 interested in this; [bell] do you have any  
13 suggestions in terms of what type of benefits we  
14 might attach to it that would bring other people in  
15 who already have some type or form of identification?

16 SUE DORN: One of the thoughts some of us  
17 had was if it could be in fact connected to a library  
18 card; that that would be good for families as well,  
19 and also help bringing children into the library so  
20 that there would be another benefit from that.

21 BATYA MILLER: I think another  
22 possibility is if you can get discounts, small  
23 discounts at major institutions, like museums; that  
24 could be very appealing to people, the fact that they

1  
2 would save money with this card, you know, which you  
3 certainly don't do with your driver's license.

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Right. Thank you  
5 for that. And we've been joined by Council Member  
6 Cabrera as well. Thank you so much. Thank you so  
7 much to this panel and we'll be looking forward to  
8 continuing our conversation.

9 We're gonna call up our next panel, Miss  
10 Mindy Tarlow from Operations and Commissioner Nisha  
11 Agarwal from MOIA, the Mayor's Office of Immigrant  
12 Affairs. And Council Members, you have their  
13 testimony in front of you. [background comments]  
14 Should we leg 'em know? [background comment] Just  
15 to clarify on the testimony that we have, there might  
16 be a page missing; can we double... [interpose]

17 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Miss Tarlow, on  
18 your testimony, I think there might be a page  
19 missing.

20 MINDY TARLOW: I think we can provide a  
21 new copy. [background comment]

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: It's okay; I mean  
23 we'll lis... yeah, we'll just... just to get this  
24 [background comments].

25

1  
2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Let's see if we  
3 can get the whole testimony, but we'll go ahead and  
4 start with your oral testimony. Thank you.

5 [background comments]

6 MINDY TARLOW: Good morning, Chairman  
7 Menchaca, members of the Committee, Speaker Mark-  
8 Viverito, colleagues in government, and members of  
9 the public. My name's Mindy Tarlow and I'm the  
10 Director of the Mayor's Office of Operations and on  
11 behalf of the Administration I would like to thank  
12 you, Chairman Menchaca and Council Member Dromm, for  
13 introducing this vital legislation and for inviting  
14 me to testify at this hearing. At the direction of  
15 Mayor de Blasio, who has made the creation of a  
16 municipal ID a signature priority of this  
17 administration, my office has been working closely  
18 with Commissioner Agarwal at the Mayor's Office of  
19 Immigrant Affairs (MOIA) and numerous City agencies  
20 to prepare for the timely and effective  
21 implementation of this initiative, should the Council  
22 approve it.

23 The municipal ID will be an ID for all,  
24 every single New Yorker benefits by having a  
25 government-issued photo identification card that can

1  
2 be broadly recognized by New York City government  
3 entities and private establishments. We support  
4 development of an identification card program that  
5 can be both widely utilized by New Yorkers of all  
6 backgrounds and easily accessed by marginalized  
7 populations.

8           For those of you who aren't familiar with  
9 the Mayor's Office of Operations, we are responsible  
10 for performance management and accountability across  
11 all City agencies and as you probably know, we're  
12 responsible for delivery of the Mayor's Management  
13 Report, and under the de Blasio administration we  
14 have additional functions that have been moved  
15 underneath Operations, including the Center for  
16 Economic Opportunity and the Mayor's Office of Data  
17 Analytics so that we can more fully support the  
18 Mayor's equality agenda. Finally, Operations  
19 undertakes a range of cross-agency initiatives to  
20 facilitate the effective implementation of citywide  
21 projects and we're particularly focused on helping to  
22 realize the Mayor's priority initiatives, such as  
23 this one, the Municipal ID Program.

24           But before I discuss our planning around  
25 the municipal ID I'd like to tell you a little bit

1  
2 about my own experience regarding the importance of  
3 expanding access to government identification for  
4 marginalized populations.

5           Prior to joining the de Blasio  
6 administration, I spent nearly two decades as the  
7 founding CEO and Executive Director of the Center for  
8 Employment Opportunities. The Center for Employment  
9 Opportunities is a New York City-based national  
10 organization that's exclusively dedicated to  
11 connecting recently incarcerated individuals to  
12 employment, and one of the often overlooked barriers  
13 to reintegration for people with criminal records is  
14 the lack of proper documentation, and my years at the  
15 Center for Employment Opportunities vividly  
16 demonstrated to me how important the securing of  
17 government-issued photo identification can be in  
18 helping people start down the pathway to legitimate  
19 employment and securing basic essential services; I  
20 saw it every day for two decades.

21           This Administration is committed to  
22 helping all New Yorkers, including marginalized  
23 populations, access the proposed municipal ID;  
24 populations such as disconnected young adults,  
25 seniors, homeless individuals, undocumented

1  
2 immigrants, and formerly incarcerated persons are  
3 some of the key demographic groups that have  
4 historically retained government-issued photo  
5 identification at lower rates than the population at  
6 large and the municipal ID can and will vastly  
7 improve this.

8           We support creating an enrollment model  
9 for the municipal ID that will readily facilitate  
10 access for all New Yorkers and incorporate fraud  
11 prevention and security protocols to ensure the  
12 integrity of the identification card. Should the  
13 Council approve this legislation, we support a  
14 municipal ID enrollment model that designates  
15 multiple sites in each borough where New Yorkers can  
16 apply for the municipal ID card.

17           As Council Members Menchaca and Dromm  
18 have laid out in this bill, the process for applying  
19 for a municipal ID card and demonstrating proof of  
20 identity and residency will be similar to the  
21 Department of Motor Vehicles' model -- individuals  
22 will be required to demonstrate evidence of their  
23 identity and residency by providing acceptable  
24 documents and we support a system of weighted values  
25 for documentation, similar to what is used by the



1  
2 DMV. The City would leverage existing facilities as  
3 intake centers, looking for sites and convenient  
4 locations across a range of agencies covering all  
5 five boroughs. We propose having two types of sites  
6 where people can sign up for the municipal ID, what  
7 we're calling "active sites" would be broadly  
8 promoted as places the general public can visit to  
9 sign up for the municipal ID. What we're calling  
10 "passive sites" would include agencies where many  
11 members of the public already go to receive services  
12 and are likely to already have brought necessary  
13 proof of identity and residency with them so they can  
14 access the municipal ID at that time.

15           Turning to fraud prevention, we are  
16 working closely with NYPD, other law enforcement  
17 entities, government agencies that issue  
18 identification cards and cities from around the  
19 country who have implemented similar programs to  
20 ensure we are incorporating all appropriate fraud  
21 prevention and security procedures. Design of the  
22 municipal ID card would be inspired by DMV-style  
23 government-issued photo identification cards, but  
24 with a distinct New York City branding. We would  
25 embed a full array of security features into the

1  
2 card, such as holographic laminates, special  
3 cardstock material and engraved text.

4           With respect to records retention, we are  
5 highly sensitive to the issue of document retention  
6 and the concerns that have been raised by Council  
7 Members and advocates alike. This administration is  
8 emphatically committed to protecting the privacy of  
9 the information gathered from this proposed  
10 initiative and particularly attuned to safeguarding  
11 any and all information that could potentially hint  
12 at the immigration status of a cardholder. We would  
13 employ every tool at our disposal to guarantee  
14 protection of information submitted by applicants.

15           I believe that there is generally broad  
16 consensus among the Administration, Council Members  
17 and advocates about the municipal ID initiative and I  
18 would like to commend the lead sponsors of the  
19 legislation, Council Members Menchaca and Dromm, as  
20 well as Speaker Mark-Viverito for crafting this bill.  
21 I would however like to suggest a few items be  
22 revisited. I would strongly encourage the Council to  
23 consider allowing for more flexibility in the  
24 administration of the municipal ID initiative by  
25 mayoral agencies. Under this model the Mayor's

1  
2 office could capitalize on the back end  
3 infrastructure of the Human Resources Administration  
4 (HRA) to ensure the successful implementation of the  
5 municipal ID. My office, the Mayor's Office of  
6 Operations, conducted an analysis comparing all City  
7 agencies that could potentially perform this back end  
8 function, including our own, and determined that HRA  
9 is best positioned to undertake the back end  
10 responsibilities necessary to successfully implement  
11 and operate the municipal ID initiative. HRA has the  
12 most relevant expertise in issuing identification  
13 cards at scale, including reviewing and verifying the  
14 authenticity of the identification. Considering the  
15 aggressive timeline to make the municipal ID  
16 available to the public this calendar year, HRA's  
17 procurement infrastructure and administrative support  
18 will cost-efficiently and swiftly get this program up  
19 and running. HRA would support day to day  
20 administration of the budget, procurement and general  
21 back end office functionality regardless of HRA's  
22 heavy involvement in the back end; however, they  
23 would have no involvement and would not be associated  
24 with the public branding of this initiative.

25

1  
2 I also wanna emphasize that Mayor de  
3 Blasio, Deputy Mayor Barrios-Paoli and HRA  
4 Commissioner Steve Banks have committed HRA to a  
5 mission of fighting inequality and poverty every  
6 single day and the municipal ID is a key initiative  
7 that will help HRA realize that essential mission.  
8 My team and MOIA have worked closely with HRA  
9 throughout the municipal ID planning process and we  
10 can say firsthand that the senior leadership at the  
11 agency is deeply committed to this initiative and  
12 supporting the communities who will benefit from it.  
13 I believe the Council and the Administration are  
14 equally committed to the successful implementation of  
15 the municipal ID and I hope you will consider  
16 permitting HRA to conduct the back end office  
17 functionality that can best position us to realize  
18 that shared objective.

19 I would also like to suggest removing  
20 Section 3-139 on penalties from the legislation. The  
21 conduct being regulated in this section is already  
22 captured by several provisions in the Penal Law.

23 One additional concern about Int. 253  
24 that I would like to raise relates to the  
25 availability of applications and intake of the

1  
2 municipal ID. The legislation indicates the  
3 Administration would make "applications for such card  
4 available for pickup and submission at any agency or  
5 office where there is substantial contact with the  
6 public." This implies that any City facility that  
7 serves the public would be a site where New Yorkers  
8 could apply for the municipal ID; this would  
9 represent thousands of locations around New York City  
10 and could be logistically infeasible and cost-  
11 prohibitive if it were implemented or taken literally  
12 at its word, so we strongly suggest working with us  
13 so that we can identify the best sites to offer  
14 intake for the municipal ID that will navigate the  
15 security, the cost, the technology; the staffing so  
16 that we can address everything that we're trying to  
17 address at each and every municipal ID site.

18           The de Blasio Administration is  
19 enthusiastically committed to the swift, [bell]  
20 secure and successful implementation of the municipal  
21 ID initiative, the Mayor's Office of Immigrant  
22 Affairs and the Mayor's Office of Operations will be  
23 directly and intimately engaged in the planning and  
24 implementation of the municipal ID and we look  
25 forward to partnering with individual members of the

1  
2 City Council and the many advocates and supports  
3 across the City to generate robust public awareness  
4 and tremendous citywide take-up of the municipal ID.

5 Thank you again for this opportunity to  
6 testify on the municipal ID and it's now my privilege  
7 to turn things over to my new colleague and friend,  
8 Nisha Agarwal, Commissioner of the Mayor's Office of  
9 Immigrant Affairs and we'll of course both be  
10 available to answer any questions you'll have after  
11 our testimony.

12 NISHA AGARWAL: Good morning. Thank you,  
13 Mindy for the introduction and for so clearly laying  
14 out the groundwork on the municipal ID. Thank you  
15 again to Chairman Menchaca and Council Member Dromm,  
16 members of the Committee, Speaker Mark-Viverito and  
17 the Council as a whole for advancing such a critical  
18 issue, and thank you, actually, to the first panel of  
19 New Yorkers who spoke in support of this issue.

20 My name is Nisha Agarwal and I am the  
21 Commissioner of the Mayor's Office of Immigrant  
22 Affairs, or MOIA; I welcome the opportunity to speak  
23 further about municipal ID.

24 As the Commissioner of MOIA, my role is  
25 to advance our City-chartered mandate to work with

1  
2 the Mayor and the Council to create policies and  
3 programs that improve the lives of immigrant New  
4 Yorkers; this mandate clearly encompasses today's  
5 legislation for which we commend the Council's  
6 leadership, and Mayor de Blasio's charge to us of  
7 ensuring the creation and solid implementation of the  
8 municipal ID card.

9 My office's work also includes  
10 collaborating across the Administration to support  
11 programs that bolster access to services and well-  
12 being for all New Yorkers, whether their immigrant  
13 ancestry is recent or generations ago. In that light  
14 we are clear that the municipal ID is a  
15 groundbreaking program that will reach beyond  
16 immigrants to all of our communities.

17 Before I discuss the program in more  
18 detail I would like to speak briefly about my own  
19 professional experience which has centered on  
20 increasing access to services for marginalized  
21 populations, including but not limited to immigrants.  
22 Before I joined the de Blasio Administration I worked  
23 on increasing access to legal services for immigrant  
24 New Yorkers and improving language access in health  
25 care settings and government agencies. As a civil

1  
2 rights lawyer I worked on cases and campaigns to  
3 ensure that all New Yorkers, regardless of race,  
4 citizenship, language or disability are able to  
5 access all our city has to offer on equal terms.

6           Recently I was part of the Center for  
7 Popular Democracy's research effort to study the  
8 implementation of municipal identification cards  
9 across the country as a vehicle to understand how our  
10 city could learn and improve upon other cities'  
11 programs. As such, increasing access to our city's  
12 services, attractions and spaces to more New Yorkers  
13 who currently struggle to obtain a basic entryway, a  
14 form of government identification is a natural  
15 continuation of my work over the years and a key  
16 aspect of MOIA's leadership on the issues of equality  
17 and unity. It's our view that the proposed municipal  
18 identification card will serve as a unifying force  
19 across many communities, providing valid  
20 identification to many who have lacked access to  
21 identification while providing meaningful benefits to  
22 those who already have access to ID.

23           It is also our view that the municipal ID  
24 would allow more New Yorkers of all backgrounds to  
25 more easily access City services, public and private



1  
2 programming and increase participation in our local  
3 economy by accessing banking and financial  
4 empowerment services.

5           Of course, part of our commitment is a  
6 response to the very harsh realities faced by  
7 undocumented immigrants, estimated to number  
8 approximately half-a-million in New York City who  
9 face numerous obstacles as a result of not having  
10 government-issued identification. For example,  
11 undocumented immigrants and other communities without  
12 identification may fear law enforcement, are often  
13 afraid to report housing and labor violations, or  
14 have a harder time signing leases or opening bank  
15 accounts or even visiting their children's schools.

16           I wanna emphasize that these obstacles  
17 are not faced by our undocumented communities alone;  
18 it is a real issue for many marginalized communities,  
19 such as our elders, victims of domestic abuse,  
20 runaway and other disconnected youth, the disabled,  
21 transgendered individuals, and those who are  
22 re-entering our society after incarceration. In  
23 other words, it is clear that many communities beyond  
24 immigrants will benefit from a municipal ID and  
25 indeed, to avoid a reality in which the card is

1  
2 viewed merely as an immigrant card, it is crucial  
3 that the card have widespread appeal and we support a  
4 program that meets this goal.

5           One of the ways we will meet this goal is  
6 to build many benefits into the municipal ID so that  
7 the card is meaningful to all New Yorkers. We are  
8 still in the early stages of exploring for the  
9 municipal ID, but I can share with you some of the  
10 benefits that we support. To begin, the municipal ID  
11 should be broadly recognized and accepted by City  
12 agencies; we would like to ensure, for example, that  
13 parents would be able to use the municipal ID to gain  
14 entry into their child's school. Our goal is also  
15 that the municipal ID will enable New Yorkers who  
16 previously lacked government-issued identification to  
17 better access private-sector services. For example,  
18 our hope is that the municipal ID will serve as the  
19 government-issued photo documented needed to get a  
20 bank account so New Yorkers can avoid predatory  
21 financial services and check-cashers.

22           These benefits and others will assist  
23 communities that have been needlessly marginalized in  
24 their day to day interactions with the City. But  
25 again, I wanna emphasize that the municipal ID is an

1  
2 identification card that will benefit all New  
3 Yorkers, even those with government-issued photo ID.

4           If this legislation is enacted, we would  
5 work with City agencies and private-sector entities  
6 across the five boroughs to explore how we might  
7 embed the municipal ID with benefits and discounts at  
8 educational, arts and cultural institutions,  
9 restaurants and other small businesses,  
10 transportation, and an array of other services.

11           Importantly, even after the municipal ID  
12 program has launched, it would important to continue  
13 working to expand the suite of benefits available to  
14 cardholders to ensure that this is a program that  
15 grows over the years. We are open, of course, to  
16 hearing ideas from the Council and others on  
17 additional benefits and services that could be  
18 attached to the card.

19           Beyond the benefits of municipal ID, I'd  
20 like to share our ongoing efforts to engage  
21 communities and learn from other cities' experiences.  
22 To this end we've been hearing and learning from  
23 three layers of advisers -- (1) are community  
24 advocates representing the diverse communities in New  
25 York; (2) municipalities who have implemented similar

1  
2 programs across the country, and (3) our governmental  
3 partners to support the program.

4           On the community level we have been in  
5 active conversation with many groups -- the Arab  
6 American Association of New York, the New York Legal  
7 Assistance Group, Make the Road New York, The New  
8 Economy Project, Faith in New York, the Center for  
9 Popular Democracy, Picture the Homeless, Northern  
10 Manhattan Coalition for Immigrant Rights, the New  
11 York Civil Liberties Union, the New York Immigration  
12 Coalition, and truly, many other leaders from the  
13 advocacy, business and faith communities. These  
14 groups, along with many others, have been extremely  
15 helpful in informing our thinking.

16           In terms of other municipalities, we have  
17 learned from the experiences of Oakland, Los Angeles  
18 and San Francisco in California, as well as New Haven  
19 in Connecticut. While the scale in these cities is  
20 not comparable to New York, we have gleaned many  
21 important lessons that will inform our effort here.

22           On the governmental side, we have spoken  
23 to the New York City Department of Motor Vehicles at  
24 the State level, governmental partners, such as CUNY  
25 and all three of New York City's library systems, and

1  
2 many City agencies, including the Department of  
3 Homeless Services, the Department of Corrections,  
4 NYPD, the Mayor's Community Affairs Unit, the  
5 Department of Cultural Affairs, the Department of  
6 Finance, the Department of Environmental Protection,  
7 the Department of Consumer Affairs, the Taxi and  
8 Limousine Commission, the Small Business Services,  
9 the Department of Transportation, the Department of  
10 Parks and Recreation, and others. Our agencies have  
11 been incredibly committed to the success of this  
12 proposed program and I have no doubt that robust  
13 partnerships with our agencies will be at the heart  
14 of the municipal ID.

15           We are clear that the widespread adoption  
16 is critical for the card to be most meaningful and  
17 have preliminary ideas for an expansive outreach  
18 strategy to reach every neighborhood through a  
19 citywide campaign. For any outreach effort on  
20 municipal ID, MOIA would work closely with the  
21 Mayor's Community Affairs Unit and Operations,  
22 alongside our trusted community partners who have  
23 proposed working closely with us to accomplish our  
24 shared goals of seeing the municipal ID get into the  
25 hands of as many New Yorkers as possible. We would

1  
2 also look to partner with the Department of Education  
3 and other City agencies with strong and widespread  
4 touch points across all five boroughs. We would also  
5 plan to leverage the capacity of our agencies and the  
6 Mayor's Community Affairs Unit, who already have  
7 relationships in the community, to provide accurate  
8 information on the program and help steer residents  
9 to efficiently access the card. We would anticipate  
10 promoting the card through social media, community  
11 and educational institutions, notable New Yorkers,  
12 like yourselves, foreign consulates, faith-based  
13 institutions and beyond, and we look forward to the  
14 prospect of working with your local offices to help  
15 your constituents get the municipal ID and make the  
16 program a resounding success.

17 Thank you again for inviting us to  
18 provide testimony; I welcome any questions, along  
19 with Director Tarlow, now or at any time after the  
20 hearing.

21 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you  
22 Commissioner and thank you Director, and what I wanna  
23 just underscore really is your testimony, both of  
24 your testimonies kinda show a real commitment on the  
25 Administration to understand this, your multiple

1  
2 conversations with really, probably all agencies kind  
3 of show a breath of understanding about how this  
4 piece of legislation as it's written is gonna impact  
5 the Administration and how to get this out quickly.  
6 Every agency adds on the table, so thank you so much  
7 for confirming that for us; this is something that  
8 we've been engaged in conversation. So I'm gonna  
9 start the questions off and then I'm gonna open it up  
10 to our council members. But really what I wanted to  
11 understand is, in your legislative recommendations,  
12 as we kind of continue to evolve this bill, you  
13 mentioned increasing agencies that can come in and  
14 help out the efficacy of this bill; can you talk a  
15 little bit about the procurement process and I think  
16 you give the dynamics of it, but what compels the  
17 Administration to understand procurement and its  
18 benefits [background comment] for HRA?

19 MINDY TARLOW: I think there is multiple  
20 things at work here -- (1) I think you pointed out is  
21 just the speed and efficacy with which we're trying  
22 to get this very important and complex initiative off  
23 the ground, [background comment] and the initiative  
24 itself has a lot of moving parts; it has to do with  
25 technology, it has to do with understanding of how ID

1  
2 cards are put together and used, it has to do with  
3 just knowledge and experience about procurement in  
4 general and the speed with which you can put those  
5 things together and having the underlying apparatus  
6 and experience to do that. I referenced in my  
7 testimony that Operations had done an evaluation of  
8 multiple agencies who could conceivably have one or  
9 more of those kinds of experience and HRA had all of  
10 them, and we felt that given the complexity of this  
11 initiative, the speed with which we're trying to get  
12 it to happen and the importance of it to both the  
13 Council and to the Administration, we felt in our due  
14 diligence in preparation for hoping that this will go  
15 forward, that was the conclusion that we drew, that  
16 HRA was the most well-positioned to play that role.

17 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Does that affect  
18 cost as well? Is... [interpose]

19 MINDY TARLOW: Uhm...

20 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: is there a cost  
21 savings in moving to this multiple agency approach?

22 MINDY TARLOW: Yes, ultimately I think  
23 there will be; we're still of course working out the  
24 cost proposals; we're... we're... [interpose, crosstalk]

25



1  
2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Can you tell us  
3 about what the costs are... [crosstalk]

4 MINDY TARLOW: we're really working on  
5 budget process right now; as everyone knows, we're  
6 deeply engaged in that, so what we're trying to do is  
7 just develop a budget framework that matches and  
8 compliments the vision that I laid out in the  
9 testimony and we're working on that right now. But  
10 we do think this is the most cost-effective and...  
11 because time is money, as we all know, and  
12 [background comment] for something to happen quickly,  
13 that generally means it's more cost-efficient.

14 NISHA AGARWAL: And the one thing I would  
15 just add to what Director Tarlow said is that, you  
16 know one possibility, right, would be to create a  
17 separate apparatus for implementation of the  
18 municipal ID, but of course, that comes with all of  
19 its, for lack of a better word, overhead. If we  
20 leverage existing agencies that we have that already  
21 have the procurement functions, have all of those  
22 different administrative functions built in and have  
23 been doing it at volume, we save the program a  
24 considerable amount of money.

25

1  
2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Gotcha. Okay. I  
3 have some other questions, but I wanna give Council  
4 Members the time and opportunity; we've been joined  
5 by Council Member Antonio Reynoso and I'm gonna give  
6 it up to Council Member Dromm.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: So I just wanna go  
8 a little bit more to the cost as well. Have we  
9 thought about partnering with businesses or banks,  
10 MasterCard, anything like that; there are models in  
11 other cities that I've heard of that have done that,  
12 that have seen those types of businesses pick up the  
13 cost for it; what's your opinion on that; have you  
14 thought about that and can you give us a little bit  
15 more information about that?

16 NISHA AGARWAL: Sure. So, you know we  
17 have conducted research into the feasibility of  
18 adding a banking component to the municipal ID; at  
19 least at the initial stages we don't anticipate that  
20 we'll incorporate a debit component into the  
21 municipal ID card when it's issued this year, just  
22 because we don't have confidence we can offer a truly  
23 safe and affordable product that effectively meets  
24 the needs of low-income New Yorkers. If options  
25 available were to evolve, we would of course

1  
2 reconsider accordingly; that said, the Administration  
3 is working very closely with the Department of  
4 Consumer Affairs and the Office of Financial  
5 Empowerment to identify banks and credit unions  
6 across the City that are eager to accept the  
7 municipal ID as a form of identification for  
8 accessing bank accounts and non-predatory financial  
9 services. So we're confident that the municipality  
10 [sic] will provide financial access in that way, from  
11 the outset, or at least we're having those initial  
12 conversations and they're going well.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: So my question, a  
14 little bit different, I think; has there been any  
15 consideration about having one of those businesses  
16 pick up the cost for that? So in other words, that  
17 they would cover the cost of production of the card.

18 NISHA AGARWAL: So, you know I can speak  
19 to... we have not spoken, at least for the financial  
20 institutions, about that issue, but we're exploring a  
21 variety of different models in terms of the costing  
22 and the budgeting at this point, but nothing specific  
23 to share.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: So is there any  
25 timeline in terms of your mind what you would

1  
2 consider for the vendor to be selected as we move  
3 down the road?

4 [background comment]

5 MINDY TARLOW: We have set some  
6 timeframes for trying to get this grounded within the  
7 calendar year, so that sets the stage and that's one  
8 of the reasons we've tried to do a lot of due  
9 diligence now; you know, obviously this is a critical  
10 part of the process here today and we're not trying  
11 to -- what's the right phrase -- get over our skis,  
12 but we're trying to do the due diligence that's  
13 necessary so that we're ready to press go and you  
14 know we did set this calendar year timeframe in front  
15 of us and we're trying to make good on that, should  
16 this go forward.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: So I believe that  
18 the Mayor originally spoke about allocating about  
19 \$400,000 for the initial startup of this.

20 MINDY TARLOW: That was in the February  
21 financial plan, yes, for the planning process.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: So how much money  
23 will be allocated moving forward for outreach and  
24 education?

25

1  
2 MINDY TARLOW: We are working on the  
3 budget right now and as I said earlier, it has a lot  
4 of moving parts, as does the budget as a whole and  
5 we're deeply engaged in that right now and trying to  
6 create a budget for this project that matches the  
7 vision that we laid out in the testimony around the  
8 hub and spoke model of having the intake centers and  
9 the back end functionality that we described, the  
10 kind of outreach that Nisha described; we're trying  
11 to put all that together right now and looking at  
12 different kinds of modeling and imbedding that within  
13 the budget discussions that are going on right now.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Okay. Thank you,  
15 Mr. Chair.

16 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you, Council  
17 Member. Council Member Koo.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you Chair  
19 Menchaca and Council Member Dromm for this wonderful,  
20 very important initiative. Thank you, Commissioners.

21 My first question for you is; you know,  
22 we all know this municipal ID card is really good,  
23 really important to new immigrants or undocumented  
24 immigrants, but there is a stigma attached to it and  
25 people told me, why do I wanna apply a card that even

1  
2 though I'm documented? So my thought is, in order to  
3 solve that problem we... like you said, we encourage  
4 all citizens from New York City to apply, but why  
5 would a citizen or other immigrants that have already  
6 proper IDs to apply a municipal ID? So there must be  
7 an incentive there, so in order for us, and including  
8 our council members; the Mayor may be the first one  
9 to apply for one, you know [background comments,  
10 laughter] and in order for other people to do the  
11 same thing, we have to have some incentive or make it  
12 really usable. Now say we combine it with a MTA  
13 card, you know, everybody use a MTA card, there's no  
14 distinguish when use... this card... nobody know you're  
15 second-class or first-class or whatever, you know.  
16 [background comment] So my suggestion is... because on  
17 the MTA card there are a lot of space and like this  
18 one is Grand Central Station, do the advertisement  
19 there, no, 100 years and this would be one of the  
20 ideas you know because I don't know if MTA will agree  
21 to that because with this you can add money to the  
22 card and you can use every day, and the black one is  
23 a... this a municipal ID card too; just one of the  
24 thoughts. [background comments] And another thing I  
25 wanna ask you is, with this municipal ID, suppose one

1  
2 carried this and they go on interstate travel on a  
3 bus and the bus stop by immigration service, they  
4 check IDs, with this... [bell] is this okay for  
5 immigration purpose; would they... would the immigrant  
6 official detain the passenger because they carry this  
7 kind of municipal ID? [background comment]

8 NISHA AGARWAL: So I can respond about  
9 this question. So we could not... the Administration  
10 could not agree more, that this is a card that has to  
11 have benefits and incentives built into it that make  
12 it appealing to all New Yorkers, which is the reason  
13 why we've been having conversations both with other  
14 agencies within City government as well as with  
15 private-sector entities to figure out, are there ways  
16 to get, as was mentioned in the prior panel,  
17 discounts at cultural institutions so that parents  
18 and students can access all that New York City has to  
19 offer and really expand their education, right; make  
20 New York City the platform for their education, using  
21 the municipal ID card. So that is absolutely  
22 something that we are very focused on and working on  
23 and when the card is launched, it will have benefits  
24 not only for undocumented immigrants, but really that  
25 will make you and everyone else wanna sign up first

1  
2 to get the ID, so we are hard at work on that. On  
3 the issue of interstate travel and some other issues  
4 that cards may be used for, like drivers licenses,  
5 one of the things that we should look at is whether  
6 we should have warning language on the card about  
7 what purposes the card cannot be used for, 'cause we  
8 have... the City has limited authority about what cards  
9 can be accepted for state and federal purposes and  
10 we'll wanna properly inform and educate the users of  
11 the card about the limitations as well, so that's  
12 something we've been exploring preliminarily and  
13 would certainly continue if this bill were to pass  
14 and we were to implement.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Can I... [crosstalk]

16 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you.

17 Council Member Cabrera.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Can you... can you...  
19 one more... just real quick... [crosstalk]

20 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Quick follow up.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Can you use the card  
22 for like get on the airplanes?

23 NISHA AGARWAL: That's... the use of  
24 identification for that purpose is actually not  
25 within the City's authority, that's a federal issue



1  
2 and so we would need to inform people... the federal  
3 government about those limitations.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Thank you.

5 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you. We're  
6 gonna adhere to the strict two minutes per council  
7 member. Council Member Cabrera.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so  
9 much and I'll take 10 seconds of that. To Mr. Chair  
10 and Council Member Dromm, I really wanna take a  
11 moment to praise you for really putting a tremendous  
12 amount of time; I don't think people realize how much  
13 time you have dedicated to this cause and I know  
14 Council Member Dromm, for years you have, as the  
15 former Chair, have indeed given a tremendous amount  
16 of effort and now is gonna become a reality, so I  
17 compliment both of you. I'm gonna make a quick  
18 statement and then I'll follow up with a question,  
19 since I only have a minute-and-a-half. I wanna  
20 follow up with Council Member Dromm's question, that  
21 it would seem to me it will make sense to add the  
22 banking piece to it, and let me tell you why, for a  
23 couple of reasons -- (1) if we change our minds later  
24 on, it's gonna cost us a tremendous amount of money,  
25 and to say the least, headaches; (2) why not have a

1  
2 public-private kind of setup that really, it'll  
3 defray all the cost; this is gonna cost us millions  
4 of dollars; I could tell you, based on what I've seen  
5 in Oakland, minimum we're gonna be spending \$50  
6 million, minimum. I would encourage you to really do  
7 the research on this; I would rather use those \$50  
8 million for something else, and let the private  
9 sector pay for it; they have the money, they can  
10 afford it, and they wanna do it; that's the really  
11 interesting piece here; they really wanna do it and  
12 it will be a win-win situation and having said that,  
13 the banking piece I think is important; I think we're  
14 leaving it to kind of a luck, chance situation and  
15 based on the history, what we have seen in other  
16 municipalities, banks tend not to [bell] be amicable  
17 to the idea of using these IDs in order for them to  
18 get banking; I think this would empower our people  
19 and, respect to the Chair, I'll stop here. But  
20 please, if you could address that; at least stay  
21 open-minded as we go through this process.

22 NISHA AGARWAL: Sure. So thank you;  
23 that's a very legitimate point. One thing to be very  
24 clear on is that we are designing the system, or at  
25 least our initial plans would not foreclose the

1  
2 possibility of adding banking features later on, so  
3 the concern about the cost escalating because we  
4 didn't think of it at the outset I think is  
5 somewhat alleviated, because we're... that's very much  
6 on our radar screen. We also, on the other side,  
7 wanna be sure that we are as thoughtful and as  
8 protective of the needs of low-income New Yorkers who  
9 we wanna be able to provide a safe, affordable,  
10 effective financial product to; that's a very serious  
11 consideration, and so while we're open-minded, we do  
12 wanna be very thoughtful about how we implement that  
13 and that's sort of our thinking at the moment.

14 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much.  
15 Next I wanna give it up to my brother from Brooklyn,  
16 Council Member Reynoso.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you,  
18 Chair, thank you so much; I'm really happy to be here  
19 at this moment with you Chairing this hearing and  
20 speaking on an issue that I think is extremely  
21 important. I'm gonna say one thing that I haven't  
22 thought out and one thing that I have. When it comes  
23 to our youth and being able to have them participate  
24 in this program, I think it's extremely important; it  
25 might be a little difficult, our incentivizing or the

1  
2 programs that we have to incentivize folks to join  
3 this program, it might not be attractive to people  
4 that have state IDs already; the resources or the  
5 gains that they get from having a City ID might not  
6 be attractive; I'm hoping that we could implement a  
7 very early age in which you can obtain this ID, even  
8 as low as 12 years old, because then once they're  
9 there, they're gonna cycle through and continue to  
10 maintain or have this ID, so maybe in 40, 50, even 60  
11 years every single person can have this ID and we  
12 would eliminate the stigma of only undocumented  
13 having it, [background comment] so just being mindful  
14 of that. [background comment] And well, what are  
15 you thoughts on it?

16 NISHA AGARWAL: Sure. So we... that's very  
17 much something the Administration is looking into and  
18 supports and access for young people to this  
19 identification is something that we're thinking  
20 about; of course, with appropriate protections for  
21 minors, you know, that may be necessary and so, I  
22 would say I agree and we will also be having  
23 conversations with the Department of Ed and other  
24 agencies that work with young people to be able to

25

1  
2 leverage some of their resources as well to reach  
3 that population.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: And then the  
5 last part was -- I'm a biker, I bike, and this might  
6 not be popular and I haven't thought this one out,  
7 [background comment] but maybe there's an opportunity  
8 here for, you know, proper biking, riding in the City  
9 of New York and having to go through a course and  
10 maybe obtaining this [background comment] ID through  
11 that as well; just thought I'd bring it up; maybe  
12 it's an idea that could also work. [bell] But thank  
13 you for being here and good job, by the way.

14 NISHA AGARWAL: Thank you.

15 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you, Council  
16 Member Reynoso. And now we'll hand it over to  
17 Council Member Eugene.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very  
19 much, Mr. Chair and thank you to each one of you for  
20 your testimony. To Miss Mindy Tarlow, [background  
21 comment] in your testimony you mentioned that we  
22 propose; that's your nice pose [sic], we proposing  
23 having the two type of site where people can sign up  
24 for the municipal ID; you mentioned active site and  
25 passive site; where those sites would be located;

1  
2 would they be located in government building, in  
3 government agencies, private institution or private  
4 organization, and what will be the process to choose  
5 them if they would be located in private  
6 institutions?

7 MINDY TARLOW: So we're looking at a wide  
8 range of sites right now and I... I... I did wanna  
9 reference the earlier panel and was encouraged to  
10 hear that they were thinking along similar lines;  
11 that made us feel that we're also on the right track.  
12 We're looking at sites that are government, but also  
13 community-based, where people would go for other  
14 kinds of services that cover a broad range of things,  
15 whether it's parks or whether it's libraries, things  
16 like that, where people would normally go; we  
17 consider those active sites and we're trying to make  
18 sure that they cover a wide range of topics so that  
19 it would draw a wide range of people and also make  
20 sure that they cover a wide range of geographies and  
21 that they cover all boroughs, and we're looking at a  
22 number of different options and we're trying to talk  
23 to as many people as possible so that we can get the  
24 broadest range of options available.

25

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: In terms of the  
3 whole process, will you create an agency to oversee  
4 the process or to oversee all the sites?

5 MINDY TARLOW: What we're proposing to do  
6 is to have the Mayor's Office, sort of broadly  
7 speaking -- Operations, the Mayor's Office of  
8 Immigrant Affairs, the Community Assistance Unit, the  
9 groups that [bell] Commissioner Agarwal was  
10 describing earlier -- oversee the project at large  
11 and make sure that we have the right kind of  
12 communication and interaction with the active sites,  
13 but also, make sure that we're working closely with  
14 the back office operation to make sure that the IDs  
15 are properly administered, that the program is  
16 properly put on the ground; the technology and  
17 procurement process is adequately secured. So we  
18 would try to have the Mayor's Office, again, sort of  
19 generally speaking, oversee the whole process.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Thank you very  
21 much. [background comment] Thank you, Mr. Chair.

22 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you Council  
23 Member Eugene. And I'm gonna round it off with some..  
24 a series of questions, just to kind of really fill in  
25 the experience of New Yorkers, and the first one I

1  
2 wanted to ask about was, maybe right after, kinda  
3 thinking about the mobility of this program and how  
4 it's gonna interact with New Yorkers; how are you  
5 gonna evaluate, (1), and do you have a plan to  
6 evaluate the current kind of front end workers, and  
7 how are you thinking that out? And on the flip side;  
8 how are you evaluating the experience of every New  
9 Yorker, and we've kind of talked a lot about seniors,  
10 LGBT community, our undocumented immigrants, and  
11 evaluating their experience as well and kinda share  
12 that?

13 NISHA AGARWAL: So I can start and then,  
14 you know, our goal would be, in terms of the front  
15 end staff, to have a very extensive and thorough  
16 training program for them to be able to, you know,  
17 look at and sort of identify the veracity of  
18 documents that are presented for identity and  
19 residency and to have a kind of cadre of people who  
20 are focused on municipal ID as the individuals who  
21 would be doing some of the front end work, and in  
22 addition, you know, I think part of what you're  
23 asking is, would they have the kind of cultural  
24 competency training, the sort of linguistic support,  
25 the other kinds of training that's needed to make the



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2 card truly accessible at the point of contact, and  
3 that's of course something that we would work to  
4 ensure is the case so the training is not just, are  
5 these documents real or not, but the training is, how  
6 do we make this a welcoming process for people who  
7 wanna get the card, so absolutely. And then in terms  
8 of about... oh, sorry.

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Before you go to  
10 the second component, and just stay on the kind of  
11 worker experience, language access; can you really  
12 talk about that and really the commitment to language  
13 access for New Yorkers?

14 NISHA AGARWAL: Sure. So the commitment  
15 on language access, I will say personally is an  
16 issue, very near and dear to my heart; that's the  
17 work I started doing in my career as a lawyer and  
18 it's very important to the Mayor, and so in  
19 implementing this program, along with all of the  
20 other major initiatives that have been happening,  
21 like universal pre-K, etc., there will be, you know,  
22 translated materials available for people, the access  
23 to interpretation services, all of the basic language  
24 access services, as we have at this hearing, right,  
25 to make it possible for New Yorkers of all languages

1  
2 and all backgrounds to be able to access the program.  
3 So I'll just emphasize that commitment now.

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And then the  
5 second part to the question about the kind of  
6 experience that New Yorkers are gonna have and how  
7 you plan to evaluate that; how are we gonna know and  
8 hopefully in real time that this is a highly  
9 accessible, but great experience?

10 MINDY TARLOW: I think that the Mayor's  
11 Office of Operations, along with MOIA, we actually  
12 have a very close-working relationship around  
13 language access and among other things; we do a lot  
14 of work around customer service and I think that we  
15 will come up with ways of using that experience to  
16 make sure that we can test and survey New Yorkers to  
17 make sure that their experience is a good experience  
18 and use the things at our disposal to make sure that  
19 we are finding out how the public is experiencing  
20 municipal ID and you know, try to come up with some  
21 creative ways to really understand that experience.

22 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Next question is,  
23 Director Tarlow, what kind of outreach to previously  
24 incarcerated people would be successful in getting  
25

1  
2 municipal IDs in... really into their hands and can you  
3 kinda drill down on that point for us?

4 MINDY TARLOW: Right and if I had another  
5 hat I would put it on right now. [laughter] I think  
6 that New York City has one of the strongest  
7 community-based apparatus in the country in terms of  
8 people who deal with formerly incarcerated people,  
9 especially those who are just coming home and  
10 reintegrating into their communities, so I would tap  
11 into that network; it's quite robust, and that would  
12 be my first stop, would be to engage that community,  
13 it's where people are going for services, it's where  
14 people feel... it's a place of trust and comfort and I  
15 think that would be my first thought, would be to  
16 engage that community.

17 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And we're really  
18 looking forward to your expertise on this as we  
19 continue to develop... develop the program.  
20 [interpose, crosstalk]

21 MINDY TARLOW: And I would be delighted  
22 to share it.

23 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: The next question  
24 is really for... for you again on... or actually, for  
25 both of you on understanding the consulate IDs and it

1  
2 kind of come into ecosystem in New York City, you've  
3 heard from the first panelists a little bit about  
4 that experience, and so, have you reached out to the  
5 consulates and what's your conversation in really  
6 understanding what they bring to the table in  
7 understanding identification [background comment]  
8 being part of the weighted point system to  
9 [background comment] get a municipal ID?

10 NISHA AGARWAL: Yes. So we are engaging...  
11 the Mayor's Office of Urban Affairs has historically  
12 worked with the consulate offices, as you can  
13 imagine, on a range of different issues and we are  
14 sitting down with them to learn both about their  
15 consular ID process as well as to understand how some  
16 of the IDs and the programs that they have may  
17 interface with the municipal ID, and so that's a  
18 conversation that's ongoing, and you know, I think  
19 the consulates will may be important partners in  
20 outreach and some of the consulates that have ID  
21 programs that have done outreach efforts, they have  
22 people coming at 6 in the morning to line up for this  
23 card and there's clearly a pent-up demand for  
24 identification cards of this sort, and one of things  
25 they've done well is actually doing some of that

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2 outreach in the community itself, not requiring  
3 people to come into Manhattan to obtain the consular  
4 ID, and so we'd like to learn from those experiences  
5 and we'd like to partner with the consulates very  
6 much on outreach in addition to understanding the  
7 kind of ID mechanics as well.

8 MINDY TARLOW: Just; not to pick up on  
9 that, which I think was beautifully stated, but back  
10 to your earlier question, one additional thought is  
11 about the Department Probation, which, as you know,  
12 is a sentence in and of itself where people are going  
13 for the first time; again, another really important  
14 agency in the community that might be a very, very  
15 important, as we were saying earlier, passive site  
16 that people can go to directly to get a municipal ID,  
17 because they're going to probation for other  
18 services, and I think they're a very important agency  
19 to engage and Commissioner Bermudez I'm sure would be  
20 a really great active partner in this effort.

21 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And really, in  
22 kinda thinking about the kinda mechanics of this, for  
23 New Yorkers who are homeless, and really maybe can  
24 you describe just the process that you'd imagine;  
25 someone goes into a mobile passive active site, they

1  
2 apply; what's the time... the lag time; [background  
3 comment] is it mailed; can you kinda describe a  
4 little bit about what you're thinking on that?

5 MINDY TARLOW: Yeah, I mean the idea  
6 would be that somebody comes into a site, passively  
7 or actively, they sign up for the ID, they give their  
8 paperwork, that then gets processed on-site, that  
9 gets sent to the back end site for final processing,  
10 and when the card is ready it does get mailed out to  
11 their official address and we will be working with  
12 experts in the field about how you get a card out to  
13 somebody who doesn't in fact have a permanent address  
14 and there, fortunately or unfortunately, is a lot of  
15 expertise out in the field about that, whether it's,  
16 you know finding folks who are in shelter or finding  
17 folks who are transient and moving from one place to  
18 another and we're very committed and have already  
19 started some of those conversations about how best to  
20 contact those folks who don't have a permanent  
21 address.

22 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And last, any  
23 other questions... Council Member Reynoso.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Hi again. When  
25 we talk about housing, especially lotteries in

1  
2 affordable housing, a lot of times; actually, all the  
3 time you need to input your social security number,  
4 you have to add your social security number and  
5 unfortunately many folks don't have social security  
6 numbers that in the City of New York are allowed to  
7 apply, but there's obstacles obviously in the way and  
8 that's one of them. I've put in legislation to allow  
9 for a tax identification number to be used in place  
10 of social security for an application, an affordable  
11 housing application; what I'm hoping is that that  
12 legislation is obsolete or is not needed, because  
13 these IDs will work as an opportunity to apply for  
14 affordable housing for anyone that's a resident of  
15 the City of New York. Do you think that that's gonna  
16 be something that, working alongside HPD we might be  
17 able to accomplish through this ID?

18 NISHA AGARWAL: So we are in conversation  
19 with many agencies, including HPD, to understand, you  
20 know, whether it's signing up for a lease where you  
21 have to show identification or accessing different  
22 programs, to ensure that the identification card is  
23 accepted broadly across City agencies, so that's  
24 certainly a commitment. One thing we won't be able  
25 to change with the ID card is what the rules and

1  
2 requirements might be that are made at the state or  
3 the federal level, so to the extent that there are  
4 limitations imposed on that, that's not entirely  
5 within our control, but whatever is within our  
6 control we will of course wanna increase access to  
7 the maximum extent possible.

8 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you Council  
9 Member Reynoso. And really, I just wanna clarify  
10 something -- I'm just kinda reading the Twitter feeds  
11 -- and that this card is not gonna be able to be used  
12 for interstate travel; this is a municipal ID that  
13 will work in New York City and really only in New  
14 York City and that this card essentially doesn't  
15 really... this card lives within the bounds of the  
16 state and federal laws, [background comment] and so  
17 do one of you wanna expand on that a little bit?

18 NISHA AGARWAL: Absolutely. There is  
19 nothing about this identification card that will  
20 break state or federal laws, it is a community-  
21 building, it's an access-creating card for New York  
22 City and that's some of what its power is, is that  
23 it's a New York City card for New Yorkers; well, you  
24 know, were we able to change the federal and state  
25 laws, I would have a lot of ideas on that, but we



1  
2 are, for now, you know we have the power to do what  
3 we can at the city level. [interpose]

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: [Spanish]  
5 [laughter] Okay. Well thank you so much; we're  
6 gonna get some other panelists up; [background  
7 comment] thank you so much for your time and we look  
8 forward to working with you.

9 MINDY TARLOW: Thank you very much.

10 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And our next  
11 panel, we'd like to call up Johanna Miller from New  
12 York Civil Liberties Union, Emily Tucker from Center  
13 for Popular Democracy, Steven Choi from the New York  
14 Immigration Coalition, and Miss Deyanira Del Rio from  
15 the New Economy Project. Please come on up. And I  
16 do wanna say that we had a couple Twitter questions  
17 about language access and we asked it; this is from  
18 Christina S. Chang, from the MinKwon Center; thank  
19 you so much for saying that question, and really  
20 continue, if you wanna engage us, on #nycID. Thank  
21 you. And we're waiting for one more. Steven, can  
22 you start, please?

23 STEVEN CHOI: Sure.

24 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much.  
25

1  
2 STEVEN CHOI: Good morning; my name is  
3 Steve Choi and I'm the Executive Director of the New  
4 York Immigration Coalition, an umbrella organization  
5 with nearly 200 member organizations.

6 On behalf of New York City's vibrant and  
7 diverse immigrant communities, who continue to face  
8 barriers in accessing government-issued  
9 identification, we believe that the municipal ID  
10 envisioned by this legislation, an ID available to  
11 all New Yorkers, would go a long way to break down  
12 the stigmatizing barriers for immigrants. My  
13 testimony is informed by the New York Immigration  
14 Coalition's experiences and the crushing consequences  
15 of a lack of proper identification are a common theme  
16 in our work. Time and time we've heard stories of  
17 individuals who are not able to provide identity to  
18 hospitals, of parents who cannot enter their child's  
19 school and New Yorkers who cannot open bank accounts.  
20 But we've also seen how strong policy can break down  
21 these barriers. With the support of the City  
22 Council, the NYIC was able to begin the Key to the  
23 City Consular ID Initiative to work with the  
24 consulates to provide over 19,000 New Yorkers with  
25 services and nearly 13,000 people have stood in line

1  
2 for hours to receive these critical identify  
3 documents. These consular ID initiatives have not  
4 only shown the incredible need in immigrant  
5 communities, but have also provided a model structure  
6 for engaging partners in successfully reaching  
7 diverse communities.

8 I also wanna emphasize today that the  
9 best ID for immigrants will be an ID widely adopted  
10 by non-immigrants. The muni ID cannot be a proxy for  
11 undocumented status; it should be a badge of civic  
12 pride that unites all residents, but it will only be  
13 so if it is linked to a robust package of discounts,  
14 privileges and other benefits that will appeal to  
15 everyone. And to that end, we believe it will be  
16 critical to establish a joint task force of the  
17 Administration, City Council and community  
18 organizations to bring this package to life. We must  
19 also ensure that the application process is smooth  
20 and secure, that City agencies are properly trained  
21 and above all, the confidentiality of personal  
22 documents and information must be guaranteed. [bell]

23 In conclusion, we at the Coalition look  
24 forward to working closely with the Administration  
25 and the City Council to make municipal IDs a reality

1  
2 and I know I cannot wait to get my own New York City  
3 municipal card myself. Thank you.

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: I'll be right  
5 there with you. Thank you. Johanna.

6 JOHANNA MILLER: Hi, good morning. My  
7 name is Johanna Miller; I'm the Advocacy Director at  
8 the New York Civil Liberties Union, speaking today on  
9 behalf of our 50,000 members statewide.

10 We are pleased to be here today to join  
11 our allies in supporting the access that the NYC ID  
12 promises to diverse New York communities, but in the  
13 interest of time I'm gonna focus my comments on one  
14 of our primary concerns, which is for the privacy of  
15 applicants for the ID card.

16 We commend the City Council for designing  
17 legislation that protects against the risks of  
18 disclosure of applicants' private information to the  
19 maximum extent possible. Closely linked with making  
20 the NYC ID appealing to broad communities is the  
21 City's promise that people's information will not be  
22 entered into a database or shared with third parties.  
23 The current language in the bill prohibiting  
24 retention is the best way to guarantee this promise;  
25 we applaud the Council for including that language.

1  
2           These foundational documents are some of  
3 the most sensitive pieces of information that people  
4 have -- passports, benefit cards, pay stubs, bank  
5 statements, information about their children's public  
6 school attendance -- these are things that people  
7 don't even want disclosed to family members; it is  
8 essential that the City takes the same care in  
9 preserving privacy.

10           Revelations about the NSA's domestic  
11 spying program and public outrage over New York State  
12 Education Department's contract with data servicer  
13 inBloom speak loudly to the public's wariness about  
14 government abuse of privacy rights. So retaining the  
15 documents we think creates an unnecessary risk of  
16 disclosure. The threat is not abstract; as you  
17 probably know, in New Haven the information about  
18 people who had the municipal ID was requested by  
19 anti-immigrant activists who said they were gonna  
20 turn it over to ICE; New Haven was able to defeat  
21 that request, but we think that the threat of  
22 something like that actually defeats some of the  
23 broad appeal of the ID and could scare away potential  
24 applicants [bell] that the City needs to make this  
25 program a success. So we fully support the work

1  
2 you've put in to protecting confidentiality and we're  
3 happy to continue providing our expertise in that  
4 area.

5           EMILY TUCKER: Good afternoon and thanks  
6 to Councilman Menchaca and the Immigration Committee  
7 for convening today's hearing and for inviting me to  
8 testify on this important issue. My name is Emily  
9 Tucker and I'm a Staff Attorney at the Center for  
10 Popular Democracy in Brooklyn, where I support state  
11 and local initiatives to promote immigrant rights and  
12 promote racial justice and economic justice.

13           One of the things I've seen over and over  
14 again in the communities I work with is how seemingly  
15 small changes in circumstances can lead to huge  
16 improvements in the well-being of individuals,  
17 families and whole cities. At CPD we look for  
18 initiatives like this which often simply by removing  
19 obstacles to basic goods, like health and security  
20 that most of us take for granted will enable people  
21 to live better, happier lives. Municipal ID is one  
22 such initiative and I'm here today to voice my full  
23 support and the support of my organization for this  
24 legislation that would bring IDs to New York City.

1  
2 Access to a widely-accepted form of ID is  
3 a right, but increasingly in this country we treat it  
4 as a privilege, a privilege that tends to go along  
5 with other privileges of race, of class and of  
6 citizenship. Many of us take IDs so much for granted  
7 that we don't even realize how much we rely on it.  
8 Over the last decade it's become increasingly crucial  
9 to have ID, increasingly difficult to get ID and  
10 increasingly risky to share personal information with  
11 the government agencies that issue ID; at the same  
12 time, ID continues to gate-keep every aspect of life.

13 In response to this problem, a wave of  
14 municipalities across the country have enacted local  
15 ID car programs, starting with New Haven, Connecticut  
16 and now including San Francisco, Oakland, Richmond,  
17 Los Angeles in California, Asbury Park and Mercer  
18 County in New Jersey, and Washington D.C. Campaigns  
19 are also currently underway in cities as diverse as  
20 Phoenix, Philadelphia and Chicago. The programs in  
21 these jurisdictions take a variety of forms and have  
22 a range of different features tailored to the  
23 particular localities they serve; my organization has  
24 researched all the existing programs and we've  
25 identified several key features that we believe will

1  
2 be important for municipal ID cards to be successful  
3 here in New York City.

4           The first of these is accessibility;  
5 [bell] in order for a city ID to actually serve the  
6 purpose for which it's designed, it has to be more  
7 accessible than existing forms of state and federal  
8 ID, and that means the application process has to be  
9 clear and simple and the methods of proving residency  
10 and identity in order to quality for the card must be  
11 flexible. That doesn't mean verification of identity  
12 and residency can't be robust, it just means the  
13 program has to be designed to fit with the particular  
14 circumstances of those in this City that typically  
15 have trouble getting ID. The next piece is privacy;  
16 I'm not gonna go into that, 'cause I think Johanna's  
17 covered that very well, but we found that the cities  
18 that have the most robust privacy policies -- San  
19 Francisco being an example, and you'll hear from  
20 someone from San Francisco later today -- tend to  
21 have the highest rates of adoption. The last piece  
22 is broad appeal -- as other folks have mentioned, we  
23 don't want the card to become a scarlet letter where  
24 an individual is assumed to be a member of one or  
25 more vulnerable groups simply by virtue of being a



1  
2 cardholder and the best way to avoid this is to  
3 ensure the card appeals to and is adopted by as broad  
4 a cross section of the population as possible; many  
5 jurisdictions have done this -- Los Angeles and San  
6 Francisco -- and the cards there are viewed as  
7 legitimate and viewed as non-stigmatizing.

8           The last thing I wanna say is that it's  
9 crucial to all of the communities in New York City  
10 that support this card that the NYPD accept it, that  
11 they view it as a legitimate way of proving your  
12 identity and they accept it for the purpose of  
13 issuing summonses.

14           Though there are many variables that can  
15 impact the success of an ID card program, our  
16 research shows that these are especially fundamental  
17 and we're excited to see that the current draft bill  
18 addresses all of these points. We're lucky to be in  
19 a position to learn from the other jurisdictions that  
20 have already implemented municipal ID card programs  
21 and we have a chance to make New York [cough] card  
22 the best in the country.

23           CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you, Miss  
24 Tucker. Miss Del Rio.

1  
2 DEYANIRA DEL RIO: Thanks. Hi, good  
3 morning...

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much.

5 DEYANIRA DEL RIO: thank you for the  
6 opportunity to testify. My name's Deyanira Del Rio;  
7 I'm the Co-Director of New Economy Project, formerly  
8 NEDAP; we're an organization that works with  
9 community groups around New York City to fight for  
10 economic justice and to build a new economy that  
11 works for all.

12 And I specifically want to address in the  
13 proposal, which we enthusiastically support, some of  
14 the issues around banking access; this is an area in  
15 which we've done work for many years, working to hold  
16 banks accountable to communities in New York City and  
17 also working to eliminate barriers that immigrants,  
18 young people and many others, including people in  
19 communities of color face to accessing fair and  
20 affordable financial services and you know, which  
21 leave people not only vulnerable to high-cost and  
22 predatory lenders and other institutions, but  
23 actually blocks people from all kinds of other  
24 economic opportunities by virtue of not having  
25 banking or credit histories. Unfortunately, the

1  
2 reality of that today without a banking and credit  
3 history, it's increasingly hard to get housing, jobs,  
4 insurance, cell phones, and the list is growing,  
5 thanks to aggressive marketing by the credit bureaus.  
6 The City Council is separately looking at a bill to  
7 ban employment credit checks and that would at least  
8 eliminate one of these unfair practices. But the  
9 implications for being financially excluded are  
10 really severe and expansive and that's the point I  
11 wanna make, it's not just about saving fees from  
12 check-cashing, it's really about economic access as a  
13 whole.

14           We are really excited about the potential  
15 for the municipal ID to be a tool that the City and  
16 New Yorkers and advocacy groups and organizers can  
17 use to press for accountable banking in the City and  
18 to really expand fair and affordable financial  
19 services for all New Yorkers.

20           There is in my testimony lengthy, sort of  
21 documentation that the City has put out regarding the  
22 numbers of people who right now do not have any  
23 credit union or bank account at all; it's somewhere  
24 upwards of 800,000 New Yorkers that have no account  
25 and that doesn't include many hundreds of thousands

1  
2 more that maybe have an account, but are still  
3 relying on high-cost, you know fringe services,  
4 [bell] predatory services to meet some of their  
5 needs. So literally expanding financial access in a  
6 meaningful way could literally put millions of  
7 dollars back in the pockets of low-income New Yorkers  
8 and their communities and so it's a really, you know  
9 critical issue for that reason.

10 I am going to, in the interest of time,  
11 just jump ahead a little bit into some of the  
12 recommendations that we have to make sure that the ID  
13 is an effective tool to promote banking access,  
14 because as everyone knows, I believe up here that  
15 lack of a government-issued ID is one of the major  
16 impediments that people face to getting access to an  
17 affordable, safe, regulated bank or credit union  
18 account, so not having a government-issued ID, it's  
19 not just immigrants; it's all the other communities  
20 that you've heard so far face these challenges. One  
21 is that we would recommend that the City take into  
22 account the federal banking requirements, including,  
23 for example, under the Patriot Act, and design the ID  
24 to meet those minimum requirements so that banks can  
25 accept that ID card as sufficient government ID to

1  
2 open an account, so the Patriot Act sets forth very  
3 basic minimum requirements -- name, address, a photo,  
4 for example; a birth date, and then, critically, an  
5 identification number that's unique. And so making  
6 sure there's a unique ID number on the cards will  
7 hopefully go far to making sure banks and credit  
8 unions accept that card. Second, we urge the City to  
9 use its leverage and its relationships with local  
10 banks and credit unions to press them to accept the  
11 ID not as a second or third ID, but as the primary ID  
12 which meets federal law, federal banking  
13 requirements, as a primary ID to allow people to open  
14 basic, affordable savings and checking accounts. And  
15 we think that the City has several leverage points,  
16 including the New York City Responsible Banking Act,  
17 which gives the City the ability to evaluate how  
18 banks are meeting community credit and banking need;  
19 when the City is deciding where to put its deposit.  
20 And so this, you know acceptance of the ID, service  
21 to people who have the ID could be one way that the  
22 City evaluates banks under that law. We also think  
23 that the City could go a step further and do what we  
24 understand San Francisco did, which is, in its  
25 statute, it requires all entities that do business

1  
2 with the City to accept the municipal ID card, and so  
3 that's yet another kind of hook or leverage with  
4 banks and others. And then finally, we would say  
5 that we have anecdotally heard from some financial  
6 institutions that they are already kind of viewing  
7 the ID a little bit skeptically, thinking it's not  
8 really a full... a true government-issued ID; it's  
9 gonna be a little too flexible or they're saying,  
10 well we'll accept it, but we're gonna develop a  
11 special product for those people, and you know  
12 unfortunately that... for those that do this work, the  
13 code there are, you know, inferior products, there  
14 are like fewer products and services and you know,  
15 things like pre-paid debit cards that aren't  
16 federally protected and insured in the same way as  
17 other banking services, for example and often have  
18 really high and hidden fees for people. So we wanna  
19 ask the City to make sure that institutions are  
20 viewing the City ID as a true and full government-  
21 issued ID; the ID is about unifying and really  
22 expanding access, equal access for all New Yorkers,  
23 it's not about creating separate and segregated  
24 systems and products, so we would want to make sure  
25 that the City has its radar up for that.

1  
2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Great. I'm gonna  
3 pause you there; I just... [crosstalk]

4 DEYANIRA DEL RIO: Okay. Okay, thank  
5 you. That was it.

6 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: I wanna... I wanna  
7 make sure that we can ask some questions, and I wanna  
8 recognize our great Public Advocate Tish James who's  
9 joined us; no stranger to this body and this room,  
10 but a fierce fighter for all New Yorkers, and I wanna  
11 give you an opportunity to say a few words and to ask  
12 a question.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Good morning. I  
14 wanna thank Immigration Chair, Council Member Carlos  
15 Menchaca for inviting me to speak on the topic of New  
16 York City Municipal ID Card Program.

17 Across the country a growing number of  
18 municipalities have begun to issue municipal ID cards  
19 to their residents; these municipal identification  
20 cards typically feature the photo and address of the  
21 cardholder. Although typically available to all  
22 residents, the cards are particularly valuable for  
23 the most vulnerable community residents, undocumented  
24 immigrants, homeless populations and others who may  
25 have difficulty obtaining and retaining other

1  
2 government-issued ID. As know, governmental  
3 identification is needed to obtain access to service  
4 most New Yorkers take for granted, like opening bank  
5 accounts, access to financial services, leasing  
6 apartments, entrance into certain governmental  
7 buildings, and even simply getting a library card.  
8 Today over half-a-million undocumented New Yorkers  
9 unfairly live in the shadows; it's now time that they  
10 step out of the shadows, and I am pleased to hear  
11 that this Council is considering.. I am pleased to  
12 hear that this legislation is being considered within  
13 the Council and that the Administration has moved  
14 forward with the Mayor's Office of Contract Services  
15 to secure project management and quality assurance  
16 services for the municipal ID application system, as  
17 well as a company that would oversee the program. As  
18 in the Office of Public Advocate, we also look  
19 forward to making sure that that company, that there  
20 is some oversight over that program and that company.  
21 I would hope to further discuss specifics regarding  
22 the procurement process, specifically how  
23 registration data will be compiled and secured and  
24 accessed both by the contracting company and that  
25 individuals' information is safe. And I again thank



1  
2 you for the opportunity to speak on the proposed New  
3 York City Municipal ID Card Program, but I want  
4 everyone to know that the Office of Public Advocate  
5 is a friend to all regardless of status and that we  
6 support this initiative going forward and whatever we  
7 can do in our capacity to ensure that there is equal  
8 opportunity for all, the Office of Public Advocate,  
9 the office of Letitia James, is here to serve. Thank  
10 you.

11 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you Public  
12 Advocate Tish James. And really with that note, I  
13 wanna hand it... or direct my question to Johanna from  
14 NYCLU and really understand how you envision  
15 protecting the privacy during the period in which the  
16 City has explained to us that they're gonna take  
17 information, the... well I guess I should just... I'll  
18 leave it there. How did you feel like that's gonna  
19 happen from your perspective?

20 JOHANNA MILLER: So as a threshold  
21 matter... my understanding is that the City has  
22 concerns about whether the people who are kind of the  
23 storefront recipients of these applicants in order to  
24 make it widespread may not have the correct training  
25 to be able to verify documents and so they need to

1  
2 either scan them or retain them in some way to have  
3 them -- like a two-step verification process. So as  
4 a threshold matter, we don't think that that's a  
5 legitimate reason to retain documents, we think that  
6 that indicates, quite frankly, a troubling lack of  
7 investment in proper training of those individuals;  
8 we think if there is a tension between widespread  
9 access and proper training, the City has to err on  
10 the side of training, and that's not just a safety  
11 concern with verifying the documents, but also, as  
12 you raised yourself, a customer service concern; a  
13 lot of the populations that are going to be best  
14 served by this identification card have had  
15 historically from interactions with many government  
16 agencies, including HRA, and so I think they're  
17 concerned that people won't be trained to verify a  
18 paper document, whether it's true or not, to me  
19 raises those secondary concerns about whether those  
20 people will actually be trained to handle the many  
21 different circumstances that people are going to  
22 present and make sure that they have a dignified  
23 experience. But as a secondary matter, we are not  
24 yet convinced that scanning and retaining the  
25 documents actually presents the right kind of

1  
2 verification, the means of verification at all; in  
3 fact, many of the security features of these types of  
4 documents are security features that you can only  
5 verify when you have the document in your possession  
6 and so scanning them.. so things like embossed seals,  
7 watermarks, things that even a high-quality scanner  
8 are not going to show, and so that two-step  
9 verification process, we haven't seen evidence yet  
10 from the City, we haven't had detailed conversations,  
11 but I have not seen evidence that actually would even  
12 work at all and in fact there are in-person  
13 mechanical verification methods that we would  
14 encourage the City to explore, like using UV lamps on  
15 some documents where the, you know, watermarks can  
16 show up on UV; we think that people can be trained to  
17 do this work and we think if that means that there  
18 are slightly fewer of them, that's probably the right  
19 path to go down.

20 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you. And my  
21 next question is to Miss Tucker, you mentioned really  
22 the value of NYPD accepting this piece of  
23 identification; can you just frame for us the value  
24 and why it's so essential for the NYPD to accept  
25 this?

1  
2           EMILY TUCKER: Yeah, I mean I think there  
3 are a few communities that are represented in our  
4 advocacy coalition that could speak to this  
5 firsthand, but you know the... just to give a basic  
6 overview, undocumented immigrants are often afraid to  
7 take advantage of law enforcement in their  
8 communities because they worry that if they have to  
9 present identification, that identification might tip  
10 law enforcement off to their undocumented status and  
11 that that could trigger a pickup by ICE or their  
12 personal information being submitted to ICE and  
13 consequences not only for themselves and their family  
14 members and that has huge consequences we've seen in  
15 the domestic violence advocacy circle, many, many  
16 examples of individuals who are suffering from  
17 domestic violence and fear going to the police  
18 because they don't wanna bring to light their status  
19 or the status of their family members and there  
20 actually have been incidents where individuals have  
21 gone to the police in cases of domestic violence and  
22 have ended up in deportation proceedings. So that's  
23 one example and the other example would be the, for  
24 example, homeless individuals who often don't have  
25 current forms of identification and will be, you

1  
2 know, they'll be in the subway and have their feet on  
3 the seat and it's 3 a.m. and the cops are doing  
4 sweeps and aren't able to present a valid form of  
5 identification for the purposes of getting a summons  
6 and so they end up having to spend the night in jail.  
7 So those are some of the examples and it's really,  
8 really crucial for NYPD to accept the ID.

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you Miss  
10 Tucker. Next question from Council Member Reynoso.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you. This  
12 is to Mr. Choi. You specifically talked about  
13 incentives and discounts; are you saying that maybe  
14 we get 10 percent off at Macy's for getting this  
15 card; is that what you're implying... [crosstalk]

16 STEVEN CHOI: Think we rely upon you as  
17 Council Member to make that happen.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: [laugh] Well, I  
19 do want to see if you've thought of any creative ways  
20 that you think... [interpose]

21 STEVEN CHOI: Sure.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: you can make  
23 this popular and make it attractive to folks and  
24 speak to the discounts or incentives that you were  
25 talking about.

1  
2 STEVEN CHOI: Absolutely. So as I stated  
3 before in my testimony and as you see in the written  
4 testimony, we think that this package of potential  
5 benefits is going to be the most critical thing. As  
6 I said before, the best thing for immigrants about  
7 this card is to make sure that non-immigrants are  
8 taking advantage of it, and that is gonna be  
9 absolutely critical to dealing with the issue of  
10 avoiding this being a scarlet letter. And so what I  
11 would say is, as I mentioned earlier, we should  
12 establish a joint task force, get the Mayor's folks  
13 to come together, get the City Council to come  
14 together, and this broad network of nonprofit  
15 organizations, this robust network that we have here  
16 in New York City, get our minds together and lets  
17 think together strategically and creatively. If we  
18 think about it, there is a whole range of benefits  
19 that could be... that we can make eligible through this  
20 card -- discounts to restaurants, discounts to  
21 Macy's, although I don't shop at Macy's, I don't have  
22 enough money to shop there, but really thinking  
23 through all the different ways in which we could  
24 connect it up. We could connect it up with... and this  
25 is just some brief brainstorming, but we could

1  
2 connect it up with a restaurant week, we could  
3 connect it up with the City Bike system, and this is  
4 all just sort of brainstorming that we're thinking  
5 about. Procedurally we should create a joint task  
6 force; I think we should actually build it into the  
7 bill, where we talk about brining these folks  
8 together so we're not doing this in a haphazard way,  
9 but in a thoughtful and careful and strategic way  
10 where we are identifying not only what's best for  
11 immigrants, but also what's gonna attract citizens  
12 and green card holders and students to all say, I  
13 want this bill as well. So ultimately, at the end of  
14 the day, there should be this robust package of  
15 benefits that every single person in this room should  
16 say, there's something in it for me.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Okay. Well with  
19 that I think... I wanna thank you for being on this  
20 panel; we're gonna hear from so many other New  
21 Yorkers and we're gonna continue our conversations.  
22 Thank you for being engaged in this process up until  
23 this point; we're gonna continue. So thank you so  
24 much. [background comment]

25

1  
2 Our next panel we call up Jason Chang  
3 from the National Federation of Community Development  
4 Credit Unions, Jeong Ming Yu [sp?] from the MinKwon  
5 Center, Linda Sarsour from the Arab American  
6 Association of New York, and Esther Sanchez from  
7 Faith in New York. Please make your way up to the  
8 table. [background comments] [Spanish] 01:46:16...  
9 [interpose]

10 ESTHER SANCHEZ: [Spanish] 01:46:17

11 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: [Spanish] 01:46:21

12 Can we have a translator, please?

13 MALE VOICE: [Spanish] 01:46:28

14 [interpose]

15 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: [Spanish] 01:46:31

16 ESTHER SANCHEZ: [Spanish] 01:46:32

17 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you.

18 [background comment]

19 ESTHER SANCHEZ: [Spanish] 01:46:36

20 [background comment]

21 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: [Spanish] 01:48:17

22 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: So I'm going to  
23 translate and it says, "My name is Esther Sanchez, I  
24 living in New York for more than 15 years, a mother  
25 of three autistic children and because of the



1  
2 diagnostic or the condition of my children I have to  
3 take them constantly to the hospital and on various  
4 occasions, because I didn't have an ID, my children  
5 were not attended at the hospital and I've had to  
6 come back to my house really worried that something  
7 bad could happen to my children because they didn't  
8 receive medical assistance that day. Also, when I go  
9 to my children's school they also ask me for an ID to  
10 be able to get in and in various occasions I showed  
11 them my consular ID, the ID from my country and I  
12 have been discriminated and rejected and I have to  
13 always, you know be going through very difficult  
14 times and I don't wanna go to my children's school  
15 because I don't feel accepted there. So for me this  
16 ID will change my life because as a mother I have  
17 experienced discrimination and having a municipal ID  
18 in New York is really important for me and for a lot  
19 of mothers that are in my same situation; it will  
20 take me out of the shadows and I would be able to  
21 live with tranquility and peace. You know, after so  
22 many years of living here I will finally feel that  
23 I'm a part of this city.

24 [background comment]  
25

CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you.

[background comment] Mr. Yu.

PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Good morning Council Members Menchaca and other council members. Thank you for this hearing and the opportunity to share my experience and my thoughts on the municipal ID program.

My name is Jeong Min Yu and I am a member of the MinKwon Center for Community Action. I'm going to hold up my green passport and then just tell you about a recent exchange at a Home Depot while returning an item.

The Home Depot rep had said, "Can I see your ID?" And I said, "Yeah, here you go." And then he said, "I'm sorry, but we can't accept this." And then I said to him, "Why?" And he says, "We can only accept U.S. Government IDs here." And I was like, "It's a Korean Passport, it's from Korea." And he said, "Sorry," you know. And so as I walked away I heard another worker say, probably mockingly; sarcastically, "You know, if you're in America you should have your American ID." And than I shot back, "You know, not everybody can be an American citizen," sad but true. And so nonetheless, my passport is my

1  
2 only sole documentation of the journey from Korea 33  
3 years ago and I was born in Seoul and brought to the  
4 States at the age of 1 and my family moved to New  
5 York when I was 8; I went to Mark Twain and  
6 Stuyvesant High School and went to college and  
7 graduated magna cum laude. Even with all this, when  
8 it comes to being an actual person in the eyes of the  
9 law, I continue to live in the shadows. I've aged  
10 out of the Deferred Action Program by one year and  
11 have not been able to drive, work and travel like my  
12 younger stream of [sic] peers; they now have a valid  
13 U.S. ID while I still do not.

14 Experiences like the one at Home Depot  
15 leave me wondering, what can be done for the people  
16 like me, undocumented immigrants without other forms  
17 of ID or even international students who might be  
18 relying on foreign passports as their sole means of  
19 government-issued ID? Banks, post offices and even  
20 rental properties can and do ask for secondary forms  
21 of IDs, but our very limited options basically  
22 imprisons us and our existence in the real world.  
23 [bell] This municipal ID program would rectify some  
24 of the problems I face as I continue to live in this  
25 great city for another, 10, 20; 30 years. While so

1  
2 many of us wait for Congress to act, I hope you do  
3 pass Int. 253 now, and not just for me, but for the  
4 other immigrants who have just arrived or who have  
5 been listed as Deferred Action Program, not to  
6 mention for the entire immigrant community who every  
7 day and in every way wishes to contribute to this  
8 great city. Thank you.

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you. Next,  
10 please.

11 JASON CHANG: Good morning. My name is  
12 Jason Chang and I'm with the National Federation of  
13 Community Development Credit Unions. The Federation  
14 is an association of community development credit  
15 unions with more than 250 members across the country,  
16 serving over 2.5 million members in urban and rural  
17 settings. The Federation works to support member  
18 credit unions in their mission to serve under-served  
19 populations while complying with Know Your Customer  
20 rules and other existing regulations. Community  
21 Development Credit Unions, or CDCUs, are in a unique  
22 position in the financial sector because they work  
23 with immigrants, low- and moderate-income populations  
24 and historically under-served communities. As such,  
25 CDCUs have an extensive experience working with

1  
2 alternate forms of ID, such as the Matricula  
3 Consular. However, while some national consulates  
4 are proactive in helping their citizenry, immigrants  
5 may not always be able to obtain passports or IDs if  
6 they do not have immigration status and may be  
7 required to pay hundreds of dollars for services that  
8 they cannot necessarily afford. A municipal ID can  
9 help remove these barriers for immigrants and expand  
10 access by providing a government-issued ID that all  
11 New Yorkers can use and CDCUs and other financial  
12 institutions can accept to open accounts and provide  
13 other needed services. The Federation believes in  
14 equal access to financial products and services and  
15 therefore wholly supports the efforts to introduce  
16 municipal IDs that can help immigrants and all New  
17 Yorkers establish banking accounts. We look forward  
18 to working with the City Council and a membership to  
19 expand and maximize access to financial products and  
20 services and we thank you for the time and the  
21 opportunity to speak on this important issue.

22 LINDA SARSOUR: Okay. So thank you,  
23 Council Members for having us here today. My name is  
24 Linda Sarsour and I'm the Executive Director at the  
25 Arab American Association of New York and I'm here to

1 wholeheartedly support the creation of a New York  
2 City identification card for all New Yorkers. The  
3 key here is to ensure that this card has broad appeal  
4 to the pastor in Staten Island, the transgendered  
5 teen in Queens, successful business owner in the  
6 Bronx and the undocumented mom from Brooklyn. Any  
7 New Yorker should be proud to carry this new ID; we  
8 want to ensure and stress to the New York City  
9 Council and Mayor de Blasio that this does not become  
10 a scarlet letter. In order to avoid this we call on  
11 the New York City Council and the Mayor's Office to  
12 pool their resources to implement a robust outreach  
13 and marketing campaign that leverages the power and  
14 deep routes of ethnic and community-based  
15 organizations, chambers of commerce to reach the  
16 widest possible audience. A comprehensive media  
17 marketing campaign will also need to be a top  
18 priority and we hope the Council will commit those  
19 resources. We envision this card as the key to New  
20 York City, exploring opportunities with museums,  
21 other tourist sites, City Bike rental, libraries are  
22 just some examples of the potential of this card to  
23 appeal to every corner of New York City. We recommit  
24 to working with members of the New York City Council  
25

1  
2 and the Mayor's Office to foster the relationships  
3 needed to make this a multi-purpose ID. We believe  
4 that the aesthetics of the card are important and  
5 appealing to a broader base. Ideas around using the  
6 Statue of Liberty or other landmarks as part of  
7 making this a New York City centric functioning  
8 document that also acts as a memento of who we are  
9 and what we represent as New York City. This card is  
10 long overdue in a city like New York; I know we have  
11 a lot of support in the New York City Council and  
12 from our Speaker and Mayor; since we're gonna do it,  
13 let's do it big and let's do it right. Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
15 Miss Sarsour for testifying, and thank you all for  
16 coming today to talk about your experiences of really  
17 all New Yorkers and particularly I wanna ask Mr. Yu  
18 to talk a little bit more about the relationship and  
19 something we talked earlier about, language access  
20 and how language access is such an important  
21 component and what that means to you on the ground,  
22 understanding it through different programs that  
23 you've already been engaged in?

24 JEONG MIN YU: My parents, they own a  
25 grocery store and even though they've been here like

1  
2 30 years, their English is, you know, somewhat basic..  
3 you know, my English is great 'cause I've been raised  
4 here and it's... I think the issue of language access,  
5 especially for Korean immigrants, is just so key,  
6 because some of these are international students and  
7 you know, it does take some time, especially when  
8 they come as teenagers, to learn the language  
9 basically to move about and stuff like that. I think  
10 for them and for all the Asian immigrants and, not  
11 just Asian immigrants; Latino immigrants and  
12 everybody else, that we have programs to actually  
13 benefit them and you know, even for this Deferred  
14 Action Program, which I am not a part of right now, I  
15 hope that they could actually take part in it and get  
16 their own program and even for this ID, I think that  
17 would be the right step and to just understand what  
18 it entails and to move forward. And especially for  
19 educational purposes, when going to college and  
20 getting jobs, I think that would be such a huge  
21 benefit for them and I think that's what we need to  
22 push for as well.

23 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you.

24 JEONG MIN YU: Thank you.

25



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2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And I have another  
3 question, [Spanish] 01:58:29. And then, just to  
4 translate, I asked a little bit about the  
5 relationship, about her and.. she talked a lot about  
6 in her testimony her relationship with her school and  
7 agencies, but really on the police side, how she  
8 could feel a little bit more secure and safe in  
9 talking to the Police Department, for example.

10 ESTHER SANCHEZ: [Spanish] 01:59:12

11 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: So as an immigrant  
12 it's terrifying to go to a precinct and report  
13 anything because you're afraid that they're gonna  
14 arrest you or you're gonna get deported.

15 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: [Spanish] 01:59:47

16 ESTHER SANCHEZ: [Spanish] 01:59:49

17 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: One time I was  
18 talking to my husband on the phone, he was a block  
19 away, and out of nowhere he stopped talking to me, I  
20 later found out that he was stopped by the police and  
21 he was questioned and he was taken in to the precinct  
22 because he did not have identification, so the next  
23 morning I had to go and look for him; it was a  
24 terrible experience because I had not... I did not know  
25 what had happened.

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CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: [Spanish]

02:01:21. Council Member Reynoso.

ESTHER SANCHEZ: [Spanish] 02:01:27

COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: My question is for Linda; how are you, first? Speaking of being in New York and going big, I think that's extremely important and it not being a scarlet letter; do you think... So originally in the beginning we keep speaking about who we think are gonna be the people most attracted to this card; what place do CBOs like yours have in ensuring that they can get broad support from their membership and even further than that; do you feel that you play a role outside of the City of New York's work in regards to what they need to do? What role do you think you could play in helping with the marketing?

LINDA SARSOUR: Thank you for that question and I think that's actually, for me personally, it's the critical point that we have to really clarify here. If we wanna make this broad appeal, I'm all about using existing resources, like the Human Resources Administration, but to be honest with you, let's be serious; the Human Resources Administration has a stigma behind it as an agency

1  
2 that provides services and support to low-income New  
3 Yorkers, so if we wanna appeal to the Upper West  
4 Side, if we wanna appeal to the people in, you know  
5 Greenpoint, Park Slope, you know this kind of... you  
6 know our allies and others in the community, we need  
7 to make sure that we're providing access points to  
8 people that don't wanna be part of that stigma. And  
9 the role of community-based organizations is multi-  
10 faceted. First of all, we represent organizations  
11 where many of us are multi-lingual, multi-cultural,  
12 we understand how to work with our people, and I  
13 think that that's why I'm talking about a very robust  
14 campaign, similar to that of UPK; I mean there was a  
15 lot of resources and marketing around universal pre-K  
16 and we think this is just as important if not even  
17 more important to ensure that while we're trying to  
18 get our kids into a pre-K program, that their parents  
19 are not barred from going and being part of their  
20 educational experience because of lack of documents.  
21 I think our role could be as... doing education, doing  
22 workshops, helping to be part of a committee to look  
23 at the translation materials around the marketing;  
24 there's a lot of roles for ethnic-based  
25 organizations, for the faith-based community, for the

1  
2 financial institutions, for the credit unions, and I  
3 think the idea here is, how do we use this as a time  
4 in a new administration to build relationships with  
5 all the sectors -- government, private, nonprofit.  
6 If we can't do it on municipal IDs, then we're gonna  
7 be in trouble in the future on future initiatives.  
8 So I think that's a conversation to have about how we  
9 can ensure that this is not a scarlet letter, that it  
10 is not only attractive to the undocumented and to the  
11 homeless and to transgender and the LGBT community,  
12 but it's something that every single New Yorker --  
13 basically, if you are a cool New Yorker and you're a  
14 real New Yorker, you're gonna have a municipal ID,  
15 and that's the kind of theme that we hope this  
16 initiative does.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Thank you.

18 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you Miss  
19 Sarsour and I think we can put a #coolfactor on that..  
20 on that piece of testimony. [laughter] But thank  
21 you for that, and really thank you for everyone who's  
22 testified. We're gonna move on to our next panel  
23 now, and we have [background comments] folks from  
24 other jurisdictions; I wanna call Mr. John Lugo from  
25 New Haven to the table, and we have two folks on the

1  
2 phone... [background comment] and we're gonna have John  
3 Lugo go first, or are we ready... [background comments]  
4 Great, thank you so much. We're gonna to with John  
5 Lugo first, who's here, and we'll be testifying from  
6 New Haven; this is a panel we've asked and we've  
7 compiled from other jurisdictions to give us their  
8 perspective. Thank you so much for being here, Mr.  
9 Lugo. And when you're ready you can begin.

10 JOHN LUGO: [background comment] Okay.  
11 My name is John Jairo Lugo; I am the founding member  
12 of Unidad Latina en Accion, a grassroots organization  
13 created in 2002 in New Haven, Connecticut. At that  
14 time, immigrant workers came together to seek a  
15 driver license, but the bill was defeated in the  
16 Connecticut legislature. After that defeat, we  
17 decided to create a platform of policies to make New  
18 Haven a model city for the integration on new  
19 immigrants in the social fabric.

20 One of the most innovative ideas was the  
21 creation of the municipal ID card. The reasons were  
22 clear, we did not have a driver license, but we still  
23 need the ID. Many of our members were detained by  
24 the police for simple traffic violations or the  
25 police report refused to release them for several

1  
2 days because they could not produce an ID. Without  
3 an ID, many immigrants could not open bank accounts  
4 and they were targeted by criminals as walking ATMs  
5 because they carry cash. In 2006 one of our members,  
6 Manuel Santiago Vasquez was murdered during a robbery  
7 and we could no longer stay silent. We created  
8 alliances with other organizations in the city, we  
9 went to Junta for Progressive Action; the Director,  
10 Kica Matos agreed to work with us in this platform.  
11 We met with the Mayor, John DeStefano, and he was  
12 open to the idea; he recruited the Yale Law School  
13 for the legal research. They found the municipal ID  
14 could not contra... doesn't contradict the federal or  
15 state law. Mayor DeStefano convinced different  
16 sectors of the city to support this project. The  
17 Board of Aldermen held several public hearings and  
18 people from different neighborhoods came in support  
19 of the proposal, others questioned the idea [sic]  
20 anti-immigrant and neo-Nazi groups came from outside  
21 of New Haven to attack the city; they sent hate  
22 emails and death threats to the city officials.  
23 These groups tried to rally the African American  
24 community against the immigrant community, they  
25 passed out flyers saying that immigrants were the

1  
2 cause of African American inequality [bell]; however,  
3 African Americans saw the immigrants were suffering  
4 the same attacks as they have suffered in the past  
5 and they came out in support of the ID card; that's  
6 how the Board of Aldermen ended voting 25-1 in favor  
7 of the ID card, becoming the first city in the nation  
8 to create this initiative. Two days later, Federal  
9 Immigration agents came to the city of New Haven and  
10 raided the homes of immigrants and detained 29  
11 people. We later confirmed through a lawsuit that  
12 this ICE raid was an act of retaliation against the  
13 city. Days after the raid diverse sectors of the  
14 city marched to denounce the raids -- immigrants,  
15 African-Americans, Puerto Ricans, Jews, people of  
16 faith and city officials -- they also raised the  
17 money to free all these brothers and sisters who were  
18 detained. A few weeks later, when New Haven began to  
19 issue the ID card, thousands got online and get the  
20 document; they were not just Latinos, because people  
21 saw the ID card as a way to integrate a society that  
22 was segregated and divided. Since then, more than  
23 10,000 people have applied for the ID.

24 The advantages are clear, many people can  
25 now open bank accounts, so they are not targeted by

1  
2 criminals. The relationship with the police has  
3 improved because now we are citizens of the city of  
4 New Haven. People coming out from jail who had no  
5 documents can apply for the ID card and now they can  
6 integrate into the social fabric. High school  
7 students, now they have an ID. We're one city,  
8 united we stand, divided we fall. Thank you.

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you Mr. Lugo  
10 for that testimony and so much of what you're talking  
11 about is alive and well in New York City and is at  
12 the base of what we're trying to do here, so thank  
13 you so much for your testimony. What we have...  
14 [background comment] And so, thank you so much.  
15 We're gonna go... you can stay here at the table; we're  
16 gonna... we might have some questions for you. We have  
17 Mr. Eric Mar?

18 ERIC MAR: Yes it is.

19 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Mr. Mar, thank  
20 you. Can you please identify yourself; we're gonna  
21 give you a couple minutes for testimony; I know  
22 you're calling from San Francisco.

23 ERIC MAR: Yes; my name's Eric Mar; it's  
24 M A R; I'm a member of our Board of Supervisors in  
25 San Francisco; I represent District 1, which is Ocean



1 Beach and Golden Gate Park, for those New Yorkers  
2 that don't know where it is. [sirens] I've been on  
3 our Board of Supervisors since 2009, when we first  
4 implemented our San Francisco municipal ID card; I am  
5 one of 11 members of our Board of Supervisors. Way  
6 back in 2007, when many other parts of the country  
7 were facing immigration raids, ICE raids, San  
8 Francisco had a group of grassroots, mostly Latino,  
9 immigrant organizations that came together to discuss  
10 the need for bringing people out of the shadows,  
11 giving dignity and creating more public safety for  
12 the immigrant communities; they brought this issue to  
13 the Board of Supervisors; Supervisor Tom Ammiano, at  
14 the time, he's now a State Assemblyman, took the  
15 legislation with others on our Board; they strongly  
16 championed it; we planned it for quite a while, about  
17 a year-and-a-half. Part of the challenge was, our  
18 mayor at the time, Gavin Newsom, who's now our  
19 Lieutenant Governor, was more lukewarm on the issue,  
20 but our Board of Supervisors and a grassroots  
21 coalition from the immigrant community pushed hard  
22 and they really tried to frame it as, not just for  
23 immigrants or undocumented people, but for homeless  
24 people and low-income youth or seniors that needed a  
25

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2 sense of legitimacy and also to be able to talk with  
3 the police to report crime, so it was about framing  
4 it for increasing civic engagement for vulnerable  
5 populations, not just for immigrants. We implemented  
6 it in January of 2009; it really took a strong push  
7 from our immigrant community organizations through a  
8 network called The San Francisco Immigrant Legal and  
9 Education Network, or SFILEN, and I think some of the  
10 challenges at the time also were broad public  
11 education, countering the media's framing in an  
12 environment in 2008 [bell] and 2007 of anti-immigrant  
13 sentiment, but to frame it as, it's about public  
14 safety for immigrant communities and for everyone,  
15 and it was about better access to service for  
16 vulnerable populations as well. We have about 40,000  
17 ID cards right now; I... or no, 20... 20,000 right now in  
18 our City of 800,000 people; it's been about 4,000 per  
19 year and they're heavily from the Latino community,  
20 though it's a diverse population of people that have  
21 ID cards. It cost us about \$828,000 to set it up in  
22 the first year and part of that was buying the  
23 expensive machines that were laser-etching that could  
24 create a document that could prevent fraud, and I  
25 think there have been no incidents of fraud reported

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2 in San Francisco, so the fear of easy illegal  
3 activity are not true, there's no incidents of fraud  
4 within our city that we know of. The card..

5 [interpose, crosstalk]

6 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Supervisor Mar..

7 ERIC MAR: also costs \$15 per person, but  
8 if you're low-income and you could verify that, it's  
9 \$5.00 per card and we do not... or, if used for many  
10 services like New Haven and other places, as a step  
11 towards opening up a checking account or a banking  
12 account with our Bank on San Francisco, which other  
13 cities use as well, there are 40-50 businesses that  
14 allow discounts or other benefits from using the card  
15 and I think there's still a broad community of  
16 support from the nonprofits and community-based  
17 organizations that support this in addition to our  
18 whole city government, so all departments are  
19 supposed to acknowledge this card. There were  
20 initial challenges with the police department that,  
21 [background comment] in speaking one of our police  
22 commissioners in San Francisco, Angela Chan, who  
23 served really with a focus on protecting the  
24 immigrant communities on the Police Commission, but  
25 she said that at different times police would

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2 confiscate the card from someone or they wouldn't  
3 know what it is, so we've had to do a lot of broad  
4 education with our police department, with our police  
5 chief and others to make sure that the law is  
6 followed in San Francisco and that the card is used  
7 as a key identification purpose whenever somebody  
8 wants to report crime or even if you get in a fender-  
9 bender. There are some challenges right now also  
10 when a car is impounded and somebody needs to get  
11 their car back as well. But I think overall, for  
12 increasing public safety, expanding access to low-  
13 income and immigrant people to services, from health  
14 care to other types of services in the city, that  
15 it's been a wonderful addition to our city and at a  
16 fairly low cost to our city, but really expanding  
17 civic engagement and bringing people out of the  
18 shadows so that they have legitimacy and a feeling of  
19 unity in being a San Franciscan.

20 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
21 for that testimony. And we're gonna keep you on the  
22 phone for a couple minutes; we have a couple  
23 questions for you; do you have a couple more minutes?

24 ERIC MAR: Yes I do.  
25

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2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: So my first  
3 question is, in really understanding the issue of  
4 privacy, how has San Francisco ensured privacy for  
5 your residents throughout this program?

6 ERIC MAR: Yeah, I think that's a great  
7 question. I think for these municipal ID cards, the  
8 verification first of using of the documents to show  
9 that you are who you are and that you have resided in  
10 San Francisco for over 15 days has been a challenge;  
11 we've... actually, before I get to privacy, we've shown  
12 some flexibility in how to document that you live in  
13 San Francisco and you are who you are; we also allow  
14 nonprofit organizations, legitimate nonprofit  
15 organizations, to write a letter to verify that a  
16 person is who they are and has been living here for a  
17 period of time to show residency. So that's another  
18 flexibility, because often people weren't able to  
19 produce the documents that our County Clerk that  
20 verifies everything could use. But none of the  
21 information that you show for validity is kept by our  
22 County Clerk, so that's a key part of, I think  
23 protecting privacy. Also, even Supervisor Ammiano at  
24 the time went through the line to get his municipal  
25 ID, and he kinda jokes about it in some ways as well;

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2 again, he's a State Assemblyman now, but even he  
3 could not provide, when we first implemented it in  
4 January of 2009, enough evidence to show that he was  
5 a resident and who he was. So we've had to deal with  
6 the challenges of verification, but we've been  
7 flexible. And I think the challenges in setting this  
8 up were protecting people's privacy and I know our  
9 current Mayor Ed Lee, who was a city administrator at  
10 the time, and our police department and many  
11 departments really developed a system that is  
12 protecting the privacy of especially undocumented  
13 people so that no information is reported to the  
14 Department of Homeland Security or ICE and that  
15 people feel absolutely secure that they could provide  
16 the information to get the ID card.

17 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much.  
18 There's two quick questions and then... actually, three  
19 quick questions, if we can keep them brief; is the  
20 confirmation that the SFPD was not part of the  
21 creation and implementation of the card program; is  
22 that right?

23 ERIC MAR: Actually, I'm not sure. I  
24 know that our Police Chief, Heather Fong at the time,  
25 there were some challenges in the beginning, but

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2 there is a departmental memo from the police chief to  
3 the department after long meetings with the city  
4 leadership so that the police know that they're  
5 supposed to comply with and to accept the use of the  
6 card. I know there are some exceptions that the... if  
7 the police reasonably see that there might be fraud  
8 involved, but again, there's been on incidents of  
9 fraud; they don't have to accept the ID card. But I  
10 think in the early days there were some police  
11 officers that were confiscating ID cards, but I think  
12 with broader education from our Immigrant Legal  
13 Education Network and work with the police that we've  
14 cleared up a lot of that confusion about the use of  
15 the card. But we'll try to get a copy of the  
16 directive from the police chief to the department on  
17 how the card is supposed to be accepted by the police  
18 as a department.

19 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you. And  
20 the next question is about how San Francisco allows a  
21 designation of gender on the municipal IDs?

22 ERIC MAR: So San Francisco has a strong  
23 tradition of equal rights for everyone, including  
24 transgendered people; our card does not designate  
25 gender at all, and I think it was specific to be very

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2 inclusive to use the card so that transgender people  
3 didn't have to be in a situation of having the card  
4 questioned by people. So I think that was a key part  
5 of our promotion of dignity and civil rights for  
6 everyone.

7 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you. And we  
8 have one question from Council Member Cabrera.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you, Mr.  
10 Chair. My question is in reference -- I just wanna  
11 understand it right -- it is about \$50, the cost per  
12 card in the economy of scale; is it \$50 per person  
13 and how many people again do you have in San  
14 Francisco that are using the ID?

15 ERIC MAR: Thank you. It's not \$50; it's  
16 \$15, one, five... [interpose]

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Okay.

18 ERIC MAR: \$15. San Francisco has about  
19 800,000 people, though our population doubles or  
20 triples during the workday, with many people coming  
21 into our city, and there are 20,000 cards issued,  
22 about 4,000 per year and the card is... it lasts for  
23 two years and then you have to renew the card.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: So that's... just  
3 to be clear, the \$15 is what people pay or is \$15 the  
4 cost... is your cost as a city?

5 ERIC MAR: It costs the person \$15. And  
6 what... is there a cost to the city at all? How much  
7 you're spending [interpose] or did you RFP this out  
8 and there's a private entity involved in this? How  
9 is that working out?

10 ERIC MAR: No, it's our City Clerk's  
11 Office that administers it. I think it costs roughly  
12 the amount that it brings in, so it costs us about  
13 \$200,000 a year and I think the fees are roughly paid  
14 for by that \$15 fee. And again, there are \$5.00,  
15 low-income cards issued and then, there are many  
16 homeless people in the city that utilize the card and  
17 the fee is waived if you could verify that you are  
18 homeless as well. So my understanding is there are  
19 hundreds of cards that are for homeless people that  
20 provide dignity and bringing them out of the shadows  
21 as well.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so  
23 much.

24 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Our next and final  
25 question is from Council Member Reynoso.

1  
2 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Hi. I just  
3 wanted to ask if there's any advice you would give us  
4 to expand on participation? You said 20,000 folks  
5 have it out of 800,000; that seems like a low number;  
6 what would you have done different to allow for that  
7 number to be larger?

8 ERIC MAR: I think that's a great  
9 question. I think one of the challenges, when we  
10 first implemented, was an anti-immigrant sentiment  
11 and a budget crisis that was going on. I think  
12 funding, not only your city's immigrant commission;  
13 we have an Office of Civic Engagement and Immigrant  
14 Affairs with a director and staff; we have an  
15 Immigrant Rights Commission; we have a network of  
16 immigrant rights organizations. I used to be the  
17 Director of our Immigrant Rights Coalition in the  
18 city in the 90s, but we have a SFILEN network that...  
19 our city does some funding for outreach for language  
20 access and lots of other needs and services, but I  
21 think cities' funding capacity in immigrant  
22 communities with the nonprofit organizations and  
23 raising awareness early on is important. I think a  
24 big blitz with media to frame it not just for  
25 immigrants but for everyone, to improve public safety

1  
2 and civic engagement is really critical. I think at  
3 the time we implemented ours there was an anti-  
4 immigrant hysteria; we had minutemen, right-wing,  
5 anti-immigrant minutemen coming to protest at city  
6 hall, but it was a climate that was different than  
7 what you have. We also had a mayor that was not that  
8 supportive, Gavin Newsom, and immigrant communities  
9 had to organize like crazy to push it forward with  
10 our support of city council I think the vote was  
11 10-1 at our city council to support it, so there was  
12 near unanimous support. But having Mayor de Blasio  
13 and your City Council Chairman and Councilman Dromm  
14 and Lander and Menchaca and so many others of you  
15 supporting it I think is a big, big plus for you.

16 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you  
17 Supervisor Mar, and thank you for your time and we  
18 look forward to continuing to work with you and  
19 follow up on some of the things we brought up during  
20 this testimony. Thank you and we'll talk to you  
21 soon.

22 ERIC MAR: Thank you.

23 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Okay.

24 ERIC MAR: Bye.  
25

1  
2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you. And  
3 Mr. Lugo -- Does anyone have any questions for  
4 Mr. Lugo? I mean I don't know if there's anything  
5 that you've heard, but clearly there's [bell] a  
6 kinda... a over-arching theme to the way that all these  
7 programs have kind of been rooted and it's just great  
8 to hear from you and New Haven as the first; it was  
9 not easy and now we're here in New York, so just  
10 thank you so much for your testimony today.

11 JOHN LUGO: Thank you very much.

12 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And so we're gonna  
13 call up our next panel, Jesus Castellanos, Make the  
14 Road, a youth member, Arely Gonzalez, Juan Carlos  
15 Gomez, and Carlos Elias Vasquez Zambrano [sp?]. If  
16 we can have you to the table, please. Thank you so  
17 much. [background comments] And the panel after  
18 that, just so you could be ready for this next panel,  
19 is Diana Reyna, Brooklyn Deputy Borough President,  
20 Jeff Foreman from the Care for the Homeless, Jessica  
21 Orozco, Hispanic Federation, and then Jojo Annobil  
22 from Legal Aid Society, [background comment] the  
23 panel after this. [background comment] [Spanish]

24 02:25:25.

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ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:25:31...

[background comments]

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: My name is Arely Gonzalez and I am from... [interpose]

CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Could you get him a chair, please?

ARELY GONZALEZ: Make the Road.

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: Make the Road New York.

ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:25:56

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: I know that the City entirely is emotional about the proposal from the Mayor...

ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:26:08

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: the other forces are pushing for this legislation...

ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:26:19

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: thanks to the leadership of Pechaco [sp?]?

ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:26:30

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: thanks... thank god... I mean, thanks to the leadership of Mr. Pechaco, the leadership...

ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:26:40

1  
2 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: for the community,  
3 the immigrant communities and the transgender  
4 communities..

5 ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:26:50

6 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: this initiative is  
7 very important.

8 ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:26:54

9 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: We wanna count on a  
10 form of identification that show who we are..

11 ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:27:04

12 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: that we are  
13 residents of the State of New York.

14 ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:27:11

15 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: Since we know it's  
16 difficult, like me, undocumented, having obtaining a  
17 piece of identification..

18 ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:27:23

19 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: and a lot of us,  
20 it's been difficult for us to obtain the ID and come  
21 out of the shadow.

22 ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:27:38

23 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: We're scared that  
24 sometimes when we walk outside that we're gonna walk  
25 to... talk to police officers or other people..

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COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

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ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:27:53

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: a part of the  
community of EBT.. [background comment] [Spanish]  
02:28:02

ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:28:05

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: us, like transgender  
women, we don't identify with the ID that.. identify..

ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:28:21

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: like our  
corresponding gender and our names..

ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:28:28

[bell]

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: and it would also  
reduce the amount of arrests due to not having ID.

ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:28:38

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: The implementation  
of.. [Spanish] 02:28:44?

ARELY GONZALEZ: [Spanish] 02:28:45

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: so we could have..

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:28:48

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: our names and our  
preferred genders..

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:28:52

1  
2 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: will open the doors  
3 to our lives...

4 ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:28:57

5 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: like people who will  
6 form part of the community...

7 ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:29:03

8 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: like members of the  
9 community of EBT, I mean [Spanish] 02:29:09...

10 ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:29:10

11 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: this initiative is  
12 very important for us.

13 ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:29:15

14 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: Like me, as a  
15 transgender woman...

16 ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:29:21

17 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: people make fun of  
18 us when the police stop us...

19 ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:29:29

20 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: to ask for ID.

21 ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:29:32

22 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: they tell us that we  
23 are not women...

24 ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:29:37

25 SPANISH TRANSLATOR: they make fun of us...



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ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:29:40

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: sometimes I don't carry an ID that has my gender and my date of birth...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:29:49

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: because I am ashamed that... I am embarrassed that maybe someone might see it.

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:29:58

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: This ID, this form of ID will open our lives much easier...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:30:10

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: we would have something that we can show to the police officers who we are...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:30:20

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: and we could have confidence...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:30:23

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: we would feel like we are more a part of the city...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:30:28

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: and would do it strongly.

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:30:32

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: The ID has to not involve our identity of our gender...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:30:43

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: if it's not on the ID, it wouldn't be useful for me or other individuals who are transgender.

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:30:55

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: For other people...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:31:03

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: For all those reasons...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:31:06

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: I believe that the municipal ID...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:31:10

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: to have the people to sign...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:31:14

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: the gender that they have...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:31:18

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: would be a big help.

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:31:21

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COMMITTEE ON IMMIGRATION

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: It would help us  
create a more security city...

ARELY GONZALEZ: 02:31:28

SPANISH TRANSLATOR: and just with  
results. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: 02:31:34

[background comments]

JESUS CASTELLANOS: [Spanish] 02:32:05

[interpose]

CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: [Spanish] 02:34:40

So can we... We're gonna go through the whole panel  
really quick... 02:34:48. Okay. [background comments]  
Yeah, we're... let's just go through the whole panel,  
then we can go back and... and do a quick translation.  
Okay. [background comments]

JUAN CARLOS GOMEZ: Good afternoon...

[interpose]

CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: 02:35:09

JUAN CARLOS GOMEZ: Okay. Yeah. Good  
morning... or good afternoon... [interpose]

CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: 02:35:21

JUAN CARLOS GOMEZ: Okay. Okay. Thank  
you. Good afternoon members of the Commission of the  
Immigration and everyone attending to this meeting.

1  
2 My name is Juan Carlos Gomez, member of the Make the  
3 Road New York and today I want to share with you only  
4 small part of my personal history. In this point I  
5 want to switch to Spanish for be more clear.

6 [Spanish] 02:35:51 [bell]

7 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Gracias.

8 CARLOS VASQUEZ: [Spanish] 02:37:50

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: [Spanish] 02:39:00

10 we're not gonna translate for this panel. We have  
11 another public hearing in less than an hour, so we  
12 wanna make sure everyone that wants to talk about  
13 their experience gets to do that; we're gonna change  
14 the time to one minute per testimonial. [Spanish]  
15 02:39:21.

16 Can we have the next panel that I called  
17 earlier, Jojo Annobil, Jessica Orozco, Jeff Foreman,  
18 and then our Brooklyn Deputy Borough President, Diana  
19 Reyna please? [laugh] Thank you. Okay. And the  
20 next panel after that is Miss Glennda Testone, Elana  
21 Redfield, Lynly Edgars... Egyes, from the Sex Workers  
22 Project, and Mr. Noah Lewis, from the Transgender  
23 Legal Defense and Education Fund; they'll be  
24 testifying next. We're gonna try to speed through  
25 this; I'm sorry for the speed-through, but we have

1  
2 another really great, important public hearing on  
3 Vision Zero, so thanks so much for your appreciation  
4 and your consideration.

5 DIANA REYNA: Turn on...

6 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: The mic is on?  
7 Thank you so much. [background comment] I'll stop  
8 you at one minute.

9 JOJO ANNOBIL: Sure, no problem. [laugh]  
10 So my name is Jojo Annobil and I'm the attorney in  
11 charge of The Legal Aid Society's Immigration Law  
12 Unit. Thank you so much for giving us an opportunity  
13 to testify today.

14 We basically agree with a lot of the  
15 comments and suggestions made here today; one of the  
16 things that we just wanted to highlight is the fact  
17 that we all talk about having an identify document  
18 which would... this would make a lot of undocumented  
19 immigrants be able to get an identity document, but  
20 also improving public safety; it will encourage  
21 people to feel much more comfortable reporting  
22 crimes, but it's a two-way street. If the Police  
23 Department is not going to accept these municipal  
24 cards as identity documents, then we are going to run  
25 into the same whole problem of for simple, non-

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2 criminal offenses like riding a bike on the sidewalk,  
3 open container of alcohol, all these are non-criminal  
4 offenses; however, it allows the Police Department,  
5 [bell] if you don't have an ID, to run your  
6 fingerprint; once they run your fingerprint you are  
7 basically put into a pipeline. [interpose]

8 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you.

9 JOJO ANNOBIL: Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you. And  
11 that's been a consistent theme in conversation.

12 JOJO ANNOBIL: Okay.

13 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Next. Thank you.

14 JEFF FOREMAN: Chair Menchaca and members  
15 of the Committee, thanks for the opportunity to  
16 testify; I'm Jeff Foreman, the Policy Director for  
17 Care for the Homeless.

18 If this legislation did nothing more than  
19 document undocumented people, it would be a visionary  
20 important piece of legislation that we would be very  
21 happy to enthusiastically support, but it actually  
22 does far more than that, it promises to help people  
23 who have lost documents, people who have misplaced  
24 documents and certainly help many people who are  
25 homeless, like our clients. For all the people that

1  
2 a municipal ID program offers relief, why wouldn't we  
3 support our neighbors in need? And this bill wisely  
4 also requires not just that IDs be appropriately  
5 issued, but that they be promoted to include things  
6 like public and private institutions and banking that  
7 many poor people desperately need and do not have  
8 access to... [bell] Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
10 for that support as well. How do you say your last  
11 name?

12 JESSICA OROZCO: Orozco.

13 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Orozco. Okay,  
14 sorry; I... I couldn't read it. [crosstalk]

15 JESSICA OROZCO: Yes, right; my  
16 handwriting..

17 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: I'm sorry about  
18 that.

19 JESSICA OROZCO: It's okay.

20 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you. Go  
21 ahead.

22 JESSICA OROZCO: So good afternoon; my  
23 name is Jessica Orozco and I'm the Director of  
24 Immigration and Civic Engagement at the Hispanic  
25

1  
2 Federation; thank you for this opportunity to  
3 testify.

4           Hispanic Federation is a premier Latino  
5 membership organization in the nation and was founded  
6 to address the many inequities confronting Latinos  
7 and the nonprofits that serve them. Our member  
8 agencies are located within the heart of Latino  
9 communities throughout the City and witness the  
10 difficulty New Yorkers encounter when attempting to  
11 obtain a widely-accepted photo ID. With member  
12 agencies like Spanish-speaking Elderly Council and  
13 Institute for the Puerto Rico Elderly, which provide  
14 access to essential senior services, we see how  
15 difficult it is for the City's elderly to acquire a  
16 photo ID. For example, in New York for a U.S.-born  
17 citizen to obtain a non-driver ID card, they must  
18 show their birth certificate, passport or military  
19 photo ID to prove date of birth. Seniors living in  
20 the City may have been born at home and never  
21 obtained a birth certificate or their certificate may  
22 have been lost or destroyed over the decades.  
23 Additionally, many elderly in New York City may have  
24 disabilities that prevent them from getting to the



1  
2 DMV or a few agencies that may assist them in getting  
3 these documents reissued. [bell]

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you again.

5 JESSICA OROZCO: And I provided written  
6 testimony.

7 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Yeah. Thank you  
8 so much for your written testimony. And our... someone  
9 that's not a stranger to this amazing body, our great  
10 Deputy Borough President from Brooklyn, Diana Reyna.

11 DIANA REYNA: Thank you so much. Good  
12 afternoon, Chairman Menchaca and Committee staff; I  
13 want to just, for the sake of time, introduce my  
14 Brooklyn Borough President, Eric Adams, who is not  
15 here today and on his behalf, as his Deputy, I am  
16 testifying in support of what would be Int. 253,  
17 Municipal IDs. I just wanted to thank the Speaker,  
18 Melissa Mark-Viverito for her staunch support on this  
19 proposal and Mayor de Blasio for his unwavering  
20 leadership to making this program a reality, along  
21 with the Council; your leadership here is avid and  
22 making sure that this continues to be at the  
23 forefront of our agenda in government.

24 Each day the gates of New York City civic  
25 life are open for those who can prove their identity

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2 and display a photo ID; lacking an ID affects the  
3 countless numbers of members of New York City's  
4 immigrant communities, the growing number of homeless  
5 people in our City, children in the foster care  
6 system, the elderly, formerly incarcerated  
7 individuals, and those who are disabled, mentally ill  
8 or from the LGBTQ communities. Our communities grow  
9 stronger and our city becomes one [bell] only when  
10 all our neighbors can enjoy the multitude of  
11 opportunities. I wanted to just express that an ID  
12 is not worth the plastic it is printed on unless we  
13 have the public's trust [background comment] and I  
14 believe that we in Borough Hall, along with what  
15 would be your leadership and the Mayor, to be able to  
16 work together to provide what would be IDs being  
17 processed at the center of our borough's civic  
18 universe in Brooklyn Borough Hall, [background  
19 comment] and so we want to welcome the opportunity to  
20 work with you, we agree with the merits behind this  
21 bill, but we also wanna make sure that the access to  
22 the processing is one that would garner a lot of  
23 synthesizing [background comment] between agencies  
24 and working together to making sure that the  
25 obstacles are reduced, that the distance is shorter

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2 and that the economic barriers are removed. Thank  
3 you so much. [crosstalk]

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And that... that is...  
5 that is a priority of this City Council. So thank  
6 you so much for... [crosstalk]

7 DIANA REYNA: Thank you.

8 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: echoing it, and I  
9 do have to say that on Twitter I did see that the  
10 Borough President would welcome Borough Hall to be a  
11 place where we could have application processes too,  
12 so I just wanna acknowledge that.

13 DIANA REYNA: Thank you.

14 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
15 for this panel. The next panel, if you can come up  
16 as I called your name last time, Elana Redfield, Miss  
17 Glenda Testone, Lynly Egyes -- please correct me in  
18 your pronunciation of your name -- and Noah Lewis.  
19 [background comments] Okay. We'll start on this  
20 end, please. Identify yourself; thank you so much.  
21 Stick to the one minute. Thank you. Actually, the  
22 red button. [crosstalk]

23 ELANA REDFIELD: the button. My name is  
24 Elana Redfield and I'm speaking today on behalf of  
25 the Sylvia Rivera Law Project and also the Peter

1  
2 Cicchino Youth Project. So in my short time today I  
3 want to emphasize how critical it is that the Council  
4 and the Mayor's Office make these IDs gender-  
5 affirming. It's an essential component of reducing  
6 discrimination; one study found 40 percent of  
7 respondents experienced harassment because their ID  
8 did not match their gender presentation. In order to  
9 make the ID accessible to the most vulnerable people,  
10 I must emphasize the critical importance of gender  
11 self-determination; no medical evidence should be  
12 required. Why is this important? First, every  
13 individual is the best expert on their own internal  
14 sense of gender, but secondly, many transgender  
15 people do not have access to the medical treatments,  
16 so providing a doctor's letter may be hard or  
17 impossible. Even finding a doctor or affording  
18 medical care can be a challenge for low-income trans  
19 people, especially considering that New York State  
20 Medicaid does not cover transgender health care. So  
21 this leave many people without the option of  
22 obtaining IDs. And by obtaining an ID that affirms  
23 their gender accurately, [bell] trans people can  
24 reduce and in some cases eliminate the shame and  
25

1  
2 humiliation and harassment of using an ID that  
3 doesn't match their gender.

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much.

5 NOAH LEWIS: I'm Noah Lewis, Staff  
6 Attorney with Transgender Legal Defense and Education  
7 Fund and I echo Elana Redfield's comments  
8 wholeheartedly. Through our name change project  
9 we've helped hundreds of transgender New Yorkers  
10 change their name and we understand the problems that  
11 they do have accessing doctors letters to get their  
12 gender record changed and I would emphasize also that  
13 New York already recognizes self-designation with  
14 regards to access to homeless shelters, people can  
15 choose for themselves which shelter best fits them;  
16 they are the best determiners of whether they are  
17 male or female and the New York City Human Rights Law  
18 already makes it unlawful to ask for ID when  
19 accessing sex-specific facilities, like restrooms, so  
20 people have already able to use the facilities that  
21 match and having ID that matches will just help when  
22 they are unlawfully confronted for using those  
23 facilities. Thank you.

24

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2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you for  
3 that, and well aware of the name change project and  
4 thank you so much for that.

5 LYNLY EGYES: Hi, my name is Lynly Egyes;  
6 I'm an attorney at the Sex Workers Project...  
7 [interpose]

8 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Can you speak  
9 closer to the mic; pull it closer to you?

10 LYNLY EGYES: Sure.

11 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: You can pull it  
12 closer to you. Yeah.

13 LYNLY EGYES: I'm an attorney at the Sex  
14 Workers Project at the Urban Justice Center; one of  
15 the groups that I wanna talk about today that will be  
16 impacted by this legislation is victims of  
17 trafficking. The best way to explain how this will  
18 impact victims of trafficking is to tell you about  
19 two of my clients. Rebecca was brought into the  
20 United States by a very powerful family, she worked  
21 as a nanny, but upon arrival her entire situation  
22 changed; she was forced to work up to 20 hours a day  
23 without any pay, she was deprived of food, sleep and  
24 subjected to sexual and physical abuse; immediately  
25 her trafficker took away her passport; when she was

1  
2 able to finally escape, she had to leave her passport  
3 behind. Luckily she found her way to my office with  
4 her birth certificate in hand, when I suggested that  
5 we go and get a new passport for her, she said her  
6 traffickers would find her, which they would have.  
7 And so she spent all of this time living without ID,  
8 which made her fearful to even walk on the street...  
9 [bell] I guess I'm out of time to tell you about my  
10 other clients, but this is really important for  
11 victims of trafficking to be able to report crimes.  
12 So many of my clients actually choose not to report  
13 crimes to law enforcement because they don't have  
14 proper identification, especially my clients who are  
15 transgender, walking into any type of law enforcement  
16 office [background comment] they basically choose not  
17 to because of the fact that they don't have  
18 identification that matches their gender.

19 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much.  
20 And again, all this testimony is gonna be brought in;  
21 we're gonna analyze every single piece of it. Miss  
22 Testone.

23 GLENNDA TESTONE: Good morning, my name  
24 is Glenda Testone; I'm the Executive Director of the  
25 New York City Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender

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2 Community Center; thank you for allowing me to  
3 testify today. The Center sees 6,000 unique  
4 individuals a week from all over the City and the  
5 number one thing that we see firsthand is the power  
6 that this proposed legislation has to impact numerous  
7 New Yorkers, including many of the LGBT community.

8 In particular I wanna talk today about  
9 LGBT youth, immigrants and transgender people.

10 Transgender New Yorkers face unrelenting  
11 discrimination and harassment and are placed at the  
12 highest risk; they tell us every day about the  
13 challenges that they face trying to obtain the most  
14 basic but vital identification. This municipal ID  
15 will allow transgender people to accurately self-  
16 identify their gender; it's welcome, vital and  
17 overdue. LGBT youth are over-represented among the  
18 homeless population in New York City and many young  
19 people are forced to run away from their homes  
20 without any identification. [bell] LGBT immigrants  
21 also face increased barriers to employment, along  
22 with increased stigmatization and violence when they  
23 don't have accurate ID documents that record their  
24 legal status. The Center wholeheartedly supports  
25 this municipal identification card as a powerful tool



1  
2 to help some of the most vulnerable New Yorkers step  
3 out of the shadows, take better care of themselves  
4 and help eliminate the two New York's that we do  
5 have, the ones with [background comment] ID and the  
6 ones without, and I for one wanna say I look forward  
7 to getting my municipal ID.

8 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Great.

9 GLENNDA TESTONE: Thank you.

10 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
11 for that enthusiastic support. And thank you so much  
12 for this panel [background comment] and for... make  
13 sure that we have your testimony as well.

14 Next panel, Annie Wang, Mark Noferi,  
15 Annie... Annie Wang, from the American Immigration  
16 Lawyers Association New York Chapter, and Mizue  
17 [background comment] Aizeki, Mizue Aizeki. Thank you  
18 so much. And the panel after that, we're gonna have  
19 Tawney Mill, Samuel Palmer-Simon, Lucia Gomez, and  
20 Gabriela Sandoval Requena. I hope I said those names  
21 correctly. And if we can start [background comments]  
22 now, maybe with Mizue.

23 MIZUE AIZEKI: Sure. Thank you very much  
24 for your time; I know you've taken a lot of time to  
25 listen to all our concerns. My name is Mizue Aizeki;

1  
2 I'm with the Immigrant Defense Project and just to  
3 really quickly summarize, I think that we all  
4 understand that one of the primary ways someone can  
5 get deported nowadays is by interaction with the  
6 police and so to emphasize the importance, both of  
7 the NYPD accepting this ID but not sacrificing the  
8 very critical concerns about privacy, right, data-  
9 sharing of information, it's a very big concern for  
10 immigrant communities as well as the self-designated  
11 gender; we think that people need to feel like they  
12 own this idea and they're proud to have it. And the  
13 other piece I just wanna alert as well; you know,  
14 when we do our Know Your Rights trainings in the  
15 community, having an ID that the police accept is  
16 really critical; for many immigrants we also, in  
17 terms of, you know, maybe preventing arrests or  
18 deescalating, we wanna be clear to people that that's  
19 not gonna prevent your arrest and once you get  
20 brought into the precinct your risk of deportation is  
21 equally as strong until we have a very robust  
22 detainer policy in New York City. So thank you very  
23 much [bell] for your time.

24 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you very  
25 much for that enthusiastic support again. And I

1 wanted to remind everyone, if we can keep it quiet in  
2 the chambers please so we can hear the testimony;  
3 it's a real short testimony, but very powerful. Can  
4 we have the next person? Thank you.

5  
6 MARK NOFERI: Thank you Council Member,  
7 I'm Mark Noferi of the Center for Migration Studies  
8 think tank and the New York City Bar Association.

9 Two clarifying points: (1) on implement...  
10 [interpose]

11 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Can you talk into  
12 the mic closer?

13 MARK NOFERI: Sure.

14 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Pull it closer to  
15 you.

16 MARK NOFERI: (1) on implementation --  
17 the Council may want to amend this legislation to  
18 clarify the operational responsibilities here so that  
19 this program is ensconced beyond this  
20 administration's four years [background comments] --  
21 this is on Page 4 and 5 of my testimony and San  
22 Francisco may be a good example here. The San  
23 Francisco legislation explicitly directs  
24 administration by the Clerk in explicit consultation  
25 with the Immigrant Rights Office, under the explicit

1 supervision of the City Administrator. Similar here,  
2 New York could explicitly direct administration by  
3 the Clerk or HRA or the boroughs, but with an  
4 explicit role for MOIA and Commissioner Agarwal and  
5 an explicit role for the Office of Operations,  
6 although the Office of Operations does innovative  
7 work, they don't have the capacity to process  
8 potentially 200,000 applications, as they mentioned.  
9 Additionally, the San Francisco legislation also  
10 gives the Immigrant Affairs Office an explicit role  
11 in coordinating with city agencies to promote the  
12 card and develop multiple uses for it; (2) on  
13 confidentiality -- we support Section 3.136, but the  
14 Council could amend it to specifically direct  
15 regulations to clarify the outstanding issues, and  
16 there are several. For example, whether immigration  
17 courts could subpoena ID card records in deportation  
18 proceedings, whether these records are exempt under  
19 the Freedom of Information Act; whether the City has  
20 an obligation to disclose names, if not the records.  
21 The San Francisco legislation specifically exempts  
22 names as well as records; how long the city will keep  
23 these records. All of these might be addressed by  
24 regulations to clarify; other parts of the  
25

1  
2 legislation specifically provide for regulations and  
3 Section 3.136 could as well. Thank you very much.

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you Mark for  
5 that. And I think you hit some [bell] big points  
6 that are on the table right now in discussion, so  
7 we'll be in touch.

8 ANNIE WANG: Good afternoon... [interpose]

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Can you make sure  
10 that the button is pressed?

11 ANNIE WANG: How's that?

12 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: That's perfect.  
13 Thank you so much.

14 ANNIE WANG: Thank you. I'm Annie Wang,  
15 Co-Chair of the Comprehensive Immigration Reform  
16 Committee of the New York Chapter of the American  
17 Immigration Lawyers Association. I don't want to add  
18 to the eloquent testimony already given about the  
19 need for an accessible and attractive ID card; I do  
20 wanna mention that with regard to undocumented  
21 immigrants who would benefit from this card, that  
22 there is a unique challenge faced by undocumented  
23 youths who were brought to this country at a young  
24 age. Even though many of these youths would qualify  
25 for deferred action for childhood arrivals, many of

1  
2 these undocumented youths who should qualify for DACA  
3 have a very difficult time proving that they have  
4 been continuously present in the U.S. In addition,  
5 if Congress were to pass immigration reform, [bell]  
6 it's likely that any future legislation will require  
7 similar evidence of continuous presence in the U.S.  
8 Thank you for [background comment] allowing me to  
9 contribute to this discussion.

10 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Well thank you for  
11 much for contributing and again, we all wait for that  
12 final federal moment of immigration reform that we've  
13 all been fighting for. Thank you so much.

14 [background comments]

15 Next panel please, Miss Gabriela Sandoval  
16 Requena from the Coalition for the Homeless -- please  
17 correct me there if I did not read it correctly --  
18 Lucia Gomez from La Fuente, Samuel Palmer-Simon and  
19 Tawney Mill. [background comments] Are the rest of  
20 you... anybody else here on this list? Okay, we're  
21 gonna move on... we're gonna add to this panel,  
22 [background comment] Nancy Magitzgar or Mogador from  
23 Brooklyn, Rev. Getulio Cruz, Rev. Cruz, Manhattan  
24 Together, Rogers from Picture the Homeless.

25 [background comments] Come on up. [background

1  
2 comment] Okay, great; thank you so much. And  
3 Rogers, can you begin and remember, one minute, if  
4 you can end promptly. And you can begin, thank you  
5 so much.

6 OWEN ROGERS: I am a member of Picture  
7 the Homeless, a local nonprofit group that works with  
8 thousands of homeless New Yorkers, many of whom are  
9 marginalized because we don't have acceptable  
10 identification to work a steady job or to have an  
11 apartment. We are many thousands of New Yorkers who  
12 need this proposed form of municipal identification.  
13 We come from many places in the U.S. and overseas, we  
14 come from prisons, we come from shelters, we come  
15 from municipalities that don't document births in  
16 records the way that New York City does. Some of us  
17 came up through the foster care maze, we come from  
18 the streets. What we have in common is that we all  
19 need to be recognized and affirmed by the City of New  
20 York and its agencies and to the businesses to whom  
21 we turn for support. We need to be respected as well  
22 by law enforcement, we are former felons, we are  
23 street homeless people; we're immigrants. All of us  
24 are New Yorkers who are running into governmental  
25 obstacles when we try to open a bank account, to rent

1  
2 a room, apartment; register for school. I used to  
3 work for the Police Department in the City of New  
4 York; they have my fingerprints and documents on  
5 file, [bell] but without documentation that they will  
6 not give to me, I am one of the people who needs  
7 municipal ID.

8 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
9 for that. And I just wanna make a quick reminder,  
10 for anyone who has already given us your slips,  
11 everyone will be testifying today, so don't leave;  
12 everyone will have a chance to testify. Next.

13 NANCY MAGESON: My name is Nancy Mageson  
14 [sp?] and I would like to speak today about how  
15 municipal IDs can be utilized to make New York City  
16 transit more accessible to riders with invisible  
17 disabilities.

18 Currently the MTA complies with the ADA  
19 by asking able-bodied riders to give up their seats  
20 to those with disabilities; this works when a  
21 disability is plainly evident, but for those with  
22 invisible disabilities, this compliance strategy  
23 fails. When I haven't needed my seat I have tried to  
24 decide if other passengers did, but it is very hard  
25 to discern whether someone is chronically ill,



1  
2 suffers from a weakened immune system or cancer, is  
3 feeling ill from the first months of pregnancy or has  
4 an injury or disability that makes standing painful  
5 or difficult, nor should passengers be expected to  
6 intuit this information. The voluntary city ID for  
7 people with invisible disabilities would begin to  
8 address this gap in accessibility; the ID would  
9 require medical documentation, have a clearly printed  
10 expiration date and use a logo, perhaps the  
11 wheelchair icon; it could be work on a chain or  
12 strings or carried by hand. I believe that the  
13 majority of New Yorkers would, like me, willingly  
14 give up their seats if they knew that others truly  
15 needed one. Under the current system, riding public  
16 transit can be stressful, painful or simply  
17 impossible for those with invisible disabilities,  
18 never knowing if a seat will be available; [bell] is  
19 in no way compliant with the ADA; New Yorkers with  
20 injuries, illness or disabilities should not have to  
21 rely on their negotiating savvy or on good luck in  
22 order to be able to ride public transit. Thank you.

23 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much,  
24 and we... can we make sure we have a copy of that too?  
25 Great. Thank you.

1  
2 GABRIELA SANDOVAL REQUENA: Hi, my name  
3 is Gabriela Sandoval Requena, Policy Analyst for  
4 Coalition for the Homeless.. [interpose]

5 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Requena.

6 GABRIELA SANDOVAL REQUENA: and the  
7 Coalition would like to, first of all, thank the City  
8 Council and the Committee on Immigration for this  
9 opportunity to testify in support of the municipal ID  
10 program. Many New Yorkers who are homeless are not  
11 able to obtain one, even if they're able to gather  
12 all the documentation and the money to cover the cost  
13 they're simply not able because of their lack of  
14 fixed residence. So needless to say, creating a  
15 municipal identification program that addresses the  
16 need of New Yorkers regardless of their housing  
17 status will improve the quality of life of homeless  
18 individuals and families [sic] tremendously. We  
19 strongly support this initiative and we look forward  
20 to working with the Administration and the Committee  
21 to ensure that the implementation includes rules  
22 around proof of residency and waiver of fees that  
23 would make new municipal ID cards accessible to all  
24 homeless New Yorkers who need it. Thanks.

25

1  
2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
3 again. Can you reset the clock? Thank you.

4 Reverend.

5 REV. CRUZ: I am Reverend... I am Rev.  
6 Getulio Cruz, pastor or [bell] Monte Sion Christian  
7 Church on the Lower East Side, I'm also a leader in  
8 Manhattan Together and Metro IAF. We are a network  
9 of 100 diverse member congregations and other  
10 organizations in New York City. My fellow clergy in  
11 Metro IAF and in other churches in my council, the  
12 Assembly of Christian Churches, have heard too many  
13 stories of people's lives being disrupted by the lack  
14 of recognized ID; this is why some Metro IAF member  
15 organizations started to produce their own IDs; we  
16 have worked with the police and other agencies in our  
17 communities to ensure they recognize these local IDs.  
18 We strongly support the City producing its own ID  
19 that all New Yorkers can get. We also know these IDs  
20 must be distributed in the right way. Metro IAF is  
21 ready to work with the Mayor, Council, the police and  
22 the rest of the City to ensure these IDs are designed  
23 in a professional manner that will be useful to a  
24 wide variety of New Yorkers. We want to encourage  
25 thousands of our members to sign up for IDs; if it

1  
2 can be done securely, we would love to have City  
3 officials come to our congregations and perhaps  
4 [bell] public libraries to sign people up.

5 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And we will be  
6 there in your and everybody else's congregations, and  
7 you're absolutely right, that the word needs to get  
8 out in outreach. So thank you so much for each of  
9 your pieces of testimony and we'll be in touch with  
10 you and again, make sure that we have copies of what  
11 you used to testify.

12 Next we wanna call up Lauren Burke from  
13 Atlas, Sunset Park, Yolanda Castro, Dr. Kirk Anthony  
14 James, and Laurie Izutsu for this panel. And the  
15 panel after that we'll have Gene Judy [sp?] from the  
16 Premier Baptist Haitian, [background comments] Joseph  
17 Rosenberg, [background comments, laughter] Diane  
18 Steinman from the Interfaith Network, Jeffrey Weiss  
19 from Assemblyman Ortiz' office. [background  
20 comments] And I just wanna acknowledge our Council  
21 Member from Brooklyn, Jumaane Williams, is here as  
22 well... [background comment] okay -- who will say a few  
23 words; we're gonna clock you at one minute.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you for  
25 allowing me; I was chairing another hearing, so I

1  
2 couldn't be here early, but this issue is very  
3 important to me. I wanna thank you and Council  
4 Member Dromm for taking the leadership on this. A  
5 lot of people ask why I haven't signed on yet; it's  
6 not because... I'm fully supportive of the issue. I do  
7 have one concern that I know might've been mentioned  
8 here, which is just making sure... I think it was  
9 mentioned, that it doesn't become a scarlet letter,  
10 that really concerns me; I wanna make sure that the  
11 ID is something that all New Yorkers can use for  
12 something or the other; that's very important to me.  
13 Just anecdotally, my brother, I learned much later in  
14 life, was not a citizen, he was over 50 when I  
15 realized and that was because his mother died and he  
16 could not go to the funeral, so these issues are  
17 issues that really hit home to me.

18           And lastly, I wanna make a plug to  
19 anybody who's listening, the Caribbean community has  
20 been largely missing from this discussion and I think  
21 out Latino brothers and sisters for really taking the  
22 helm, but I'm pushing everyone who this will affect  
23 to really get their voice be heard, because it  
24 touches a lot more, even more than the thousands of  
25 people already who have been screaming and yelling,

1  
2 so I wanna make sure that everybody who is an  
3 immigrant and have immigrant families get involved in  
4 this discussion. Thank you very much.

5 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you Council  
6 Member. And if we can begin here on the left-hand  
7 side, please. Thank you. Ma'am.

8 LAURIE IZUTSU: Oh, sorry... Okay, sorry.  
9 [laughter, crosstalk]

10 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Sorry; you're...  
11 you're... you're up. One minute.

12 LAURIE IZUTSU: Okay. Good afternoon, my  
13 name is Laurie Izutsu and I'm a Senior Staff Attorney  
14 with Brooklyn Legal Services. My office is a part of  
15 Legal Services NYC, the country's largest provider...  
16 [crosstalk]

17 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Can you speak  
18 closer to the mic, so... so we can...

19 LAURIE IZUTSU: sure... for low-income  
20 individuals and families. Thank you for the  
21 opportunity to provide testimony today. One  
22 population I would like to highlight that would be  
23 substantially impacted by the ID cards is survivors  
24 and victims of domestic violence. The creation of a  
25 municipal identify card program enhances the capacity

1  
2 for undocumented domestic violence victims to  
3 establish independence from their abusers by improved  
4 access to financial services and the ability to sign  
5 a lease. Additionally, the program would ease the  
6 ability of those without state-issued identification  
7 to interact with the police and the criminal justice  
8 system, an important measure where often survivors of  
9 domestic violence are retraumatized by the very  
10 agencies from which they seek help. It is clear  
11 based on these circumstances and the testimony you've  
12 heard already that the need for municipal ID cards is  
13 great; however, I would like to emphasize that it is  
14 not just a matter of language access with [bell]  
15 implantation of the ID program, but immigrants with  
16 limited English proficiency won't reap the full  
17 benefits if the City's language access policy isn't  
18 also consistently and effectively implemented along  
19 with that. Thank you.

20 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you. Thank  
21 you for that.

22 YOLANDA CASTRO: Hello, good afternoon.  
23 My name is Yolanda Castro; on behalf of the Mexican  
24 Consulate we thank you for allowing us to testify  
25 today; we are the agency that issues the consular ID

1  
2 cards that have been referred to here by other  
3 testimonies; I just wanna let you know that we are...  
4 for our government is paramount importance as our  
5 consular ID cards are regarded as a safeguard and  
6 secure document and form of identification. We issue  
7 them to our citizens; last year we issued 35,000 of  
8 these IDs, because we know how important and  
9 strategic it is for them to have a form of ID for any  
10 type of business and even for survivor matters, so we  
11 are very happy to have this new initiative being  
12 brought and we are happy to open up and discuss  
13 whatever the security characteristics of our consular  
14 security ID bears, because we wanna make them  
15 available for... we've [bell ] been working very hard  
16 to make them available and secure for everybody and  
17 we are open for discussion if you need it. 'Kay.  
18 [crosstalk]

19 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you. Miss  
20 Castro, one question... [crosstalk]

21 YOLANDA CASTRO: Sure.

22 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: the 35,000 IDs  
23 that you've issued out; is that a New York number or  
24 is that a national number?

25



1  
2 YOLANDA CASTRO: No, it's just only in  
3 the New York area.

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: New York City...  
5 incredible. [crosstalk]

6 YOLANDA CASTRO: Yeah, it's... the ID, the  
7 consular IDs are issued [coughing] to citizens that  
8 live in our jurisdiction...

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Right.

10 YOLANDA CASTRO: so in the whole United  
11 States it's around one million... [crosstalk]

12 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: That's amazing.

13 YOLANDA CASTRO: consular ID cards, and  
14 in some states are even used to get driver's license,  
15 because they have been officially admitted. So we  
16 continue to work towards... with agencies,  
17 organizations and we are, you know, welcome any  
18 inquiry and in the handouts you can see the very high  
19 security traits these... [crosstalk]

20 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And on the high  
21 security... sorry to interrupt... this is something that  
22 you've been in contact in coordination with our city  
23 agencies, including the NYPD; is that right?

24 YOLANDA CASTRO: That's correct, we... we...  
25 [crosstalk]

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CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Okay.

YOLANDA CASTRO: do seminars and we do a lot of workshops and presentations and we're always welcoming whoever wants to know about them, we will... we happily make a presentation and [interpose]

CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Right.

YOLANDA CASTRO: answer any questions.

CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much for being here today.

YOLANDA CASTRO: Thank you.

LAUREN BURKE: Hi. Hello, thank you for having us. My name is Lauren Burke; I'm the Executive Director of Atlas: DIY (Developing Immigrant Youth), and both my office and my home are located in District 38, so raise the roof to District 38. [laugh] Atlas: DIY represents transgender young people, homeless young people, undocumented young people; everybody who's brought up today who would benefit from the issuance of these ID cards. I also have a secret; I have been using my Massachusetts State ID card for the past eight years, due to the fact that I do not have the documents I need because of expiration, divorce, losing cards, etc. So if I myself, a very privileged attorney, 30-year-old

1  
2 citizen of New York City could utilize these, so  
3 could everyone else. I also wanna offer that Atlas:  
4 DIY is ready and excited to be a site that these  
5 could be issued through; we have notaries and  
6 attorneys on staff, we speak Spanish, English,  
7 Mandarin, Urdu, and I know that so many other  
8 community-based organizations would be thrilled and  
9 love to be an organization that could be seen as a  
10 host site. Lastly, this is a away to make all New  
11 Yorkers feel like they belong to this great city,  
12 it's a place that I've wanted to belong since I was  
13 12, and so I'm very excited to finally have an ID  
14 that proves it. Thank you.

15 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Well said. Well  
16 said. [bell] Thank you so much for that.

17 MALE VOICE: Hi, I'm here on behalf of  
18 the Fortune Society, which serves over 4,000 citizens  
19 coming home from prisons and jails across New York  
20 City. Many folks leave prisons lacking ID, yet  
21 they're expected to obtain jobs, housing and health  
22 care without any ID. The municipal ID program must  
23 be available to them by way of their discharge  
24 papers, meaning that as they leave prison the  
25 discharge paper should be enough to obtain an ID and

1  
2 that the chances of these men and women, mothers,  
3 fathers, and sisters, their success and integration  
4 into the community would be greatly compromised.  
5 Many opponents of the municipal ID speak of the  
6 possibility of ID fraud, yet the New York State Penal  
7 Law already protects other IDs from those measures,  
8 and again, the municipal ID program will allow people  
9 leaving from prison to obtain the basic human rights  
10 guaranteed under the constitution; it will also  
11 continue to create a safer New York by allowing  
12 formerly incarcerated people to access the tools  
13 necessary to become contributing members of our city.

14 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you again.

15 And our final panel member. [background comment]

16 Panel two. Okay. [bell]

17 DIANE STEINMAN: Good afternoon, I'm  
18 Diane Steinman; I'm the Director of the New York  
19 State Interfaith Network for Immigration Reform,  
20 which is a religiously, racially and ethnically  
21 diverse network of faith leaders and organizations  
22 that advocates for just and humane comprehensive  
23 immigration reform and municipal laws that treat all  
24 immigrants, regardless of status, with fairness,  
25 justice and compassion and based on our values, we

1  
2 are proud to join the many testifiers who are  
3 supporting the creation of a municipal ID and the  
4 strategies to promote its widespread use by the  
5 diverse communities that need this ID in order to  
6 become part of the mainstream of city life. I do  
7 wanna amplify one point that the Speaker made this  
8 morning; at this watershed moment in the future of  
9 our democracy, when many elected officials in  
10 Washington and around the country are driven by  
11 political self-interest and negative attitudes toward  
12 undocumented immigrants, the poor and the  
13 marginalized, they're driven by those attitudes to  
14 pass laws that do them harm and prevent passage of  
15 laws that would do them good. Passing the New York  
16 City ID law at this moment would serve as a  
17 repudiation of their toxic attitudes and harmful  
18 actions and an affirmation that public policies must  
19 satisfy the moral requirements to treat all who live  
20 among us with dignity, justice and compassion, thus  
21 presenting an alternative model for federal, state  
22 and local lawmakers to emulate in the critical days  
23 ahead.

24 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
25 for that. And if we can... [background comments] And

1  
2 the next panel's names, while you get ready, is Miss  
3 Hally Chu, who will be reading testimony on behalf of  
4 Gale Brewer, our Borough President, Louis Quinones,  
5 Dr. Paule Cruz Takash and Ethan Carr from MasterCard  
6 Worldwide. And you can begin. [interpose]

7 JEFF WEISS: I will try to finish up this  
8 panel with less than a New York minute. My name is  
9 Jeff Weiss; I'm counsel to Assemblyman Felix Ortiz  
10 from Sunset Park, Cobble Hill, Bay Ridge, Borough  
11 Park, Red Hook; the same district as the Chairman.  
12 I'll make two points; that Assemblyman Ortiz is in  
13 Albany today in session, but in his capacity in  
14 Albany chairs the Puerto Rican and Hispanic Caucus,  
15 has a bill in Albany to provide non-resident New  
16 Yorkers with a driver's license based on certain  
17 federal criteria; he's also a member of the National  
18 Conference of State Legislatures Immigration Task  
19 Force and has been working in Washington with other  
20 states on issues similar to this which he strongly  
21 supports and asked me to let you know that he stands  
22 ready to work with the Council in Albany and in  
23 Washington to achieve the same goals and to thank you  
24 very much.

1  
2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
3 for that support and send our best.

4 JOSEPH ROSENBERG: Good afternoon, I'm  
5 Joseph Rosenberg; I'm the Executive Director of the  
6 Catholic Community Relations Council, a not-for-  
7 profit corporation established by the Archdiocese of  
8 New York and the Diocese of Brooklyn to represent the  
9 church on local legislative and policy matters. I'm  
10 pleased to be here to testify strongly in support of  
11 Int. 253. By providing the ability for immigrants to  
12 obtain identification cards to access government  
13 services, this bill will vastly improve the lives of  
14 so many residents of our city. We're a city of  
15 immigrants, many of us second and third generation;  
16 the tradition continues in the instance of the more  
17 recent arrivals to our city who will benefit from  
18 this bill. The Catholic Church has long been in the  
19 forefront of immigration reform and services to  
20 immigration communities regardless of one's place of  
21 origin or religious beliefs; this legislation will go  
22 far in embracing this population.

23 The mission of the Catholic migration  
24 services of the Diocese of Brooklyn is to empower  
25 underserved immigrant communities in Brooklyn and

1  
2 Queens regardless of religion or ethnicity, their  
3 immigrant tenancy advocacy program provides free in-  
4 person housing services to help low-income immigrant  
5 tenants in their fight for decent, affordable  
6 housing. The division of immigrant services for the  
7 archdiocese provides a similar comprehensive range of  
8 [bell] services, not just in Manhattan, Bronx, but in  
9 boroughs upstate, they assist more than 100,000  
10 individuals annually, they offer over 55 English as  
11 second language courses and [background comment] and  
12 provide free legal assistance on deportation  
13 proceedings along those lines. They also have a  
14 hotline that answers 25,000 calls annually  
15 [background comment] in 17 different languages; in  
16 short, we embrace this bill, we embrace your  
17 leadership for bringing it and we hope that it is  
18 soon enacted and signed by the Mayor. Thank you very  
19 much.

20 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Well and thank you  
21 for that. And let's call the next panel; I'll make a  
22 comment, but we recently stood, I think in Corona,  
23 Queens with you and other advocates in making sure  
24 that immigrants always have a way to connect; this is  
25 just another way to do that with an identification



1  
2 card, but our faith leaders and organizations have  
3 always been an incredible connector and we need you  
4 all to be part of this team and this task force that  
5 will make this happen. So thank you so much for  
6 coming today.

7 I'm gonna call the next panel up, Ethan..  
8 Ethan Carr, MasterCard Worldwide, Dr. Paule Cruz-  
9 Takash from the Oakland ID Prepaid SF Global, Louis  
10 Quinones, Teamsters -- Teamster are in the house --  
11 and Hally Chu from Gale Brewer. [background comment]  
12 A reminder, we have one minute and I'll be asking you  
13 to keep it to one minute, thank you so much.  
14 [background comments] If we can begin at the left  
15 here, and make sure to speak into the mic. We have  
16 one minute; thank you so much.

17 LOUIS QUINONES: Hi, my name is Louis  
18 Quinones; I'm here on behalf of George Miranda,  
19 President of Teamsters Joint Council 16; I will read  
20 a statement of President Miranda.

21 "Teamsters Joint Council 16 represents  
22 120,000 members over the New York area. The New York  
23 City Teamsters support municipal identification cards  
24 for any New Yorker, regardless of immigration status.  
25 This proposal from Mayor de Blasio, Speaker Mark-

1  
2 Viverito, Council Member Dromm and Council Member  
3 Menchaca makes sense for a diverse city. Ours is a  
4 city of immigrants; with our immigrant community, not  
5 only would we lose the art, culture, food and values  
6 that make us New Yorkers, our city would literally  
7 cease to exist. Immigrants, many of them  
8 undocumented, do the jobs that run New York; they do  
9 them without the rights and recognition from the city  
10 they deserve. The reality for many of our  
11 undocumented neighbors is one of exclusion. They can  
12 send their children to the public schools, but cannot  
13 visit them. They can earn money, but cannot open a  
14 bank account to keep it safe. They can call the  
15 police, but cannot identify themselves to an officer.  
16 With municipal ID cards, undocumented and other New  
17 Yorkers will have access to banks, schools, other  
18 public and private buildings [bell] and essential  
19 services. You have the support of the New York City  
20 Teamsters in making the proposal law."

21 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much.

22 DR. PAULE CRUZ-TAKASH: Thank you, uhm..

23 [interpose]

24 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Make sure that the  
25 red button's on.

1 DR. PAULE CRUZ-TAKASH: Red button is on.

2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much.

3 DR. PAULE CRUZ-TAKASH: Thank you. My  
4 name is Dr. Paule Cruz-Takash; I am one of the two  
5 intellectual architects of the Oakland City ID and  
6 the Richmond City ID prepaid debit card, which is  
7 also a MasterCard; we incubated this card in our  
8 research center at UCLA, we are activist scholars and  
9 we also created a company in order to carry the  
10 platform that would allow us to offer low-cost  
11 financial services to poor and low-income folks of  
12 all nationalities and backgrounds and we are the  
13 company that was contracted by the City of Oakland  
14 and the City of Richmond; we're about to open up our  
15 offices in the City of Richmond; we also are  
16 contracted by Casa de Maryland, which is one of the  
17 largest immigrant service organizations in the  
18 country. Casa de Maryland understood that this issue  
19 goes beyond a need for ID, that's a critical ID, but  
20 they contracted with us because they said the banks  
21 have not responded to the municipal ID cards that are  
22 out there and that we need to be able to provide our  
23 folks with a low-cost financial alternative [bell].  
24 I wanted to bring attention to the costs; our company  
25

1  
2 officers this service in the City of Oakland and  
3 Richmond at no cost to the City or to the taxpayers  
4 and... [interpose]

5 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you.

6 DR. PAULE CRUZ-TAKASH: so I also wanted  
7 to say that the San Francisco supervisor estimated  
8 that it cost them about \$200,000, but their City  
9 Clerk that implements this program has estimated that  
10 the card costs about \$70 per card for that city  
11 [background comment] to implement. You all are  
12 talking about... [interpose]

13 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you, do you  
14 have... uh just...

15 DR. PAULE CRUZ-TAKASH: multiple sites  
16 and also city staff that would be required to  
17 implement that program, [background comment] so you  
18 are talking about a huge, huge budget, not only to  
19 implement this program, but to sustain it over time,  
20 [interpose]

21 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you.

22 DR. PAULE CRUZ-TAKASH: so we would work...  
23 [crosstalk]

24 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And if you have...  
25 if you have...

1  
2 DR. PAULE CRUZ-TAKASH: welcome the  
3 opportunity to work with you.

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Yeah, thank you,  
5 and especially, you have testimony that talks about  
6 those pricings, we'd love to see that analysis.

7 DR. PAULE CRUZ-TAKASH: Yes. Thank you.  
8 [crosstalk]

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much.

10 ETHAN CARR: Good afternoon everyone; I'm  
11 Ethan Carr with MasterCard Worldwide; it's a pleasure  
12 to be here with you today. [interpose]

13 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you for  
14 being here.

15 ETHAN CARR: Okay. What I wanna talk  
16 about, basically I wanna ask the question -- we would  
17 like you to consider the financial option as you go  
18 forward with this program, [background comment]  
19 because we believe it will give greater access to not  
20 only city services, but also financial services to  
21 your residents. We see all over the country where  
22 the governments are at all levels adopting the pre-  
23 paid card solution and to look at reducing costs,  
24 save money, add convenience and make it more  
25 efficient for the organization. Since 1990

1  
2 governments have increasingly migrated to direct  
3 deposit and pre-paid cards as a way to distribute  
4 over \$140 billion in payments; this include in the  
5 form of grants, unemployment, child support, all  
6 kinds of means of government disbursement. We think  
7 you'd do a great service to your residents if you  
8 give them the ability to be included in that  
9 financial service spectrum by allowing them to have  
10 that option to get disbursed benefits on the card.  
11 [bell]

12 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you for that  
13 and thank you for being here.

14 HALLY CHU: Hi, good afternoon; my name  
15 is Hally Chu and thank you for the opportunity to  
16 testify on behalf of Borough President Gale Brewer of  
17 Manhattan. I'm just gonna summarize some of her  
18 recommendations which already have been mentioned by  
19 a lot of other people. First is that municipal IDs  
20 must not become the de facto form of identification  
21 for just undocumented and just to provide being  
22 stigmatized and the Borough President recommends a  
23 host of different services attached to the card,  
24 which you've already heard. Second is, municipal IDs  
25 need to have NYPD support and that includes a lot of

1  
2 safety measures and security that is incorporated  
3 into the municipal ID card. And third and also  
4 fourth, the municipal IDs must first not be too  
5 costly for citizens to... for New Yorkers to obtain and  
6 also not too difficult. So the cost, as you can see  
7 some other cities have implemented a sliding scale,  
8 and also difficulty, in terms of language access,  
9 [bell] the Borough President strongly encourages uses  
10 community-based organizations to help with that. So  
11 thank you.

12 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you for the  
13 voice of the Borough President and send her our best.  
14 Thank you so much to this panel. We're gonna call  
15 the next panel up and before I do that I wanna just  
16 recognize we've been joined by Council Member Rose  
17 and Council Member Rodriguez. Gene Judy, Bishop  
18 Findlayter from CUSH, Rev. Terry Troia, Project  
19 Hospitality, Rev. Liam O'Doherty from Our Lady of  
20 Good Counsel Parish. [background comments]

21 And our final panel is Daniel Rose, Dr.  
22 Raul Hinjosa and Freddy Martinez from LSA, Manhattan  
23 Together. [background comment] But let's have our  
24 first panel speak and we'll start over here from the  
25 left. Please introduce yourself; make sure that the

1  
2 mic is on [background comments], red light.

3 [background comments] Thank you.

4 REV. TERRY TROIA: Hi, uhm... [background  
5 comment] thank you for having me; I'm Rev. Terry  
6 Troia, Director of Project Hospitality and I sit on  
7 the Board of Directors of El Centro del Immigrante in  
8 Staten Island, and hello to our Councilperson, Debi  
9 Rose and all the other council people, thank you for  
10 having us here. I've worked for more than 30 years  
11 with homeless people on Staten Island; there is a  
12 group of chronic homeless people in the City of New  
13 York, mostly elderly with memory loss who cannot move  
14 out of shelters because of lack of appropriate  
15 documentation. Even in the aftermath of Hurricane  
16 Sandy on Staten Island we served non-immigrant  
17 families in the city's evacuation center and in FEMA  
18 hotels who did not have sufficient identification to  
19 apply for necessary services. A municipal ID card  
20 similar to programs set up in other cities would  
21 really help us move forward for getting chronic  
22 homeless people with severe impairments some level of  
23 service and housing. I can cite many examples of  
24 local Staten Island residents, mostly impoverished,  
25 who have been detained, arrested and held at the



1  
2 precinct because they did not have an ID for these  
3 reasons -- they were sleeping in an abandoned  
4 building or sleeping in a garage or riding a bicycle  
5 on the sidewalk or taking a used newspaper out of a  
6 garbage can on the Staten Island Ferry or calling the  
7 police to report an incident of domestic violence.

8 [bell] Poor people, disabled people, elderly  
9 persons, persons with profound memory loss and  
10 immigrants who are out of status are among those who  
11 bear the suffering of being hauled in, disappeared  
12 into our criminal justice system [interpose]

13 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you.

14 REV. TERRY TROIA: for not having an ID.  
15 Thank you for... I... we support Int. 253 with the  
16 support and cooperation of the NYPD to protect the  
17 civil rights of our neighbors.

18 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And thanks again  
19 for coming in today; we'll make sure to take your  
20 testimony.

21 LIAM O'DOHERTY: 'Kay. Yes, I am Liam  
22 O'Doherty; I'm pastor of Our Lady of Good Counsel  
23 Church in Staten Island and also a member of Staten  
24 Island Clergy Leadership. Staten Island has the  
25 largest percentage increase in immigrant population

1  
2 in the City of New York and a large percentage of  
3 these law-abiding citizens of our borough and our  
4 city do not have acceptable means of documentation  
5 for police stops. For instance, Carlos, not his real  
6 name, an elderly man and insulin-dependent diabetic,  
7 who collects empty cans for money was arrested for  
8 collecting cans in a supermarket cart he had found in  
9 an abandoned lot; he was arrested for theft of the  
10 cart, he did not have ID; he spent a few days in  
11 jail; his family attempted repeatedly to give the  
12 police his insulin, but without his insulin he fell  
13 into a diabetic coma, ended up in ICU chained to a  
14 bed with police assigned to guard his room. After an  
15 outcry from the community, the Parish of St. Mary's  
16 of the Assumption, in backdoor meetings with the  
17 local precinct captain, who explained that he was  
18 being held because he did not have acceptable ID.  
19 The precinct had agreed to release Carlos from  
20 custody; Carlos almost died. It would have been an  
21 unbearably high price to pay for the right to feed  
22 his family. For the life of Carlos and for the lives  
23 of all immigrants like him, I urge you to make this  
24 program a reality. Thank you.

25 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much.

BISHOP ORLANDO FINDLAYTER: Good

1  
2  
3 afternoon, my name is Bishop Orlando Findlayter; I'm  
4 the Chairman of Churches United to Save and Heal, a  
5 clergy organization primarily of Caribbean American  
6 and African American pastors. We are proud  
7 supporters of the rights of all citizens, including  
8 those who are undocumented. We applaud Council  
9 Member Carlos Menchaca for introducing the Municipal  
10 ID bill and we urge members of this body to support  
11 the bill, vote for it and let's make municipal ID a  
12 reality in New York City. Too many hard-working New  
13 Yorkers can't open a bank account, can't enter City  
14 buildings, have difficulty registering their children  
15 in schools and are fearful every day of being stopped  
16 without the ability to produce a valid, government-  
17 issued ID. Municipal ID is a step in the right  
18 direction for this City; it will restore dignity to  
19 hundreds of thousands of our neighbors who have been  
20 marginalized by the nation's broken immigration  
21 system. We represent the faith community who is  
22 overwhelmingly supporting this bill; it is our belief  
23 that this a moral issue; every citizen deserves the  
24 right to have an ID [bell] and so we urge to pass  
25 this bill. Thank you.

1  
2 [laugh]

3 GENE JUDY: Thank you, Chairman and the  
4 members of the Committee. My name is Gene Judy from  
5 the First Nation Baptist Church; I want to thank the  
6 pastors and the secretary and the administration who  
7 accompany me today. The NYC needs a general ID to  
8 ensure that everybody in New York can be easily  
9 identified. Secondly, it will help all New Yorkers  
10 to have something in common, regardless of their  
11 immigration status. Third, ID card with a waiver  
12 component will reduce the stress level of the  
13 homeless population, which constantly needs to fight  
14 to identify themselves because they have lost their  
15 document after losing their bed. Last; not the  
16 least, NYC ID will help the undocumented residents to  
17 hold a legal document they can call theirs and by  
18 simulation they will feel 100 percent New Yorkers.  
19 Research shows that it takes seven years for an  
20 immigrant to accept their adoptive land; by issuing  
21 the ID card you will reduce the stress level on the  
22 immigration and help them to integrate the society  
23 less than seven years. [bell] Thank you for  
24 listening.

25

1  
2 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
3 to this panel again. And we'll be in touch with you  
4 and all faith leaders really that are coming to us  
5 with support. And our final panel, Daniel Rose from  
6 MasterCard, Dr. Raul... yes... Dr. Raul Hinjosa; Freddy  
7 Martinez from LSA. And we've been joined by Council  
8 Member Brad Lander, Council Member Mark Levine and I  
9 think I already mentioned, but Council Member Debi  
10 Rose [background comment] from Staten Island.  
11 [background comments]

12 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Mr. Chairman,  
13 thank you so much for your leadership on this; it's  
14 wonderful to be a part of this historic hearing and I  
15 appreciate all the testimony; the leadership that you  
16 and Council Member Dromm and the Speaker are  
17 providing in making this move forward to reality.

18 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you, thank  
19 you so much Council Member Lander. And we'll give an  
20 opportunity for Council Members to say... quick moment  
21 at the end, after this panel. Let's begin.

22 PROF. RAUL HINJOSA: How do you do,  
23 members of the Council? I am Professor Raul Hinjosa  
24 at UCLA; I'm also the CEO of Liberation Card  
25 Services, which is a company dedicated to exactly

1  
2 what we're talking about here, empowering the  
3 undocumented and empowering the unbanked throughout  
4 cities and we are now actively doing ID cards with  
5 banking services built in in California, which I flew  
6 out to talk with you for a minute for, but I  
7 appreciate the opportunity. We think that the  
8 solution that we have now spearheaded in California  
9 in the last year is the solution for New York,  
10 particularly for the type of issues that were raised  
11 here, the scarlet letter issue. While there's half-  
12 a-million undocumented in New York, there's almost a  
13 million under-banked and people that don't have  
14 access to proper identification; that's the way you  
15 do it, through a combination of an ID card with an  
16 advanced set of financial services at the same time.  
17 Second thing, the cost issue is extremely important;  
18 [bell] I don't think that it's been even given good,  
19 adequate information. What we're seeing in the case  
20 of the cities where they -- both New Haven and San  
21 Francisco -- they require huge government subsidy;  
22 what we have done is not only have extremely low...  
23 basically zero cost to the city [background comment]  
24 for the implementation of this, but also providing  
25

1  
2 financial services, which are the lowest in the  
3 country in terms of being able to access... [crosstalk]

4 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you.

5 PROF. RAUL HINJOSA: zero fee options for  
6 people that have this. [crosstalk]

7 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you.

8 PROF. RAUL HINJOSA: Finally, the issue  
9 -- it's not just Macy's that you wanna get involved  
10 in this; we provide a mechanism whereby all local  
11 businesses can also participate in this program, all  
12 built through something that everybody also has in  
13 their pockets, which is [background comment] a mobile  
14 phone, which is the future, and so I suggest you look  
15 at that alternative at the same time that you look at  
16 the others. [interpose]

17 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: And we... and we  
18 definitely will. And if there's anything you wanna  
19 give us... I know you gave us a packet, thank you so  
20 much for that.

21 DANIEL ROSE: Good afternoon; I'm Daniel  
22 Rose; I'm from MasterCard, the payments network. I  
23 think that the idea, the concept of the ID card is a  
24 homerun, so I think... congratulate you on that; I  
25 think it's a winner. However, I think you're missing

1  
2 an opportunity and I'm gonna, you know, piggyback off  
3 of what Dr. Raul Hincosa said, that I think financial  
4 inclusion is an important aspect that could be  
5 addressed with the same initiative. Here in the New  
6 York City area, in the New York City metropolitan  
7 area, the FDIC did an under-banked study; about 24  
8 percent of the households in the metropolitan... in the  
9 New York City area are under-banked, so they don't  
10 have access to the financial mainstream. I believe  
11 by... and you coupling the payment functionality with  
12 the ID card that you'll hit a homerun and address a  
13 lot of issues that a lot of these under-banked  
14 families have today.

15 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you for  
16 that.

17 FREDDY CRUZ MARTINEZ: So good afternoon  
18 everyone. My name is Freddy Cruz Martinez; I'm a  
19 volunteer leader with Little Sisters of the  
20 Assumption Family Health Services, Manhattan Together  
21 and Metro IAF, so finally I'm here to testify. Eight  
22 years ago, while coming home from late work, I was  
23 stopped by the police; they asked, "Do you hear the  
24 gunshot?" I said, "No." They asked to see my ID and  
25 I show my Mexican consular ID, [background comment]



1  
2 they said this is fake; [background comment] I was  
3 afraid because I thought that they would take me to  
4 the jail; fortunately, all they did was search me,  
5 asked me a few questions and let me go, but others  
6 haven't been so lucky. We've heard many story of  
7 people in our community that have been taken to the  
8 prisons for hours when they couldn't produce an ID  
9 that the police recognize. So like Metro IAF, member  
10 congregations, we at Little Sisters, we [bell]  
11 started produce our own IDs like the police  
12 recognize. A local credit union even lets people  
13 open up an account with them.

14 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Right.

15 FREDDY CRUZ MARTINEZ: Yes.

16 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: So thank you, and  
17 we wanna make sure to take that testimony and again,  
18 thank you for your own personal experience and really  
19 giving us a sense of what we've been hearing  
20 throughout the entire hearings. So thank you to this  
21 panel. [crosstalk]

22 FREDDY CRUZ MARTINEZ: Great.

23 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much  
24 to this panel. And we're gonna... I'm gonna allow for  
25

1  
2 Council Member Rose to say a few words and then I'm  
3 gonna close up and say thank you to all.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you so much,  
5 Chair and I will be brief. I just want to thank you  
6 so much for pushing this legislation along; several  
7 years ago in my district we had a proliferation of  
8 bias crimes against undocumented Mexican residents in  
9 my district and we found that one of the major causes  
10 were, they were crimes of opportunity, because the  
11 day laborers were carrying all of their cash on them  
12 because they had no safe way of keeping their funds  
13 secure, and because they lacked identification they  
14 were not able to open up bank accounts, and so in  
15 conjunction with the Mexican Consulate, we, I  
16 believe, started the first precursor by getting them  
17 at least their Mexican ID so that they have  
18 identification and we brokered a deal with the banks  
19 to accept that ID so that they could then open up  
20 their accounts. And we have subsequently not had  
21 anymore of those type of bias crimes. And so we've  
22 seen the [background comments] benefit of ID, but ID  
23 is important to everyone because it will change the  
24 economic disparities in communities where people lack  
25 ID. And what happens is, people have to go to

1  
2 predatory services, they have to go to check cashing  
3 places, they have to go [bell] to rent-a-centers,  
4 they have to go to places where they get less for  
5 their dollar and it perpetuates the financial  
6 inequities. So I wanna thank you so much, Chairman  
7 Menchaca for, you know, pushing this legislation  
8 forward.

9 CHAIRPERSON MENCHACA: Thank you so much,  
10 Council Member Rose. And really, I think what that  
11 says is that so much of this work has really happened  
12 even before this session started with so many of our  
13 senior council members in the City Council and what I  
14 wanna do is just let you know for the record that the  
15 Central American Legal Assistance Group, the New York  
16 Legal Assistance Group, Safe Horizon, New York City  
17 Gay and Lesbian Antiviolence Project, the Coalition  
18 for Asian American Children and Families, SEIU 32BJ,  
19 NYS Interfaith Network also dropped off testimony for  
20 the record. I wanna thank the incredible staff that  
21 has put so much time; you heard earlier that day one  
22 I came in with the strength of horses really to push  
23 this forward, but this would not have happened if it  
24 wasn't for Julian Beckford, Jennifer Montalvo [sp?]  
25 on the Committee staff, Lee Wellington, my Chief of

1  
2 Staff, Mary Brooke from my office as well, Ivan  
3 Luevanos and Faisal Ali, who just joined us,  
4 Sebastian McGuire from Danny Dromm's office, and so  
5 many more of the Speaker's office that have put so  
6 many hours in analyzing this information and will  
7 continue to analyze everything we've heard today.  
8 And so really in closing, what I wanna say is that  
9 you've heard today no just from organizations and  
10 advocates, you've heard from New Yorkers at the  
11 beginning, you've heard from the Administration, the  
12 Operations and MOIA about the commitment that both  
13 the City Council and the Mayor have to making this  
14 happen; everyone is at the table under the pillars of  
15 this entire project that range from safety and fraud  
16 protection and making sure that people have access,  
17 not just at our immigrant New Yorkers' base, but  
18 really everybody that wants to be able to connect and  
19 unify around this card is understood and we're gonna  
20 keep on moving forward, this is our first hearing and  
21 we're gonna come back to you with more information  
22 and analysis as we move forward. So with that I'm  
23 gonna say thank you so much for staying; I know we  
24 over-stood our stay and I hope you stay for the next  
25 hearing, chaired by our Chairman of Transportation,

1  
2 Ydanis Rodriguez. Thank you so much and this  
3 concludes our hearing.

4 [gavel]

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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date           May 19, 2014

# EXHIBIT

F

CITY COUNCIL  
CITY OF NEW YORK

----- X

TRANSCRIPT OF THE MINUTES

Of the

STATED MEETING

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June 26, 2014  
Start: 1:56 p.m.  
Recess: 4:02 p.m.

HELD AT: Council Chambers - City Hall

B E F O R E:

LETITIA JAMES  
Chairperson

MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO  
Speaker for the Council

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Maria Del Carmen Arroyo  
Inez D. Barron  
Fernando Cabrera  
Margaret S. Chin  
Andrew Cohen  
Costa G. Constantinides  
Robert E. Cornegy  
Elizabeth S. Crowley  
Laurie A. Cumbo  
Chaim M. Deutsch  
Inez E. Dickens  
Daniel Dromm  
Rafael L. Espinal, Jr.  
Mathieu Eugene



Julissa Ferreras  
Daniel R. Garodnick  
Vincent J. Gentile  
Vanessa L. Gibson  
David G. Greenfield  
Vincent Ignizio  
Core D. Johnson  
Ben Kallos  
Andy L. King  
Peter A. Koo  
Karen Koslowitz  
Rory L. Lancman  
Brad S. Lander  
Stephen T. Levin  
Mark Levine  
Alan N. Maisel  
Steven Matteo  
Darlene Mealy  
Carlos Menchaca  
Rosie Mendez  
I. Daneek Miller  
Annabel Palma  
Antonio Reynoso  
Donovan J. Richards  
Ydanis A. Rodriguez  
Deborah L. Rose  
Helen K. Rosenthal  
Ritchie Torres  
Mark Treyger  
Eric A. Ulrich  
James Vacca  
Paul A. Vallone  
James G. Van Bramer  
Mark S. Weprin  
Jumaane D. Williams  
Ruben Wills

A P P E A R A N C E S (CONTINUED)

1 STATED MEETING

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2 [sound check]

3 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Twelve hours ago,  
4 we passed a great budget for the City of New York,  
5 and I want to thank everyone that was here. We are  
6 going to started today's Stated with two ceremonials.  
7 One by Council Member Koo. We're going to start off  
8 with that one. He is giving recognition and issuing  
9 proclamations to four Con Ed workers who saw--  
10 [background comment] five Con Ed workers who saw two  
11 cars collide and raced to rescue a baby and two women  
12 after the accident caused a light pole to topple over  
13 with live electrical wires and gasoline spreading on  
14 the street. These are the kinds of ceremonials that  
15 I really enjoy in this chamber, people that step up  
16 to the plate. And so, thank you, Council Member Koo,  
17 for doing this today.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: [off mic] Well,  
19 thank you. [on mic] May I ask the Con Ed employees  
20 come up? [applause] Really, Con Ed. Which?

21 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Go right ahead.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Okay, my colleagues,  
23 Speaker, and members of the public. They told us  
24 [sic] five Con Ed workers when they are working they  
25 saw an accident and they rescued a baby and two women

1 STATED MEETING

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2 trapped in an auto accident. And then when the two  
3 cars they were driving collided bringing down a  
4 traffic light and exposing the electric wires to  
5 spilled gasoline. These workers they immediately run  
6 over to the scene, and rescue the baby out of the  
7 car, and also the two lady drivers. And so, we are  
8 here to commend them for the heroic efforts in  
9 addition to their regular work. They are always  
10 working very hard to make sure we have energy, we  
11 have light, and we have power. It is really  
12 critical. People don't realize just how important is  
13 it. Once we have a power outage, we realize we  
14 cannot do anything. So we are here to recognize the  
15 heroic efforts. This is the City Clerk with the  
16 proclamation piece.

17 CLERK: Council City of New York  
18 Proclamation.

19 Whereas, the Council of the City of New  
20 York is proud to honor Rich Coyle, Chris Jensen,  
21 Mauricio Rincon, William Connolly, and James DeVita  
22 for their heroic life saving rescue in Flushing,  
23 Queens, and

24 Whereas, the DMV recorded nearly 295,000  
25 car crashes in 2012 in New York State alone and more

2 than 1,000 of those crashes resulted in fatalities.  
3 Within New York City, approximately 4,000 New Yorkers  
4 are seriously injured, and more than 250 are killed  
5 each year in traffic crashes. As the City of New  
6 York reaffirms its bold commitment improving street  
7 safety through the Vision Zero program and other  
8 measures, we are proud to recognize five individuals  
9 all Con Edison workers who recently went above and  
10 beyond their call of duty to ensure the safety of  
11 their fellow New Yorkers, and

12                   Whereas, on Tuesday, May 20th, Con Edison  
13 Workers James DeVita, Rich Coyle, Chris Jensen,  
14 Mauricio Rincon, and William Connolly were in  
15 Flushing, Queens installing an overhead transformer  
16 new P.S. 62 at the intersection of Francis Lewis  
17 Boulevard and 53rd Avenue. From this area perch, the  
18 men suddenly heard a tremendous crash as two cars  
19 colliding sending one vehicle careening into a  
20 pedestrian crossing sign. In a split second a  
21 traffic light slammed to the ground, electric wires  
22 were exposed and gasoline began to spew from one of  
23 the cars. Within this cacophonous scene, the men  
24 could see the drivers of both vehicles trying to get  
25 out; and

2           Whereas, although they immediately  
3 recognized the dangerous mix of gasoline and voltage,  
4 these Con Edison workers immediately lowered  
5 themselves, and putting the safety of the strangers  
6 before their own, they ran toward the crash. As they  
7 reached the cars, the gasoline continued to spill,  
8 they spotted a baby girl in the back seat. As gas  
9 fumes grew stronger, James DeVita, Rich Coyle, and  
10 Chris Jensen worked to free the infant from her seat  
11 by cutting through the straps and also carrying the  
12 unconscious woman from the driver's seat. Meanwhile,  
13 Mauricio Rincon pulled another injured woman from  
14 behind the wheel of another car through her undamaged  
15 rear door. William Connolly immediately dialed 911,  
16 and worked with others to get all of the victims far  
17 enough away from the accident. And consoled the  
18 families until NYPD and FDNY responders arrived to  
19 take over the scene.

20           Now, therefore, be it know, that the  
21 Council of the City of New York gratefully honors  
22 Chris Jensen, James DeVita, Rich Coyle, Mauricio  
23 Rincon, and William Connolly for the life saving  
24 rescue of two women and a child on May 20, 2014.  
25 Melissa Mark-Viverito, Speaker for the entire

2 Council, Peter Koo, Council Member, 20th District  
3 Queens. [applause, cheers]

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Again, thank you.  
5 As the clerk was reading that, wow. Right? The  
6 suspense and knowing the danger I mean it really  
7 brings to light really what an effort you took to  
8 save those lives, and we thank you for that. You not  
9 only did this individually, you worked collectively,  
10 and you really made something miraculous happen. So  
11 thank you so much for your efforts. I'm not sure.  
12 Does any one of you want to speak on behalf of the  
13 group? Say a few words? Again, we want to thank  
14 Peter for bringing this to our Chambers.

15 MALE SPEAKER: So I just want to thank  
16 the Chamber for recognizing my crews. Thank you for  
17 recognizing. We are very proud of them at Con  
18 Edison. We spend a lot of time in training in  
19 emergency response, and we're very proud that they  
20 were able to protect the public in the manner that  
21 they did. So thank you, again. [applause, cheers.]

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you. Thank  
23 you both. [background comments]

24 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Okay, we have  
25 one--one more ceremonial by Council Member Cabrera on

2 behalf of the Bronx Community College Nursing  
3 Program, and I'll had it over to the Council Member.  
4 Oh, and the Bronx Delegation as well.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Madam Speaker,  
6 thank you so much, and I love your T-shirt.  
7 Beautiful. Limited Edition. We want to congratulate  
8 also the United States Soccer Team for advancing.  
9 [applause] Awesome, awesome. But it gives me great  
10 honor as Bronx Community College they make their way.  
11 It gives me great honor to-- We are going to be  
12 facing that way yes. Beautiful. It gives me great  
13 honor to talk to you, and to give you the great news  
14 that the Nursing Program at Bronx Community College  
15 out of 77 practical nursing programs in school in the  
16 State of New York were ranked number one [applause,  
17 cheers] in the State of New York. As a matter of  
18 fact, the ranking was based on the National Council  
19 Licensure Examination for Practical Nurse Exam, which  
20 is considered one of the best measures to determine  
21 how well a school is preparing its students for a  
22 career in practical nursing. As a matter of fact,  
23 since 1991, from its very first day, every year since  
24 1991, every student has aced the exam with 100% score  
25 with the exception of three years. This is an



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2    amazing program, a program that I always tell young  
3    people to go and sign up because if you get in,  
4    you're going to come out a five star nurse. And so,  
5    congratulations to Bronx Community College Nursing  
6    Program. [applause] Madam Speaker. To the clerk  
7    to do the reading.

8           CLERK: Council City of New York

9    Proclamation. Since 1957, Bronx Community College,  
10   BCC, has advanced from its humble beginnings of 123  
11   students to become the educational cornerstone in the  
12   success of tens of thousands of students. Over the  
13   last 57 years, BC has been a leader in education  
14   ensuring that its students receive the quality  
15   instruction, skills, and training needed for future  
16   success. In 2012, BCC became the nation's first  
17   community college campus to be designated a national  
18   historical landmark, and

19           Whereas, each semester BCC provides  
20   nearly 12,000 students with quality academic  
21   programs, and outstanding faculty, and flexible class  
22   schedules to equip them for the 21st Century  
23   opportunities. These ambitious students represent  
24   over 100 countries, but all share a passion for  
25   learning and achievement. This is particularly

2 evident in its Licensed Practical Nursing Program, an  
3 evening and weekend program within the Department of  
4 Nursing and Allied Health Sciences that offers 22  
5 transferrable nursing credits to BCC's RN Program.  
6 Upon successful completion of the course work,  
7 students are eligible to sit for the New York State  
8 National Council Licensure Examination for Practical  
9 Nurses, and

10           Whereas, this year [practicalnursing.org](http://practicalnursing.org),  
11 a national organization dedicated to providing  
12 students with better transparency regarding practical  
13 and vocational nursing programs recognized Bronx  
14 Community College's Licensed Practical Nursing  
15 Program number one among New York State's 77  
16 practical nursing programs in schools, and

17           Whereas, this ranking based on National  
18 Council Licensure Examination passing rates is  
19 considered across the country as one of the best  
20 measures for determining how well a school is  
21 preparing their students for a career in practical  
22 nursing. BCC's Licensed Practical Nursing Program was  
23 the only one to receive a perfect 100% score. Over  
24 the last five years every BCC student, who  
25 successfully completed the Practical Nursing Program

2 went on to ace the exam required of all licensed  
3 nurses in New York.

4 Now, therefore, be it known that the  
5 Council of the City of New York honors and  
6 congratulates the Bronx Community College Licensed  
7 Practical Nursing Program for its well-earned  
8 recognition as the number one practical nursing  
9 program in New York State. Melissa Mark-Viverito,  
10 Speaker for the entire Council and Fernando Cabrera,  
11 Council Member, 14th District Bronx, and the rest of  
12 the Council Members of the Bronx Delegation.

13 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Okay. Thank you  
14 so much. [applause] To all of you that are here,  
15 all those that run the lead--the Nursing Program for  
16 Bronx Community College and to the Bronx Delegation  
17 for bringing this to our attention. It is a great  
18 honor to be able to present you with a proclamation  
19 your success. And it's something to be proud of in  
20 the City of New York. We definitely encourage people  
21 to enroll. So thank you very much for being here.  
22 Anybody want to speak on behalf of--? Yes.

23 FEMALE SPEAKER: On behalf of Bronx  
24 Community College, our President Dr. Berotte Joseph,  
25 the Program Director for the Licensed Practical Nurse

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2 Program, who couldn't be here today, Professor Ellen  
3 Boyce, we would like to say we are very proud of our  
4 achievement. And we would like to thank you very  
5 much for honoring us. Thank you. [applause]

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Thank  
7 you all. And that concludes ceremonials.

8 [Pause]

9 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Ladies and gentlemen,  
10 can I have your attention, please? Can I please have  
11 your attention. At this time, please place all  
12 electronic devices, all electronic devices to  
13 vibrate. Will all non-Council employees, non-Council  
14 employees please the main floor of the Chambers. We  
15 have seating upstairs. Can I have quiet in the  
16 Chambers, please?

17 [Pause]

18 [gavel]

19 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: All rise.

20 PREISDENT JAMES: All rise for the Pledge  
21 of Allegiance.

22 [Pledge of Allegiance]

23 FEMALE VOICE: Roll call.

24 CLERK: Arroyo.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO: Here.

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2 CLERK: Barron.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Present.

4 CLERK: Cabrera.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Here.

6 [background noise]

7 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet in the Chambers,  
8 please.

9 [gavel]

10 CLERK: Chin.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Here.

12 CLERK: Constantinides.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Here.

14 CLERK: Cohen.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Here.

16 CLERK: Cornegy.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Present.

18 CLERK: Crowley.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: [off mic]

20 CLERK: Cumbo.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: [off mic]

22 CLERK: Deutsch.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Yes.

24 CLERK: Dickens.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Here.

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2 CLERK: Dromm.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Here.

4 CLERK: Espinal.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: [off mic]

6 CLERK: Eugene.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Present.

8 CLERK: Ferreras.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: [off mic]

10 CLERK: Garodnick.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER GAROLDNICK: Here.

12 CLERK: Gentile.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Here.

14 CLERK: Gibson.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Here.

16 CLERK: Greenfield.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Here.

18 PRESIDENT JAMES: Quiet in the Chambers,

19 please for roll call. Please quiet.

20 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet down.

21 CLERK: Johnson.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Here.

23 CLERK: Kallos.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Here.

25 CLERK: King.

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COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Present.

CLERK: Koo.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Present.

CLERK: Koslowitz.

COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Here.

CLERK: Lancman.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Here.

CLERK: Lander.

COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Here.

CLERK: Levin.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Here.

CLERK: Levine.

COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Here.

CLERK: Maisel.

COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

CLERK: Matteo.

COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: Here.

PRESIDENT JAMES: Please quiet down in  
the Chambers. Please simmer down. Roll call.

CLERK: Mealy.

COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [off mic]

CLERK: Menchaca.

COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Presente.

CLERK: Mendez.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Here.

3 CLERK: Miller.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Here.

5 CLERK: Palma.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: [off mic]

7 CLERK: Reynoso.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Present.

9 CLERK: Richards.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Present.

11 CLERK: Maisel.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: Here.

13 CLERK: Rodriguez.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Present. [off

15 mic]

16 CLERK: Rose.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Here.

18 CLERK: Rosenthal.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Here.

20 CLERK: Espinal.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ESSPINAL: Here.

22 CLERK: Torres.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: [off mic]

24 CLERK: Miller.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: Here.



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2 CLERK: Treyger.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Here.

4 CLERK: Ulrich.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Here.

6 CLERK: Vacca.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER VACCA: [off mic]

8 CLERK: Vallone.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Madam Advocate,  
10 permission to vote aye on all matters on today's  
11 calendar including on Land Use Call-ups.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you very  
14 much.

15 [Pause]

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, taking a  
17 vote.

18 CLERK: Weprin.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Here.

20 CLERK: Williams.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Here.

22 CLERK: Wills.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Here.

24 CLERK: Ignizio.

25 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: Here.

2 CLERK: Van Bramer.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Here.

4 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic] Here.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please rise for  
7 the Invocation delivered by Reverend Pat Bumgardner,  
8 Executive Director of Global Justice Institute,  
9 Metropolitan Community Churches. Please rise.  
10 Everyone remain quiet.

11 REVEREND BUMGARDNER: [off mic] When New  
12 Yorkers woke up this morning [on mic] they learned  
13 why this municipality is sometimes dubbed the city  
14 that never sleeps. Because you, the members of the  
15 New York City Council were hard at work passing a  
16 budget that expands daycare programs, and gives every  
17 middle-school child the assurance of this day's daily  
18 bread. And provides scholarships for some and after  
19 school programs for other. You were hard at work on  
20 a budget that funds a summer jobs program for teens,  
21 and makes sure that community centers stay open. You  
22 were working on a budget that invests in affordable  
23 housing, and ensures services for mentally ill  
24 inmates. The most diverse council in the history of  
25 our city did a most amazing thing. It put our money

2 where many of our hearts are with those most in need  
3 of our care and protection. As the pastor of a  
4 community of faith where many have been among those  
5 seeking asylum and a chance at freedom, and a better  
6 life. I want to personally thank you for now making  
7 sure that every poor, poor and born New Yorker in  
8 immigration detention will be able to seek and have  
9 legal representation at the deportation hearings.  
10 Restoring the promise of a statute not far away,  
11 "Give me your poor, your tired, and your huddled  
12 masses."

13 Many years ago, the great preacher and  
14 prophet, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King spoke of  
15 Rip Van Winkle as the man who slept through a  
16 revolution. When he went up the mount, King said the  
17 sign said, King George. And when he came down, it  
18 read President George. You have not only remained  
19 awake, but positioned yourselves as leaders in a  
20 great a revolution of change that sees difference not  
21 as something that separates us. But as the very  
22 special something that gives us the opportunity to  
23 cross previously erected social borders, and be more  
24 together than we ever possibly could have been alone  
25 or apart.

2 You are helping our city learn the lesson  
3 of America's greatness, namely that oneness is not  
4 about muting our differences. It is not about  
5 uniformity or conformity. Rather, it is about  
6 reciprocity and mutuality, and sharing what we have  
7 with other who many be different from us on the  
8 outside, but bear a strong familiar difference on the  
9 inside as members of the one family of God.

10 And so, today as you begin your work, let  
11 us pray that God will continue to give you the  
12 courage and conviction, the stamina and grace it  
13 takes to do the things that will model for the world  
14 what a city at peace with its own diversity looks  
15 like, and how it is governed. Let us pray that  
16 borders and boundaries once used to segregate and  
17 exclude become the crossing over places where we have  
18 the opportunity to learn together, and expand our  
19 horizons together.

20 As we approach this Sunday's LGBT Pride  
21 March, may our focus be on all we hold in common, as  
22 human beings, and our hope and prayer be for the day  
23 when all people, Black people and White people,  
24 people of Asian descent and African heritage, Native  
25 Americans and immigrants. All people of every sexual

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2   orientation and gender identity of every culture,  
3   class and creed shall live together in peace. Equal  
4   not only in the eyes of God, but under our cities and  
5   our nations and our world's codes and covenants. We  
6   have won when we are one. May that sacred truth  
7   guide every choice and decision. I ask this blessing  
8   today in the name of all that's good and holy. Amen.

9           COUNCIL MEMBER: Amen.

10           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Motion to spread  
11   the Invocation in full upon the record by Council  
12   Member Johnson.

13           COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you, Madam  
14   Public Advocate, and I want to--

15           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet in the  
16   Chambers, please.

17           SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet down, please.  
18   Quiet down.

19           PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
20   Johnson.

21           COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you Madam  
22   Public Advocate, and I want to thank Reverend Pat  
23   Bumgardner for being here today. Metropolitan  
24   Community Church --

25                           [background discussion]

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please, quiet in  
3 the Chamber. Please everyone take their seat. Thank  
4 you. Council Member Johnson.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Metropolitan  
6 Community Church of New York is a spiritual home for  
7 the lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender community  
8 located on 36th Street in Manhattan in my district,  
9 and is open to everyone. Reverend Pat who has been  
10 with MCC New York for 30 years, and is a senior  
11 pastor. She is also a resident of my district and is  
12 renowned around the world for her work on the rights of  
13 LGBT people and their families. MCC's work is not  
14 just around faith, but working towards of an LGBT  
15 person here in New York, the United States and around  
16 the world to be treated with dignity and respect.  
17 [background discussion.] They do this by housing the  
18 Global Justice Initiative, which advocates for human  
19 and LGBT rights around the world. They pride  
20 themselves on being a safe space for anyone, but in  
21 particular LGBT and Queer Youth, many of whom are  
22 homeless. MCC is a food pantry program that is open  
23 to anyone who is hungry, and perhaps most importantly  
24 they shelter LGBT youth in a safe and welcoming  
25 environment.

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2 Metropolitan Community Church of New York  
3 encompasses the values of the Third Council District  
4 and of the City of New York. And I believe that  
5 today, two days, three days before the 45th  
6 anniversary of the Stonewall uprising there is no  
7 better person to spread the Invocation here at the  
8 City Council than the Reverend Pat Bumgardner, Senior  
9 Pastor at the Metropolitan Community Church. I thank  
10 you Reverend for a wonderful Invocation, and for all  
11 that you have done in our city on a day-to-day basis.  
12 Thank you very much.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
14 Vallone.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Madam Advocate,  
16 permission to aye on all matters on today's including  
17 the Land Use Call-ups.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER VALLONE: Thank you very  
20 much.

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
22 Council Member Wills.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: May I have a  
24 minute to explain my vote?

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: Thank you. I do  
3 apologize for voting and leaving. I do have a  
4 graduation to go to. But I just wanted to say on the  
5 record that I had every intention on coming here  
6 today and voting no on this bill. I didn't believe  
7 that this bill was drafted with everybody in mind,  
8 but a certain group. But then, everybody else was  
9 included. But the gentleman from Brooklyn, Carlos  
10 Menchaca, had a conversation with me yesterday. And I  
11 really want to tell you I appreciate it. I do not  
12 agree with any group of people that our outside of  
13 our legal framework with immigration, but I also have  
14 to say that I do not believe any group should face  
15 any oppression whether it's financial, political,  
16 spiritual or any others. People are here inside of  
17 our borders for a greater chance at life. This  
18 municipal I.D. card has been explained to me in  
19 detail, again by the gentleman. And I wanted to just  
20 tell you that I do appreciate. Ms. Bertha Lewis  
21 [phonetic] gave me stats on how many are actually in  
22 my district. This Council has passed funding for  
23 citizenship now, which is my office. We have an  
24 attorney two days a week, and the stories that have  
25 come in have--



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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
3 Council Member, can you please bring your comments to  
4 a close?

5 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLS: I'm sorry. Yes, I  
6 will. So with that, I do want to thank you again.  
7 And I keep going over and over again, the gentleman  
8 Carlos Menchaca from Brooklyn. You definitely are a  
9 gentleman, and because of that and because of your  
10 honesty, I vote aye.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
12 Adoption of minutes.

13 CLERK: None.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Messages and  
15 paper from the Mayor.

16 CLERK: M80 submitting Cheryl Cohen for  
17 appointment to the City Planning Commission.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules,  
19 Privileges, and Elections.

20 CLERK: M81 submitting Bomee Jung for  
21 appointment to the City Planning Commission.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules,  
23 Privileges, and Elections.

24 CLERK: M82 submitting Marcie Kesner for  
25 appointment to the Landmark Preservation Commission.

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2 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules,  
3 Privileges, and Elections.

4 CLERK: M83 submitting Larisa Ortiz for  
5 appointment to the City Planning Commission.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Rules,  
7 Privileges, and Elections.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication  
9 from City, County, and Borough Offices.

10 CLERK: None.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Petitions and  
12 Communications.

13 CLERK: None.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Land Use Call-  
15 Ups.

16 CLERK: None.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Communication  
18 from Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you, Madam  
20 Public Advocate. Not too long ago we all met in  
21 these Chambers to pass a wonderful budget. And as  
22 was mentioned by Council Member Cabrera before, we  
23 took a point of personal privilege earlier. We  
24 started a little bit late because we were in the  
25 Members' Lounge watching USA play. [whistles] They

2 advanced, which is a good thing. [applause] So, I'm  
3 excited for that.

4 One of the items-- I want to talk about  
5 a couple of things. One of the items on our agenda  
6 today is going to be our street co-naming bill,  
7 something we do about twice a year. And as we're  
8 voting on that legislation, I wanted to direct  
9 everyone's attention to what we will be producing as  
10 our new interactive map. It's up here on the screen,  
11 which will be available to all New Yorkers to keep  
12 them aware of every new co-naming. Every one of  
13 those dots is a street that is being co-named. And  
14 when you click on it, it pulls up the information of  
15 the person that the street is being named after or  
16 for the event that the street is being named after.  
17 So this is a work in progress, but I wanted to thank  
18 Erica Morsales [phonetic] and Maureen Agna for their  
19 work on this project. We're going to continue to  
20 grow and expand, and hopefully, we can go back as  
21 well in time and include others. So it's a great  
22 addition to our website.

23 I also wanted to give a special mention  
24 before we move onto the next item. It's not normal  
25 to go into detail about street co-namings at our

1  
2 stated meetings, but I'm going to make an exception  
3 to note that a portion of 10th Avenue in Manhattan is  
4 being co-named Stan Brooks Way in this legislation.  
5 Stan Brooks is a legendary reporter for 1010 WINS  
6 Radio, who in his career covered monumental events  
7 including the Attica Prison riot; the Vietnam War  
8 protests; civil rights demonstrations; the 1968  
9 Democratic National Convention; and the attacks on  
10 the World Trade Center. I think everyone here at  
11 City Hall has felt the loss since Stan passed last  
12 December. And I'm happy that today we're able to  
13 honor him for the co-naming that we will be voting  
14 on.

15           The main item on our agenda today is the  
16 voting on legislation to create the largest municipal  
17 ID program in the nation. I'm very, very excited for  
18 that. This safe and secure ID will provide  
19 identification for many New Yorkers who have never  
20 had one before. It is sound policy, and it is humane  
21 policy. The New York City Identity Card would be  
22 available to any resident of New York City who can  
23 establish identity and residency and meet the minimum  
24 age requirement for eligibility. Plain and simple,  
25 this will be an ID for everyone. It's particularly

2 important for undocumented individuals living in our  
3 city, seniors, and displaced youth who may not have  
4 access to the documents needed to obtain State ID.

5 The card will include at a minimum the  
6 cardholder's photo, name, date of birth, address, and  
7 an expiration date. Applicants will be able to elect  
8 to include his or her self-designated gender.

9 Through this legislation, we'll also make sure that  
10 it's easy for New Yorkers to find application  
11 centers. The administering agency will designate  
12 access sites for applications to be made available  
13 for pickup and submission. At a minimum, there will  
14 be one site in each borough.

15 Additionally, applications will be  
16 available online. In addition, we'll find ways to  
17 incentivize the card to encourage New Yorkers to sign  
18 up. To do this, the City will be required to find  
19 ways to expand benefits associated with the card,  
20 including promoting acceptance of the card by banks  
21 and other public and private institutions. The  
22 administering agency will determine the fee, if any,  
23 to be charged for the card. If a fee is charged, the  
24 administering agency is required to provide a full or  
25 partial waiver for those who cannot afford it. The

2 cost will be about \$8.4 million in Fiscal Year 2015,  
3 and is expected to be about \$5.6 million in the out  
4 years. The card will be designed to protect against  
5 fraud, a priority we've made in this process. So to  
6 keep the card secure the administering agency will be  
7 required to produce the card in a manner that deters  
8 fraud.

9 The identification and residency of the  
10 requirements while flexible are substantial. And the  
11 card does not need to be accepted if City agencies  
12 have reason to believe that the individual presenting  
13 the card is not the individual to whom the card was  
14 issued. It will also help improve interactions with  
15 the police. People who are reticent to go to the  
16 police to make a complaint or to report a crime  
17 because they do not have ID or no longer need to be  
18 concerned. This is critical legislation that is  
19 going to help make people's lives easier and better.  
20 The program can give a helping hand to those who have  
21 never had one before. These are people with  
22 families, jobs, kids in school, and who pay their  
23 taxes. These are undocumented parents who can enter  
24 their child's school like everyone else.

2 The transgender woman who can finally  
3 carry an ID that reflects her identity. A New Yorker  
4 who is stopped by the police and can avoid arrest, or  
5 a homeless teenager who can more easily access city  
6 services. This is an ID for all of them. We're  
7 committed as a Council to helping New Yorkers, and  
8 that is why we scaled up funding for the New York  
9 Immigration -- Immigrant Family Unity Project, which  
10 will provide legal representation to immigrants in  
11 deportation proceedings, and that is why we're  
12 passing this legislation today. When New York leads,  
13 the world follows. We can serve as a model for the  
14 rest of the nation today. While we wait for  
15 immigration reform in Washington, we can take steps  
16 to help our own right here. We are a vibrant city  
17 forming with a mosaic of different communities, and  
18 this is an ID that will be for all of them.

19 I want to thank the Council for their  
20 collaboration on this very important issue. I'd like  
21 to thank Julian Beckford [phonetic], Jennifer  
22 Montalvo [phonetic] from the Legislative staff for  
23 their tremendous work on this bill. I want to thank  
24 all the staff on my team from the Speaker's office as  
25 well. So those are my comments regarding the

2 Municipal I.D. I'd like to ask both Council Members  
3 Dromm and Council Members Menchaca, co-lead sponsors  
4 of this bill to say a few words.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Thank you very  
6 much, Madam Speaker. Let me start off by thanking my  
7 staff and those who were involved in the actual  
8 writing of this. I want to thank Julian Beckford,  
9 Jennifer Montalvo, Rob Newman, who was an excellent  
10 negotiator for the administration on this. My  
11 Counsel Sebastian McGuire, who put so many hours of  
12 work into this, and Carlos Menchaca's staff person,  
13 Lee Wellington as well. Let me thank Carlos Menchaca  
14 for everything he did to promote this. He is  
15 definitely a gentleman, and I feel very fortunate to  
16 have shared this piece of legislation with him.

17 Madam Speaker, you know, this has been a  
18 dream for me for about five years from the time  
19 before when I was the Immigration Chairperson. And  
20 moving this forward is a huge step in the right  
21 direction for New York City. The New York City ID  
22 for All will in many ways help make the lives of all  
23 New Yorkers easier from the homeless family in Sunset  
24 Park to the transgender youth in Jackson Heights.  
25 Most notably, this program reaffirms the Council's



2 commitment to helping immigrant New Yorkers integrate  
3 into the life of our city. Having a widely accepted  
4 ID Card will only strengthen relations between our  
5 immigrant communities and schools, police, and the  
6 other city agencies.

7 Beyond the access so city services that  
8 this card will facilitate, are the exciting  
9 possibilities for additional benefits to be added.  
10 The program outline in the legislation lays the  
11 foundation for such growth. Together with the  
12 Mayor's stated commitment to dedicating resources to  
13 its success, the New York City's ID For All is poised  
14 to become the must-have accessory for all New  
15 Yorkers. I look forward to lining up with my  
16 colleagues to apply for an ID once the program is  
17 launched. Thank you very, very much.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
19 Menchaca.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you  
21 Speaker and I also want to give many, many thank you  
22 today. Today is a special day. In the wake of  
23 passing the budget, really this morning actually. I  
24 know a lot of us have been working around the clock,  
25 and there are some incredibly important thank you to

2 move forward with. First, I really want to make sure  
3 that everybody on staff including Sebastian from  
4 Danny's office, who work in partnership with my Chief  
5 of Staff Lee Wellington to really bring the efforts  
6 of a City Council Member driven process. This was an  
7 incredible team effort with prime sponsored Danny  
8 Dromm.

9 And it was a beautiful thing in my first  
10 six months to be experiencing such incredible caliber  
11 from him and his staff, and allowing me as Chair of  
12 Immigration to be moving with his, was such a  
13 beautiful experience. The Speaker had been an  
14 incredible component to this entire thing. Really,  
15 without her and her office and her staff, this would  
16 not have been possible. Her staff includes Robert,  
17 Rob, Joline, Jennifer, Elizabeth, Joe, Amelia, and  
18 Michael. In the Engagement Office Ivan, Joey,  
19 Katrina -- Karina, sorry, Pfizo [phonetic], Joyce and  
20 the rest of the office was such an important part.  
21 They were the ones that were communicating to the  
22 community about how important this was.

23 And so I want to make sure that you all  
24 get your respect today. And then, of course, the  
25 Mayor's office for being at the table the entire

2 time. This was something that no one thought was  
3 possible and they were there. NYPD, the Mayor's  
4 Office, the Mayor's Office of Immigrant Affairs.  
5 Everybody was at the table the entire time working  
6 through this, and it is an incredible appreciation.  
7 This is an historic moment for us and our city. The  
8 precedent setting is modeled for the rest of the  
9 country for municipalities to rethink how they can  
10 engage their residents. And we're going to be  
11 sending a very strong message today as we pass this.

12 We're going to ensure and protect rights  
13 for historically under-served and under-represented  
14 communities. And give us new ways to engage each and  
15 every one of them to increase our specific  
16 participation. This landmark legislation is never  
17 easy, but this administration proved it today. And  
18 so, really what I want to end with, and also I want  
19 to thank before I end actually. I want to thank my  
20 staff. Back to the reality, this is my first session  
21 in the City Council. I would not have been able to  
22 do it without Lee and Jorge, and Vlam [phonetic], and  
23 Kenneth and Jessie, and Jimmy and Jean, and everybody  
24 else who has been supporting us throughout this  
25 entire year. Thank you.

2 Then finally, you in January we came in  
3 and people wondered what is this progressive Council  
4 and progressive mayor going to do. What was going to  
5 manifest? This is the direct manifestation of a  
6 mayor and city council working together day in and  
7 day out. And I look forward to continuing to work  
8 for our immigrant communities, our LGBT communities,  
9 our seniors. And let us not forget. Thank you. [In  
10 Spanish]

11 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you,  
12 Council Members. Very exciting. And so I'd like to  
13 also acknowledge that today is our Land Use  
14 Director's Gail Benjamin's last stated with the  
15 Council City. Gail has served this institution for  
16 many, many years as a true wealth of knowledge. It  
17 has been a pleasure for me to work with her the past  
18 eight years, and now as Speaker. So Gail, I don't  
19 know if she is around. Where is she? In the back.  
20 Oh, there she is in the back. Hi, Gail. Thank you so  
21 much. [applause, cheers] It's well deserved, very  
22 much well deserved. So Gail, thank you. Thank you  
23 so much for your service to the City Council to the  
24 City of New York. And I believe I speak on behalf of  
25

2 the Council when we say we wish you the best. Thank  
3 you so much.

4 And a couple of just quick items before  
5 we move on. The blood drive. We have a blood drive  
6 always that we hold in this Council. We have one on  
7 July 8th. There is always a critical need for  
8 donated blood. So I really want to urge everyone to  
9 schedule an appointment to give. It takes just about  
10 30 minutes out of your day to donate, but for the  
11 recipient it could be a lifetime gift. So make sure  
12 you're taking iron pills because I know I've been  
13 rejected a couple of times because my iron levels  
14 were too low. So also the Council outing is on July  
15 11th, and I would definitely encourage all of our  
16 colleagues to join.

17 And lastly, we have sent out a survey to  
18 all of you and all of our members regarding public  
19 engagement, and how do we want to increase public  
20 engagement through our Internet and through the  
21 website, et cetera. So we please as that you submit  
22 those by Monday, and anyone can reach Erica Gonzales  
23 for more information. So thank you again, all. It's  
24 exciting. We are entering the summer. We still meet  
25 once a month during the summer months, but it's

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2 really been an incredibly productive six months, and  
3 I looking forward to oncoming months. Thank you very  
4 much, and that concludes the Speaker.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

6 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: The message from  
7 the speaker.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
9 Council Member Palma.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Permission to vote  
11 on all items on today's calendar.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER PALMA: Congratulations to  
14 Danny Dromm and Carlos Menchaca. I vote aye.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
16 Council Member Johnson.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you Madam  
18 Public Advocate. Today the Council is approving two  
19 street renamings in my district. One in Chelsea and  
20 one in Hell's Kitchen. Phyllis Gonzalez Way will  
21 recognize the tremendous contributions made to the  
22 Chelsea community, in particular those at the Elliott  
23 Chelsea NYCHA houses in West Chelsea. A born and  
24 raised New Yorker, Phyllis passed away at 65 in 2012.  
25 She served as President for four terms of the Elliott

2 Chelsea Houses Tenant Association, and was a social  
3 worker at the Hudson Guild. There were not many  
4 things in Chelsea that Gonzalez was not active in.  
5 She was on the PTA of P.S. 33, was a member of  
6 Manhattan Community Board 4 at the same time I was.  
7 Served on the Hudson Guild Neighborhood Advisory  
8 Council. I'm proud that we're taking this step to  
9 recognize someone who worked for the greater good of  
10 the community.

11 Further to the north in my district on  
12 43rd Street and 10th Avenue, as the Speaker  
13 mentioned, we're naming the street in honor of a  
14 legendary radio reporter Stan Brooks. Stan was a  
15 native New Yorker from the Bronx. From early on in  
16 his life he was writing and publishing his own work  
17 from the printing press he received for his birthday  
18 at the age of 13. Throughout his career he was  
19 recognized for his diligence, professionalism, and  
20 commitment to top quality journalism. He was a  
21 resident at Manhattan Plaza, which is an affordable  
22 housing development for artists and actors in Hell's  
23 Kitchen.

24 In 2013, Mayor Bloomberg renamed the  
25 Radio Reporter's Room in City Hall after Stan, and

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41

2 it's fitting that today reporting his name on a  
3 street to always remember a man whose name is  
4 synonymous with New York radio and journalism. I ran  
5 into Stan many times during the course of my campaign  
6 on 43rd Street between 9th and 10th Avenues. He  
7 would shop every weekend for his wife at the Farmer's  
8 Market and ask me how the campaign was going. Stan  
9 was, as many New Yorkers would say, a true mensch.  
10 And I'm happy that we are renaming this street after  
11 him today. Thank you very much, Madam Public  
12 Advocate.

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. This  
14 is the discussion of General Orders. Council Member  
15 Garodnick.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER GARODNICK: Thank you very  
17 much, Madam Public Advocate. I wanted to rise today  
18 to speak about the Municipal ID Legislation. I am  
19 voting yes on this bill, but I had some concerns  
20 about a number of the details, which the Council is  
21 delegating to the Mayor to resolve. I know that I'm  
22 not alone in the belief that the ID will only work if  
23 we find ways to encourage many New Yorkers to sign  
24 up. Today, it is not evident why most documented New  
25 Yorkers would want or need one. For many, their



2 driver's licenses do them just fine, and they are  
3 averse to getting another form of ID that they may  
4 not need. If this card does not gain widespread  
5 voluntary acceptance, I fear that it will serve the  
6 opposite purpose than what is intended, namely that  
7 it will, in fact, simply identify the undocumented  
8 for the government.

9 There also appears to be considerable  
10 disagreement between the banking industry and the  
11 advocates about whether this card can actually help  
12 you open a bank account. The Patriot Act creates  
13 legal liability for any bank that allows someone to  
14 open an account without adequate proof of their  
15 identity. Will this do it? Will the banks accept  
16 it? I hope we will get to a place where that is the  
17 case, but it is far from clear. And I think that  
18 this detail should have been worked out before we  
19 sent this bill over to the Mayor. I fear that  
20 despite the way that it's billed, the ID may not  
21 resolve our continuing problem of unbanked New  
22 Yorkers.

23 There are open issues here that we are  
24 delegating to the Mayor to sort out, including how to  
25 conclusively prevent fraud. I recognize the premium

2 that is being placed on speed, but my preference for  
3 this institution would have been for the Council to  
4 work these questions out in advance. I do think they  
5 can be worked out, though, and I strong agree that  
6 documenting the undocumented is an important goal,  
7 and I very much hope that this card will satisfy its  
8 intended purpose. I will be voting yes, and I look  
9 forward to the follow up with the Administration.  
10 Thank you.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
12 Council Member Van Bramer.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Thank you  
14 very much, Madam Public Advocate, and I too rise to  
15 talk about the Municipal ID bill. And before I speak  
16 to some of the specific issues, I wanted to  
17 congratulate our colleagues, Council Members Dromm  
18 and Menchaca for this monumental achievement on  
19 behalf of all of the people of the City of New York.  
20 And there are so many people who will benefit from  
21 this including seniors or transgender community, and  
22 the undocumented. And I just want to highlight the  
23 importance of our cultural institutions and libraries  
24 in this very important endeavor. In partial response  
25 to some of the comments, that my good friend Council

2 Member Garodnick just made. One of the ways that I  
3 believe this card will become so valuable is because  
4 we are working with cultural institutions to make  
5 sure that there are some terrific incentives that go  
6 along with having this card that would bring  
7 increased access to our cultural institutions all  
8 across the city. I know we've already had some  
9 conversations. They're very receptive to this idea,  
10 and I will work very closely with my colleagues on  
11 this to make sure that our cultures play an  
12 incredibly important part of this.

13 But an access point to cultures all  
14 across the city would make this card desirable for  
15 everybody in the City of New York. And, of course,  
16 our libraries are always access points for virtually  
17 everybody in the City of New York. They have an  
18 important role to play in making sure that this works  
19 as well as I believe it will work. So I want to  
20 point the importance of those two incredible sectors,  
21 and also pledge my support to make sure that both are  
22 coming to the table and making this work for all New  
23 Yorkers. So congratulations to everybody for this  
24 very, very historic achievement. Thank you very  
25 much.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

3 Council Member Williams.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you.

5 Today, I have a street renaming in my district for  
6 Errol Elijah Duran Aster Millard [phonetic] also  
7 known as Prophet, died on Thursday, July 4th 2013 in  
8 the City of Shiran in the far off Province of  
9 Afghanistan. He was born in Brooklyn on October 5th,  
10 1994 to Joanna Millard and Iban Gibson. Elijah was  
11 smart and a dynamic man. Elijah was reared and  
12 nurtured in a Christian home, and he was especially  
13 close to his Great Grandmother Gigi who chronicled  
14 his spiritual growth in the family Bible. Her Bible  
15 recalls three significant events occurring on  
16 Thursdays in Elijah's life. They are Thursday,  
17 October 5th at 7:00 p.m. his fourth birthday when he  
18 said, I would like Jesus to come into my life.

19 Thursday, April 13th at 9:30 he said,  
20 Gigi, I want to be baptized. He was six years old.  
21 Thursday, July 4th, he went home to be with the Lord.  
22 He was 18 years old. Elijah spent his early years in  
23 Brooklyn attend the Bible Speaks Elementary and  
24 military-- and Middle School. He loved much in  
25 which he played violin. He was active in sports and

2 trained in Shodokan, Karate, Obertan [phonetic],  
3 Cobocab [phonetic] in Brooklyn along with his cousin  
4 Joline. He competed in various tournaments  
5 eventually winning first place in his division.  
6 Elijah began active duty in the Army in October 2012.  
7 Private El Elijah Duran Aster Millard graduated from  
8 Fort Leonard Wood in Missouri. In February, he was  
9 deployed from White Sands Missile Range in New Mexico  
10 as part of Operation Enduring Freedom.

11 He was assigned to the 595th Sapper  
12 Company, Second Engineer Battalion and 36th Engineer  
13 Grade. [sic] On a mission with the Zuni on July  
14 4th, 2013, Private El Elijah Millard was killed in  
15 action in Afghanistan. Private Duran, a Combat  
16 Engineer was posthumously promoted from Private B2 to  
17 Private First Class, and he was awarded the Bronze  
18 Star Medal, the Purple Heart, and the Good Conduct  
19 Medal. His other awards and decorations include the  
20 Army Service Rating, Overseas Global War on Terrorism  
21 Expeditionary, NATO Medal and many more. His White  
22 Sands Missile Range Commander Brigadier General Glenn  
23 Bingham wanted the family to know that our comrade  
24 Errol made a positive different daily with his valued  
25

2 service, and the ultimate sacrifice that we will  
3 never forget him or his family.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
5 Council Member Rose.

6 \*\*COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Thank you. First  
7 I would like to commend Council Members Menchaca and  
8 Dromm for their successfully crafting and guiding  
9 this bill through the legislative process And thank  
10 you to Speaker Mark-Viverito for her leadership in  
11 moving this to the floor so swiftly. I am a big  
12 proponent of municipal IDs because I've seen first  
13 hand how a lack of photo identification can lead to  
14 tragic circumstances. A few years ago we witnessed a  
15 series of biased attacks within the Mexican community  
16 in Port Richmond in my district. Investigations  
17 revealed that many of these were crimes of  
18 opportunity. Many members of the Mexican immigrant  
19 community carry larges amounts of cash on their  
20 persons. Working closely with the Mexican Consulate  
21 and local banking institutions, we were able to have  
22 ID cards issued to the immigrants by the consulate,  
23 which could be accepted by the banks. And once  
24 people were able to open bank accounts, and stop  
25 carrying large amounts of cash, the attacks stopped.

2 So I just want to say that this is not only  
3 beneficial to the immigrant community, but it's also  
4 beneficial to seniors and to poor New Yorkers who are  
5 not able to accumulate the number of points needed to  
6 get a New York State non-driver's license. The  
7 benefits outweigh the problems that are related to  
8 the issuing of these cards. It ensures that people  
9 are not also subject to check cashing places, and  
10 other predatory services, and that they can access  
11 services like all New Yorkers.

12 And I want to say that I have a street  
13 naming in my district, Kenneth Cubas Way. Kenneth  
14 John -- Ken Cubas was the Vice President at Fiduciary  
15 Trust --

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
17 Council Member, could you bring your remarks to a  
18 close?

19 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Oh, okay. Sorry.  
20 [laughs] Anyway, he was a dutiful son, and he gave  
21 his life at the World Trade Center. After having  
22 successfully escaped for himself, he went back in  
23 numerous times to bring out members of -- His friends  
24 and co-workers. He died trying to rescue them after  
25 a third time going in so--

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
3 Council Member you can explain during the break.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: [interposing] So I  
5 am humble and proud --

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
7 Thank you.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: -- about the street  
9 naming. Thank you.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
11 Gentile.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: I want to speak  
13 about the Municipal ID cards. I'm voting today in  
14 support of this legislation because it serves the  
15 practical everyday needs of many residents. And  
16 hopefully, it will serve, hopefully, as a gateway for  
17 those looking to fulfill the dream of becoming an  
18 American citizen. America was built on the strength  
19 of its immigrants. My mother emigrated from Italy,  
20 and it was her dream to become an American citizen  
21 and she did. She wanted to be able to fully enjoy  
22 all of that, this bountiful and limitless new world  
23 had to offer, and she did not want to live in the  
24 shadows. So naturally, in support of the immigrants  
25 and their rights, and I hope that all immigrants who



2 come to this country have a very strong desire to one  
3 day become U.S. citizens. But while there are many  
4 things this country could and should do to make new  
5 immigrants feel welcome, we must always be mindful  
6 not erase the distinction between immigrant and  
7 citizen. Rather, we need to encourage immigrants to  
8 become citizens through the proper channels and  
9 rights of passage just as our ancestors did. And  
10 yet, identification documents are critical to  
11 performing a wide array of everyday tasks for  
12 accessing schools and other city buildings to opening  
13 a checking account. Particularly for seniors, many  
14 of whom are my constituents and often have access  
15 issues without a proper photo ID. This card can be a  
16 valuable assist in getting healthcare, picking up  
17 grandchildren, possibly opening a bank account,  
18 securing a lease, or even helping the senior to get a  
19 library card. And this card can be even more useful  
20 to get them to other New Yorkers once additional  
21 services and benefits become attached to the card  
22 over the next year. This aspect of additional  
23 benefits is critical to making this truly a card for  
24 all. And that with the committed of both co-sponsors  
25 that the work in enhancing this card will continue in

2 earnest. So through an application process, we must  
3 ensure that only those who truly need or desire this  
4 new type of identification be eligible to receive it.  
5 It is not a come-one, come-all proposition. Rather,  
6 the types of criteria required to gain eligibility  
7 such as present a utility bill, a property tax  
8 assessment, a statement of a mortgage payment--

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
10 Council Member, could you bring your comments to a  
11 close?

12 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Sure. Suggests  
13 that by and far that people who already contribute in  
14 the form of tax dollars should, therefore, not be  
15 stymied from obtaining a beneficial service due lack  
16 of a recognized piece of ID. For these and for the  
17 fact that the NYPD has made a statement on this bill,  
18 I will vote in the affirmative.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
20 Minority Leader Vincent Ignizio.

21 MINORITY LEADER IGNIZIO: Thank you very  
22 much, and I welcome my colleagues. I feel like we  
23 were just here. I'm proudly wearing U.S. colors  
24 because we will be advancing, and thank you, Madam  
25 Speaker, for point that out. I wanted to speak about

2 the Municipal I.D. Bill. I understand the good  
3 intentions of my colleagues. But the reason why  
4 we're here is because of the very failed national  
5 immigration policy. I think everyone can agree with  
6 that in this room. But the fact that this bill  
7 creating a municipal ID has many holes in it with  
8 regards to legitimate security concerns, that I feel  
9 we all ought to be concerned about.

10 The bill speaks about the identity and  
11 residency, proof of identity. And on the bottom of  
12 it says, or quote, "Any other documentation that the  
13 administering agency deems acceptable." With regards  
14 to proof of residency, it talks about some that they  
15 could use. And then it goes on to say, "And any other  
16 documentation that the administering agency deems  
17 acceptable." So we, this Council, are turning over  
18 the entire rule making process, the entire law making  
19 process to the administration.

20 It then goes on to say that we will  
21 destroy that documents that we retain, that we take  
22 from those that are seeking it. So, potentially, if  
23 we have someone that came here illegally, that  
24 created or committed crimes, and we potentially know  
25 through that process where that is, we would have to

2 destroy that evidence so we will never be able to  
3 trace back to that man or woman that perpetrated that  
4 crime. I think that's a mistake.

5 I think the Police Department would and  
6 should think that's a mistake, and I hope they would  
7 convey that. Of course, we have comparison. Of  
8 course we have a responsibility to ensure that people  
9 aren't mistreated in this city. But we also have a  
10 responsibility to ensure that people much like my  
11 colleagues said a moment ago has an immigration  
12 status that is consistent with the United States. We  
13 want to encourage people to come here legally. There  
14 are a countless amount of people around this country,  
15 around this world, excuse me, that want to come here  
16 legally, and we should encourage that. And we ought  
17 to lobby our federal government to ensure that our  
18 immigration policy reflects that as well.

19 But I will vote no on this bill because I  
20 believe there are legitimate security concerns that  
21 have no been adequately addressed in it, and  
22 notwithstanding the desire of my colleagues to act in  
23 a compassionate manner to ensure that people aren't  
24 treated fairly -- unfairly. I think there are ways  
25 we can tighten it up, and I think there is a way we

2 should tighten it up. I don't question anybody's  
3 motives. I want to be clear.

4 So, too, an issue was raised about  
5 putting the veteran status on this. My colleagues  
6 raised this that we would put on the bottom of the  
7 Municipal ID if the person, he or she was a veteran  
8 of the United States. That was dismissed. That  
9 wasn't added to this bill. So if somebody went to  
10 Home Depot and wanted to get a 10% discount because  
11 they're a veteran, the Municipal ID Card, the idea  
12 was that it would reflect that on the bottom, this  
13 person is a veteran. That's not here. Why? Is that  
14 not an easy fix? Is that not something we want to  
15 encourage for veterans who served this country to be  
16 able to avail themselves of their veteran's rights.  
17 That's something that should be fixed, and should  
18 this bill pass, which I anticipate it has the ability  
19 to do so, this Council should reach out to the Mayor  
20 because they gave him full discretion on this bill,  
21 and that ask that that be put into the bill. So  
22 there is a -- concerns that I have in regards to this  
23 bill. That's why I'll be voting no.

24 There is a Council here that seeks to its  
25 passage, and I just hope that the rule making ability

2 that we have given over to the administration we're  
3 able to engage in to tighten it up, and to ensure  
4 that these security concerns are properly addressed.  
5 Thank you.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
7 King.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Thank you Madam  
9 Public Advocate. I rise today in the spirit of  
10 democracy. As we don the strips of the red, white,  
11 and blue, and you wear it quite well, Madam Public  
12 Advocate, and we're all excited about what's  
13 happening on the soccer field. This piece of  
14 legislation and the ideas, while I believed it's  
15 great in its principle, in its thinking, I am one  
16 that is somewhat concerned. In regards to how do we  
17 make sure that these IDs are delivered and the people  
18 who can misuse them, who can create an environment of  
19 deception, that doesn't get hold of being able to do  
20 so. My district is considered one of the largest  
21 immigration -- immigrant populations and citizens.  
22 Now, we work tirelessly to make sure that our  
23 brothers and sisters are on the path of citizenship.  
24 And I'm urging us to do more as legislators on the  
25 local level to address our colleagues at the federal

2 level. To do something that will allow immigration  
3 reform to really be substantial. That we can allow  
4 all of our brothers and sisters who want to  
5 experience the American dream that there is a path to  
6 citizenship that's a little more simplified, and it's  
7 less challenging than it is today. But I will be  
8 offering my support, but I wanted to be put on the  
9 record that I do have some concerns in regards to  
10 this piece of legislation. But I think it's good in  
11 principle, but I think there is more to be done.  
12 Secondly, I want to acknowledge Keith Ferguson's  
13 family, Sergeant Keith Ferguson Way, which will be  
14 established today, as we voted for in this meeting.  
15 [sic] He was a police officer who died in the line  
16 of duty. He will never be forgotten as we rename the  
17 street out there, and blessings to his family. Thank  
18 you.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And now for the  
20 first time speaking on the floor, Council Member  
21 Maisel.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: [applause,  
23 cheers] How could you tell. I don't often speak. I  
24 didn't speak very much in Albany. I usually felt  
25 that people had more important things to say, and

2 could day it better than I did. But I did want to  
3 speak about this identification bill. There is  
4 nothing in the bill that I oppose. There is nothing  
5 in the bill that is wrong. I think everything in the  
6 bill is appropriate, and just would solve a lot of  
7 problems. But I'm concerned about one thing. When  
8 we pass laws, we don't pass laws or write laws to  
9 protect people from good government. We are supposed  
10 to write laws to protect people from bad government.  
11 One of the reasons why I was opposed to Mayoral  
12 control, was although I never doubted Mayor  
13 Bloomberg's motivation, I always had in the back of  
14 my mind the return of Jimmy Walker.

15 So this bill has one defect in it, and if  
16 someone can explain and correct me and allay my  
17 fears. Right now we have an Administration  
18 Washington that's friendly to immigration. What  
19 happens two years from now or six years from now when  
20 we have an administration that is not friendly to  
21 immigrants? When we have a House and a Senate that  
22 is not friendly to immigration, and undocumented  
23 workers. We are basically presenting and preparing a  
24 list of undocumented workers to be presented to  
25 whatever authority there is that will be able to just



2 take these people and say, Look, we know you're  
3 undocumented. We are deporting you. So, it could  
4 very well be that these are fears that are maybe not  
5 important, or maybe they're not going to be ever  
6 realized. But it is a serious concern that I have.  
7 I don't think people should be placing themselves in  
8 the position where they could be identified when they  
9 are not here legally. And if it could be changed in  
10 some way, perhaps I would be willing to support it,  
11 but otherwise I'm going to abstain. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
13 Council Member Chin.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Than you, Madam  
15 Public Advocate. At first, I want to speak on two  
16 co-naming that I am co-sponsoring with Council  
17 Mendez. The first one is the Dashane Santana, a  
18 middle school student that was killed on Delancy and  
19 Clinton while crossing the street. And because of  
20 her death, her grandmother and people in the  
21 community came together, and worked together with  
22 their elected official and city agency to make that  
23 area safer with countdown clocks and redesign. And  
24 this is a great way to remember her. And then the  
25 second one is Marie Christopher Way. Marie was such

2 a tenant advocate. I think we heard about her in the  
3 City Council when she passed away last year. So I  
4 really wanted to thank the City Council for doing  
5 this, and I urge my colleagues to support it.

6 On the Municipal ID Bill, the ID is the  
7 ID for every single New Yorker. We are proud to be  
8 residents of New York City. So I think the ID we  
9 will have to encourage everyone to apply. It's not  
10 just for undocumented immigrants. There are a lot of  
11 seniors. There are a lot of people with green cars  
12 that don't have ID because they just don't have  
13 enough information to go and get a non-driver's ID.  
14 Many of us don't drive. So for us to get a non-  
15 driver's ID, we have to have so many forms of  
16 documents, and where do you go to get a non-driver's  
17 ID? It's very difficult to find. I had a hard time  
18 finding the Motor Vehicle place to do it. So I think  
19 having a Municipal ID we could send a strong message  
20 that New York City is a City that loves all its  
21 residents, and we will do everything we can to make  
22 sure everyone who wants to apply will be able to  
23 apply easily, accessible. Hopefully, there will be  
24 offices in every borough, and the card should get us  
25 benefits, visits to museums, libraries, cultural

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2 institutions. It is a way to show that we are proud  
3 to be a New York City resident. So I urge my  
4 colleagues to support the bill. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
6 Koo.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: Madam Public  
8 Advocate. I want to congratulate Council Member  
9 Menchaca and Dromm for initiating the Municipal ID  
10 Bill. I think this is a good bill. It's not a  
11 perfect bill. It has many technical things we have  
12 to work out, but like Council Member Chin said before  
13 the main purpose is only for identification, that  
14 they are New York residents. It is not a universal  
15 [sic] card. It is not some document they can use for  
16 traveling overseas. But for locally it's really good  
17 for them. They can get library cards. They can go  
18 to museums. They can open bank accounts if we can  
19 talk to some banks to arrange that. So I think this  
20 is a good bill. There are some details, but we will  
21 have to support this. So I vote yes for this bill.  
22 And I also want to use this opportunity to welcome  
23 two of my lead hands, Sarah Yang and Emma Larsar  
24 [phonetic]. If they are here. Can you stand up.  
25 [applause]. They have been doing a wonderful job for

2 our office. So thank you very much. And I also want  
3 to thank the Speaker for doing a wonderful job for  
4 passing the bill this morning. Thank you very much.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
6 Levine.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you, Madam  
8 Public Advocate. I'll be proudly voting in support  
9 of the Municipal ID Bill, and I want to respond to  
10 some of the criticisms that my colleagues have  
11 articulated on this thus far. As Council Member Chin  
12 spoke about, the existence of driver's licenses in  
13 New York does not render this new ID redundant. In  
14 fact, New York City is among the localities in  
15 America with the lowest rates of driver's license  
16 among its residents. Well under 60% among adults,  
17 and it's plummeting among young people. That number  
18 is trending downward. This at a time when the  
19 circumstances in which we need IDs is rapidly  
20 proliferating. You need it to get into a public  
21 school, to use it to get into many office buildings,  
22 in law enforcement encounters. So this provides a  
23 solution for the over 40% of adults in New York, a  
24 number which is growing, that do not have municipal  
25 IDs. As for security concerns, the law enforcement

2 community in New York City and in other localities  
3 where such IDs have been implemented have supported  
4 this. Why? Because good law enforcement benefits  
5 from having IDs for anyone, which law enforcement  
6 officials have an encounter. Having identification  
7 facilitates law enforcement. And it's why after very  
8 substantial negotiations, the NYPD has come on board  
9 with this bill. As for the fact that some of the  
10 fact that some of the greatest benefits have yet to  
11 be implemented related to banking, cultural  
12 discounts, integration with library services, mass  
13 transit payments. All of those can and will be  
14 implemented as we roll out this important service.  
15 But there is no reason to delay by a single day the  
16 immediate benefit that this new form of ID will offer  
17 all New Yorkers of all documentation statuses. I do  
18 believe this will be embraced by a wide section of  
19 residents--

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
21 Council member, can you bring you comments to a  
22 close?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: --of our city.  
24 That's why I proudly support the bill. Thank you.

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
3 Council Member Constantinides.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: Madam  
5 Public Advocate. May I be allowed to vote on all  
6 items in the general calendar today --

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
8 Yes.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: -- and  
10 explain my vote.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER CONSTANTINIDES: With  
13 congratulations to our speakers and the sponsors of  
14 the bill, Danny Dromm and Carlos Menchaca, I proudly  
15 vote for Intro 253 today that will be transformative  
16 and beneficial to all New Yorkers. Lastly, I will  
17 say to Gail Benjamin, you rock, and we definitely  
18 appreciate you and what you have given us. I vote  
19 aye on all. Thank you.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
21 Council Member Greenfield.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you  
23 Madam Public Advocate. You know, the challenge in  
24 being an elected official is that actually have to  
25 decide things, right. Most people the extent of

2 their decisions perhaps on a daily basis are not  
3 necessary weighty. You go into a shop, and you try  
4 to decide large Coke, medium Coke, or small Coke.  
5 The problem with being an elected official is that  
6 people expect you to decide everything, and even when  
7 there are complicated issues. And today, it  
8 certainly is a complicated issue in terms of  
9 Municipal ID, and I share the concerns that some of  
10 the members have raised. I think that we could have  
11 had some tweaks to the bill. We could have had more  
12 robust discussion on the bill, and we certainly could  
13 have improvements on the bill.

14 But we in our position as elected  
15 official we don't get to vote on perfect legislation  
16 normal. We generally get to vote on imperfect  
17 legislation and try to figure out the merits of said  
18 legislation. And so for me the overwhelming factor  
19 is actually on a personal level. There's a small  
20 shop in Borough Park, and I shop there frequently.  
21 For every Saturday for shabbat obviously I go to the  
22 store and I purchase my goods. And there's a young  
23 woman who works behind the counter, and after a few  
24 weeks she got up the courage to turn to me and she  
25 said, Can I ask you a question? I said, Yes. She

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2 said you're like a Councilman or something. And I  
3 said, Yeah. She said, You know, I need some help  
4 with immigration.

5 I'm from Mexico, and I have some issues.

6 She said, You know, between me and you, I'm not  
7 exactly legal. I said, Sure. I said, No problem. I  
8 said, In my office we happen to have a lawyer. I  
9 said, You can come in, and we'll give you those  
10 services. And through her, I met some other folks  
11 who were affiliated with her. And then one day, I  
12 heard from one of her friends that her friend was  
13 arrested. Why was her friend arrested? Because he  
14 was on his way to work, and he was Mexican as well.  
15 He was on his way to work, and he was stopped. And  
16 had a piece of paper, some sort of ID -- Just a few  
17 more second, Madam Public Advocate -- from the  
18 Mexican government, and it had a very common name.

19 So they ran his name through the  
20 database. It picked him up, and he was in the system  
21 for 48 hours. So they reached out and said, Can you  
22 help? I tried. I called the police precinct but the  
23 end of the day there really was no quick way to  
24 resolve it. And I remember thinking back then it was  
25 very frustrating all right. This guy did nothing



2 wrong. He walked down the street. It was mistaken  
3 identity, and that's what I think this Municipal ID  
4 could, in fact, correct. And to the folks who are  
5 worried, I give you this assurance that if, in fact,  
6 the Mayor, who supports, and the Police Department  
7 who supports it, are not able to have an effective  
8 ID, I will stand with you the steps of City Hall and  
9 be among the first with you to ask for a repeal. But  
10 certainly I think we deserve to try to correct those  
11 mistakes and those errors--

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]  
13 Council Member, please bring your comments to a  
14 close.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: --and that's  
16 why I support, and thank you very much, Madam Public  
17 Advocate.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
19 Council Member Mendez.

20 [Pause]

21 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Thank you. I  
22 wanted to talk about three of my street co-namings,  
23 two with Margaret, and I'm just going to make it very  
24 short. Dashane Santana Way and Marie Christopher  
25 Way. Dashane's grandmother out of this very tragic

2 event has become an activist, has joined the  
3 Community Board, has become very involved in  
4 transportation issues, and housing issues in our  
5 city. And Marie Christopher, who was like a mother  
6 to me, and Margaret and I knew her way before we ever  
7 got into this. She became an activist because she  
8 was burnt out of her home, and displaced from Harlem.  
9 And to our benefit, she was relocated in the Lower  
10 East Side, and fought for all kinds of housing, not  
11 just for project based Section 8. But for public  
12 housing, and private housing, and she's been very  
13 much missed. And I want to thank my colleagues for  
14 supporting these three co-namings. Thank you.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
16 Lander.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Thank you, Madam  
18 Public Advocate. I am so proud today to be voting in  
19 favor to the New York City ID For All Card. And I  
20 want to say congratulations to the gentlemen both  
21 from Queens and from Brooklyn, Council Member  
22 Menchaca, and Dromm and the Speaker. I, too,  
23 appreciate the concerns being raised, but I really  
24 believe that this bill has the right mix of  
25 specificity and flexibility that reflects on the

2 lessons learned from L.A. and Oakland and New Haven  
3 where everything is already in place. And it's the  
4 right balance between authorizing legislation, which  
5 is what we do, and administrative implementation,  
6 which is how the city runs. I'm really confident  
7 that it will work, and Meg and I look very forward to  
8 getting our own NYC ID Cards. Both because of the  
9 value that it will hold for all New Yorkers, and as a  
10 sign of our progressive patriotism as proud residents  
11 of this diverse and welcoming city.

12 I also want to note today that we'll be  
13 voting to rename Nevins Street between Flatbush and  
14 Livingston after the incomparable organizer and my  
15 dear friend Jon Kest. John was taken from us far too  
16 young, but not before he had worked together with low  
17 income and disenfranchised New Yorkers to accomplish  
18 more for justice than most of us can ever dream of.  
19 As a leader of ACORN, New York Communities for  
20 Change, and the Working Families Party. Jon helped  
21 New Yorkers come together, organize to build power,  
22 raise their voices, and win incredible victories, for  
23 living wage jobs, for affordable housing, for good  
24 schools for all our kids. And for better  
25 neighborhoods for all New Yorkers regardless of where

2 they come from. Jon has extraordinary living  
3 legacies as well like the Fast Food Forward Campaign  
4 and the Car Wash Campaign, people who are fighting  
5 for justice on initiatives that helped them get  
6 started. But this street -- and I want to thank  
7 Council Member Levin whose district it's in -- will  
8 serve as one more important memory and part of his  
9 legacy. I know that today on this day when we're  
10 voting for this Municipal ID Card, and when changes  
11 in Albany portend an increase in the minimum wage for  
12 low wage New Yorkers that Jon is smiling down on us.  
13 And I proudly vote aye on all.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
15 Cabrera.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Thank you so  
17 much, Madam Public Advocate. I want to congratulate  
18 our leading sponsor of the bill, Council Member Dromm  
19 and Chair Menchaca for your leadership in the  
20 Municipal ID. I just want to address some of the  
21 things that were brought out regarding the security  
22 issues. You know, we only need to look at the other  
23 states. The reality is that we're not the first one.  
24 And so, we have no heard from any other places where  
25 this has been implemented where this has become an

2 issue. I don't know why it is that New York City we  
3 always think that we're going to get it worse, that  
4 still is going to show up. And that somehow it's  
5 going to be worse here. Other states, other cities  
6 have the same concerns that we have when it comes to  
7 security concerns. And I believe the NYPD is going  
8 to do a tremendous job regarding that.

9           Regarding the veterans designation, I  
10 want to strongly suggest the option should be given  
11 to those veterans that if they want the designation  
12 that it should be there. To be honest with you, they  
13 have their own badge. They are our heroes. They are  
14 our protectors, and having a father and a grandfather  
15 who fought in World War II and a father who served in  
16 the military I can truly tell you that they truly  
17 deserve that.

18           One piece that I would like to add here  
19 that I've been a staunch advocate from day one when  
20 it comes to this is the banking piece. Because at  
21 one point, this card is going to reach its  
22 limitation. There are only going to be so many  
23 banking institutions that will accept that. I think  
24 that the largest -- larger financial institutions  
25 like Master Card and Visa that they option will be

2 given for those who want this ID to have that  
3 component regardless of if they are documented or  
4 undocumented. Because there is an added advantage  
5 that it was mentioned by Council Member Rose for  
6 people not to carry cash especially that population  
7 that's very vulnerable. Thank you very much.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
9 Rodriguez.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: First, I would  
11 like to say that I'm supporting one of the streets to  
12 commend, Emmett Basset, who was a citywide leader who  
13 marched against apartheid, against nuclear weapons,  
14 and also who marched for immigrant rights. He's a  
15 father, he was father of the Health Commissioner of  
16 New York City. But also, I would like to, after  
17 listening my colleague, Ignizio, I've been motivated  
18 to invite him to join me on calling the Republicans  
19 at the Congress level to join the Democrats and fight  
20 for immigration reform. I think that since we are a  
21 national media, it is important that a Republican and  
22 the Congress they should know that there are  
23 Republicans in cities such as New York City joining  
24 the Democrats calling for immigration reform. I also  
25 would like to say that the NYPD has been involved in

2 this conversation of the Municipal ID, and  
3 Commissioner Bratton he expressed that he is looking  
4 for the passage of this legislation.

5 And lastly, I would like to say that  
6 everyone, not only undocumented, to get this ID and,  
7 you know, we should know that undocumented contribute  
8 with billions of dollars to this city and to this  
9 state. No one asked for ID when undocumented go to  
10 Marshall or Home Depot or to any store to contribute  
11 to the economy of our city. So it is our turn also  
12 to pay them back for their contribution that they do  
13 in our finance. And I would like also to vote yes,  
14 and ask permission to leave.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER RODRIGUEZ: Thank you.

17 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
18 Kallos.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: The New York City  
20 Municipal ID hopes to empower our residents to access  
21 services that are currently obstructed by the  
22 requirement of government issued identification. I  
23 co-sponsored this legislation to remove that hurdle.  
24 As the program gets rolled out, I have been promised  
25 by my peers and by the Administration, and I plan to

2 act as a guardian to ensure that the City does not  
3 require Municipal Identification for any services  
4 where identifications not already required to protect  
5 individual privacy. To maintain the Municipal  
6 Identification as an optional benefit, to protect our  
7 residents from a mandatory requirement for Municipal  
8 Identification because no American should be forced  
9 to carry identification to live here. And to ensure  
10 that the Municipal cards can never be used as  
11 presented proof of citizen status. I congratulate  
12 the Speaker, Council Members Menchaca and Dromm as  
13 you move towards a better city, and thank you for  
14 your leadership.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
16 Council Member Koslowitz.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: Thank you. I  
18 want to vote. Permission to vote on all general  
19 order, and be excused to explain my vote.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER KOSLOWITZ: I vote aye on  
22 General Orders, and I want to congratulate Gail  
23 Benjamin. Thank you for all the years you have  
24 served the Council, and thank you for building New  
25 York City the way it is now. Thank you so much. And



2 I also want to recognize my intern, Alex Anderson,  
3 who is with me. [applause] He's going to be working  
4 with me this summer. Thank you.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
6 Council Member Weprin.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Thank you, Madam  
8 Public Advocate. Just briefly on the Municipal ID.  
9 I was inspired by hearing some of the comments and  
10 concerns of my colleagues to just say relax a little  
11 bit. Because this bill -- this bill really authorizes  
12 us to create an ID card. It doesn't -- I understand  
13 all the details aren't worked out, but they will be  
14 eventually. And let's be pragmatic here. By making  
15 this statement that we think it's really important to  
16 have these IDs so people don't have to live in the  
17 shadows, we're getting that process moving forward.  
18 Many of them have left, but there are a bay of  
19 cameras here from across the country that are  
20 covering this story.

21 And we're making a statement, and what's  
22 that statement? It's that we live in the coolest  
23 city in the world, right? And now we're going to  
24 have a membership card, and people are going to want  
25 to be part of that club. And the people who live

2 here are going to want one of these cards because  
3 they want to be part of New York City, the style and  
4 life, and that's what we're going to have. So I  
5 think a lot of these concerns about -- You know, the  
6 last time I checked, we had a pretty good  
7 relationship with the guy across the hall, and we're  
8 gong to be working with him on the details. So we'll  
9 work that out.

10 We wanted to make a statement here today  
11 that some of the people like David Greenfield  
12 described who we meet everyday. New Yorkers deal  
13 with people who are undocumented everyday of the  
14 week, whether they realize it or not or want to admit  
15 it or not. They're working in their restaurants, and  
16 their stores and paying taxes themselves. And they  
17 need to be able to live their lives and raise their  
18 family just like the rest of us. So I'm voting for  
19 this bill, and I just wanted my colleagues to know  
20 that I think that, yeah, let's just relax a little  
21 bit. I think some of these fears are unwarranted,  
22 but we're going to work together to make sure that  
23 they're addressed. Thank you.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
25 Crowley.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: Thank you Madam  
3 Public Advocate. If I could have permission to vote  
4 on all calendar items?

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER CROWLEY: I vote aye. I  
7 support the Municipal ID Bill, and like my colleague,  
8 Council Member Weprin said, I, too believe we do live  
9 in the coolest city in the world, and that we should  
10 have the right to have Municipal ID for all New York  
11 City residents. Thank you.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And the last  
13 speaker on the General Order Calendar, Council Member  
14 Torres.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: So, I want to  
16 congratulate the sponsors of Intro 253, Council  
17 Member Danny Dromm and Council Member Carlos  
18 Menchaca, two members whom I deeply admire, and I  
19 consider them among the finest advocates for  
20 immigrants in our city. So the city is lucky to have  
21 the both of you. Just one point. I find the  
22 criticisms about the lack of detail in the bill to be  
23 odd. If we were to craft a bill and micromanaged its  
24 implementation I believe that would be curtailment.  
25 So I think the bill is appropriately flexible and

2 broad, as legislation should be. And I note the  
3 conversation has largely been centered around 253 as  
4 an immigration bill, but so many of the actions in  
5 which we engage require multiple forms of  
6 identification. When I was applying for an  
7 apartment, I had to submit multiple forms -- proofs  
8 of residence. And I feel this would be a convenience  
9 that would benefit everyone not only immigrants in  
10 our city. But the final point is that this  
11 fundamentally a debate about equality. We cannot  
12 claim to be an equal city when there is a part of our  
13 population that does not have equal access to city  
14 services. And when it comes to access to city  
15 services, this bill will bridge a morally untenable  
16 gap between the tale of two cities. So I'm a  
17 wholehearted supporter, and again I want to  
18 congratulate the Speaker and Council Member Menchaca  
19 and Council Member Dromm for making history.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Seeing no other  
21 speakers, on General Orders, Report of Special  
22 Committees.

23 CLERK: None.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Reports of  
25 Standing Committees?

1 STATED MEETING

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2 CLERK: Report of the Committee on  
3 Immigration, Intro 253-A, New York City Identify Card  
4 Program.

5 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: And are getting  
6 coupled on General Order.

7 CLERK: General Order Calendar. LU 62  
8 and Res 0330 through LU 64 and Res 0332 Zoning  
9 Amendment

10 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
11 General Order.

12 CLERK: LU 65 and Res 0333 UDAAP in  
13 Manhattan.

14 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
15 General Order.

16 CLERK: LU 71 and Res 0334 Property Tax  
17 Exemption.

18 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
19 General Order.

20 CLERK: LU 72 and Res 0335 UDAPP  
21 Brooklyn.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled to be  
23 filed pursuant to order of withdrawal.

24 CLERK: LU 75 and RES 0336 UDAAP  
25 Manhattan.



1 STATED MEETING

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2 CLERK: Resolution Appointing various  
3 persons commissioner of deeds.

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Coupled on  
5 General Order, and would now ask for a roll on all  
6 items on the General Order Calendar.

7 CLERK: Arroyo.

8 COUNCIL MEMBER ARROYO:

9 CLERK: Barron.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye, with the  
11 exception of Land Use 88.

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Could you repeat  
13 your vote, Council Member?

14 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Aye on all except  
15 Land Use 88.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
17 You're abstaining on the land use?

18 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Yes.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [interposing]

20 Roll call.

21 CLERK: Cabrera.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER CABRERA: Aye.

23 CLERK: Chin.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: Permission to  
25 explain my vote?

1 STATED MEETING

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER CHIN: First of all, I  
4 want to thank -- say a big thank you to Gail Benjamin  
5 for all her guidance and support, and all the new  
6 work that we did in the last during District 1. And  
7 I also want to congratulate my colleagues, Council  
8 Member Dromm and Menchaca, and our Speaker for the  
9 Municipal ID Legislation, and I also wanted to  
10 welcome a group of my summer interns, Allen Kildare  
11 [phonetic], Abe Zinger, Alice Yang, Christine Well,  
12 Jessica Chang, Juan Wang, Ashula Rouse [phonetic],  
13 Taylor Banning, and Amika Summer. I was very proud  
14 of the summer, but welcome, and I proudly vote aye on  
15 all. Thank you.

16 CLERK: Cohen.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER COHEN: Aye.

18 CLERK: Cornegy.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Aye on all.

20 CLERK: Cumbo.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER CUMBO: Aye.

22 CLERK: Deutsch.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER DEUTSCH: Aye.

24 CLERK: Dickens.

25



2 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: Permission to  
3 explain my vote.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER DICKENS: I want to say  
6 thank you to Gail Benjamin who is probably the  
7 smartest woman, or the smartest person that I have  
8 met when it comes to New York City land use. I'm  
9 going to miss her, and I'm definitely going to miss  
10 the institutional knowledge and information that she  
11 has shared with all of us. I want to congratulate my  
12 colleagues Council Members Dromm and Menchaca and to  
13 the Speaker, and I vote aye on all and may everyone  
14 have a wonderful summer.

15 CLERK: Dromm.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER DROMM: Aye on all

17 CLERK: Espinal.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Permission to  
19 explain my vote.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: Thank you. I  
22 just want to talk about a street renaming happening  
23 in my district. On behalf of Monsignor John Peyton.  
24 He was a pastor in my district for over 25 years, but  
25 he did not only serve the people of his parish. He

2 was a dedicated active community leader in East New  
3 York. He was responsible for many social programs  
4 like soup kitchens, adult literacy classes, and the  
5 youth center. And he is the reason I stand here today  
6 as a City Councilman. Actually, many years ago when  
7 I graduated college, he called me and told me a local  
8 politician was looking for an aid in his office, and  
9 I rose to the opportunity and took that job. He did  
10 pass away three months later. Unfortunately, he did  
11 not get to see me elected, but I just want to say  
12 Monsignor John Peyton rest in peace and thank you for  
13 everything you done for me.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?

15 [Pause]

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER ESPINAL: I vote aye.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

19 CLERK: Eugene.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER EUGENE: Aye.

21 CLERK: Ferreras.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER FERRERAS: [off mic]

23 CLERK: Garodnick.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER GAROLDNICK: Aye.

25 CLERK: Gentile.

1 STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Aye.

3 CLERK: Gibson.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Permission to  
5 explain my vote.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you, Madam  
8 Public Advocate. I want to speak on one of the  
9 street renamings in Intro 388. It is the renaming of  
10 the Nelson Avenue between 167 and 168 in the  
11 Highbridge Community. After Bishop Wenzell P.  
12 Jackson, who was a good friend of mine, a father  
13 figure. And he was the Chair of the Bronx Community  
14 Board 4, the Vice Chair of the 44th Precinct Council.  
15 He was Chair and Founder of the Highbridge Clergy  
16 Coalition, and he was Senior Pastor of the Mount  
17 Herman Baptist Church. He left a mark on our  
18 community. He was also a part of a group that  
19 founded the first middle school in the Highbridge  
20 community that has a green roof. And we are so  
21 excited that last September that opened to 400 middle  
22 school students. He was someone who stood so tall  
23 for equality and just for so many people, and I am so  
24 honored to still be a friend to the Mount Herman  
25 Family, his wife of 24 years, First Lady Tamal

2 Jackson, and the entire Mount Herman Baptist Family.

3 I'm so honored to be a member of this Council to

4 introduce this bill to rename a street so that

5 forever we remember Bishop Wendell Jackson.

6 And in addition, I would just like to

7 offer my strong support for Intro 253, the New York

8 City Municipal ID Program. Certainly this is a wise

9 investment to ensure that all New Yorkers have access

10 to obtain an identification card and access to these

11 services like libraries and museums, banking

12 institutions, and many other critical human services.

13 Many of my residents in the Bronx will significantly

14 benefit from this. I believe this is a great step of

15 progress in the right direction to address many of

16 the challenges facing many New Yorkers.

17 I also urge my colleagues as we work in

18 full implementation and rollout to focus on education

19 and communication. This is the largest city in the

20 nation, and we want to make sure we do this right and

21 serve as a model for others. I want to thank my

22 distinguished colleagues Council Members Dromm and

23 Menchaca for their leadership as well as our Speaker,

24 and I will be voting aye on all.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

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2 CLERK: Greenfield.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you.

4 May I explain my vote, please?

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: Thank you.

7 I'm very excited today about the co-naming that I  
8 will put in for Rabbi Michoel Ber Weissmandl to rename  
9 a portion of 50th Street between 14th and 15th Avenue  
10 in honor of his memory. Rabbi Weissmandl was born in  
11 Hungary in a very small town. He lived his life as a  
12 prominent Rabbi, and then when the Nazis came he  
13 dedicated his life to saving lives. He created a  
14 working group. He went from country to country, and  
15 did everything that they could. They pled, the  
16 bribed, they threatened, and together they literally  
17 saved hundreds of thousands of lives.

18 It was his plan, in fact, which was the  
19 plan that would have had the United States on the  
20 railways to Auschwitz. It made its way to the  
21 President's desk. Unfortunately, the President did  
22 not see fit to do so. He reached folks like FDR and  
23 Winston Churchill and Pope Pius, and the Archbishop  
24 of Canterbury. He was an unassuming man. He was  
25 actually on the trains himself to a death camp, and he

2 managed to escape by breaking a lock open with a wire  
3 that he had hidden in a loaf of bread. Unfortunately,  
4 his family was surrounded and they did not manage to  
5 escape. His family had died. When he came to the United  
6 States of America, there are reports that he would walk  
7 around banging his head on the wall at the inability to  
8 save his own family while saving others.

9 But he realized that he had to move on. He  
10 remarried. He built a family. He created many  
11 congregations, and the renown Shiva called the Knights  
12 for Shiva [sic]. And, in fact, one of those  
13 congregations is currently on 50th Street between 14th  
14 and 15th Avenue, which will be renamed in his honor.

15 In my final seconds, I just want to once  
16 again acknowledge and thank Gail Benjamin for her  
17 outstanding leadership and work service, three decades of  
18 being the Land Use guru for not just the New York City  
19 Council, but for the City of New York. She is a person  
20 of great integrity and her and her knowledge will be  
21 sorely missed. Thank you very much.

22 PRESIDENT JAMES: How do you vote?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER GREENFIELD: I'm going to  
24 go with aye.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

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2 CLERK: Johnson.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Permission to  
4 explain my vote.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER JOHNSON: Thank you Madam  
7 Public Advocate for the opportunity to share my  
8 support today for Clinton Urban Renewal Area Site 7,  
9 Land Use Item 62 to 65. This project will bring two  
10 new buildings, approximately 508 units, 184 to be  
11 affordable. That is 39% affordability, 39%  
12 affordable housing. And it will come with units from  
13 80% to 100% to 130% of area meeting an income; 165%.  
14 It is a true mixed-income development. Every unit  
15 regardless of the market are affordable. They have  
16 the same fixtures, the same finishes so that none of  
17 the units are different throughout these buildings.

18 It achieves 82% of distribution so that  
19 affordable units are not segregated on certain floors  
20 in these buildings. This project will support three  
21 new community gardens, 7,000 square feet of new open  
22 space. It's going to join network gardens, in-house  
23 kitchen operated by the Clinton Housing Land Trust.  
24 I'm grateful to Taconic Whitterman [phonetic]  
25 Developer for a \$200,000 contribution to this land

2 trust to support Dawiccaland [phonetic] Park, an  
3 important park in the district. This development  
4 should set a new standard for how developers look at  
5 the community and the city to achieve high rates of  
6 distribution and permanent affordability.

7 Thank you again for letting me comment,  
8 and I want to just finish by saying this was one of  
9 the, I think final things that Gail Benjamin really  
10 put her mark on, worked on, worked with my office on,  
11 worked with all of the advocates and the community  
12 board on. I spent 8-1/2 years on a community board  
13 on the West Side of Manhattan. I chaired a land use  
14 committee. Gail Benjamin is invaluable. It is a  
15 real loss for the Council, and I'm excited for her,  
16 and I just give my deepest gratitude and thank for  
17 her tremendous service to the City Council and City  
18 of New York. Thank you very much.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you. Quiet  
20 in the Chambers, please.

21 CLERK: Kallos.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: Permission to  
23 explain my vote?

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.



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2 COUNCIL MEMBER KALLOS: I would like to  
3 take a brief moment to acknowledge that Taylor Digby.  
4 She's my Senior Fellow and Director of Human  
5 Services. I want to thank her for her service, and I  
6 also want to take a moment to thank Gail Benjamin for  
7 her decades for service to the people of the City of  
8 New York and I vote aye on all.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

10 CLERK: King.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: King.

12 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: I will vote aye on  
13 all, and I just wanted to thank my new intern Sabrina  
14 Guzman [phonetic] joining us for the first time in  
15 the Council Chambers.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

17 CLERK: Koo.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER KOO: I vote aye on all,  
19 and I also want to wish Gail Benjamin a happy  
20 retirement, and I want to wish everyone that you have  
21 a good summer. Thank you.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Lancman.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER LANCMAN: Aye on all.

25 CLERK: Lander.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: I vote aye.

3 CLERK: Levin.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Permission to  
5 explain my vote.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: Thank you, Madam  
8 Public Advocate. My colleagues I want to thank and  
9 acknowledge Council Members Dromm and Menchaca for  
10 their work in passing this bill, and for crafting  
11 this bill for Municipal ID because it is going to  
12 have a great benefit to countless New Yorkers and  
13 change people's lives, and change our city. And it  
14 shows that we as New York can be the progressive  
15 leaders that we know that we are in this country. I  
16 want to take a moment to thank Council Member Brad  
17 Lander on working to establish Jon Kest Way on Nevins  
18 Street between Flatbush and Livingston. We are  
19 honored to be able to do this in honor of a  
20 tremendous and compassionate individual.

21 Jon Kest is a great inspiration to many  
22 of us, and I'd like to think that one important part  
23 of Jon's legacy is where we all are today here in New  
24 York City in this Council and working with Mayor de  
25 Blasio on -- and rally working for the people of New

2 York City. And working for working people, and  
3 making sure that we have a fair city, and a city that  
4 lives up to our ideals. And Jon was such a big part  
5 of that, and this is -- I like to think that the work  
6 that we're doing today, is really part of his legacy.

7 And lastly, I want to acknowledge the  
8 great work of Gail Benjamin, and all the great things  
9 that she's done for me personally both in my role as  
10 a Council Member and my role as the former Chair of  
11 the Subcommittee of Dispositions and Concessions.  
12 Gail was always there for me to offer wise and sage  
13 advice, and to tell me when I was doing things wrong,  
14 and tell me when I was doing things right. And I  
15 will miss her very much. Thank you, Gail.

16 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: How do you vote?

17 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVIN: I vote aye on all.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

19 CLERK: Levine.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: Thank you. I  
21 want to say a word about Land Use Item 87, which is  
22 in my district on 106th Street between Columbus and  
23 Amsterdam. This would actually down zone, lower the  
24 height and density allowable on this block bringing  
25 it in line with a previous down zoning of a broader

2 neighborhood of the Northern Upper West Side. Until  
3 six months ago, this area was in the district of then  
4 Council Member Melissa Mark-Viverito. And I want to  
5 acknowledge that she worked tirelessly, and  
6 effectively for more than four years to navigate what  
7 was a very complicated political and economic and  
8 community issue. And I'm happy to be building on her  
9 work today in the Council.

10 I also want to say a word about a Land  
11 Use Item up for consideration in my district, which  
12 would rename the corner of 121st Street and Broadway  
13 in honor of the great George Carlin who grew up on  
14 that block. He was not only a world famous  
15 entertainer, actor, and comic, but he was also a  
16 groundbreaking and influential voice for the  
17 principle of expression in the arts. And that's why  
18 I'm so pleased that we're going to be honoring him in  
19 this important way. And I want to acknowledge local  
20 activist Kevin Bartini [sp?], who has worked for  
21 years to build a coalition unlike any other I've seen  
22 organization for a street naming. And deserves a  
23 world of credit on bringing us to this day. Thank  
24 you.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: And your vote.

2 COUNCIL MEMBER LEVINE: And I'll be  
3 proudly voting aye on all.

4 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

5 CLERK: Maisel.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER MAISEL: I'm going to  
7 abstain on Intro 253-A and aye on the rest.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

9 CLERK: Matteo.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER MATTEO: No, on Intro 253-  
11 A. Aye on the rest.

12 PRESIDENT JAMES: Thank you.

13 CLERK: Mealy.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER MEALY: [off mic]

15 CLERK: Menchaca.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Permission to  
17 explain my vote.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

19 COUNCIL MEMBER MENCHACA: Thank you,  
20 Public Advocate, and I really want to thank my  
21 colleagues today for many of these conversations  
22 we've been having for weeks and months. And so I  
23 continue to encourage you to engage both Council  
24 Member Dromm and I as we move forward to really  
25 perfect what we think is an incredible opportunity

2 for this city. Thank you for all those that are in  
3 support of this, and I really want to dedicate this  
4 vote to the entire coalition of organizations that  
5 have been fighting for this and more. As we continue  
6 to move through our legislative victories in this  
7 Council, that coalition has been strong. They have  
8 been meeting with us day in and day out at all hours  
9 of the day. And so to them, I dedicate this vote.  
10 [Speaking Spanish] I vote aye on all.

11 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

12 CLERK: Mendez.

13 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: Permission to  
14 explain my vote.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER MENDEZ: So first, I want  
17 to start off by saying while we're ending this  
18 legislative session now in June, we're also coming to  
19 the end of Gay Pride Month. I want to wish everyone  
20 a happy pride, and ask everyone to march with us on  
21 Sunday on the parade. And we have the largest LGBT  
22 delegation in this Council now with six members, and  
23 we'd be proud to have all the other member march with  
24 us on Sunday. And I speak about this also to talk  
25 about the Municipal ID bill. It just does not help.

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I mean it helps immigrants, but it also helps the LGBT community. Today, here, my Brian Allicotte [phonetic] is sitting up there. And this would allow him to get his ID, and to self identify as the man that we know that he is. And, that will be a very good moment for all of us. And for so many of the transgenders who have been going through this problem, and want to self-identify and have the identification adequately say who they are and what they feel. So I proudly vote aye on this bill, and thank my colleagues Danny Dromm and Carlos Menchaca for bringing this bill to the floor. And I also want to say my kudos to Gail Benjamin. She has been an incredible for here. I met here in 2000, and she's been a friend and ally and helped me through lots of land use issues. I will miss you. And I also to thank the Controller Scott Stringer. I understand he signed checks in the Central Park Five. We can make that part of history, and put that behind us. Thank you very much, and I vote aye on all. [applause, cheers]

CLERK: Miller.

COUNCIL MEMBER MILLER: I would listen to-- I would also like to echo the sentiments of

2 Gail Benjamin leaving. She's been stalwart, and very  
3 helpful during my brief period of time here in the  
4 Council, and she will be sorely missed. I also want  
5 to talk about the -- I want to thank the Speaker for  
6 her leadership, and the other leaders within the  
7 Council here for making my transition here, my first  
8 year a smooth and successful year. I thank you very  
9 much for that. I would also like to thank my team --  
10 Team Miller for the work that they have done.  
11 Obviously, Joe Goldblum, Ali Dasumanejad [phonetic]  
12 and my interns Jay and Jim, and I'm leaving someone  
13 out and that would be Sammy Henson, and I vote aye on  
14 all. Thank you.

15 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

16 CLERK: Reynoso.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: Permission to  
18 explain my vote.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

20 COUNCIL MEMBER REYNOSO: I'd like to just  
21 say that I'm extremely grateful for today living in  
22 the greatest city in the world where we actually get  
23 things done unlike our counterparts in the federal  
24 government and in the state at times. When we live  
25 in a country where in some places it's easier to get



2 a gun than it is to get an ID, I think we're doing it  
3 the wrong way. I call on my Republican colleagues to  
4 co-lead or co-sponsor a resolution to call on  
5 immigration reform in the federal government. I hope  
6 that they can sponsor with me. And I want to  
7 congratulate Council Member Danny Dromm for the great  
8 work that he's done in leading this push for the last  
9 five years. And to the first Mexican-American  
10 elected to office in this state. You truly are a  
11 super star, and you're my brother, and, of course, I  
12 proudly vote aye. [Speaking Spanish] [laughter]

13 CLERK: Richards.

14 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: Aye on all.

15 CLERK: Rose.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: Aye.

17 CLERK: Rosenthal.

18 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: Permission to  
19 explain my vote in Spanish.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: All right,  
22 here it goes.

23 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Here it goes.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: And --

25

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: You only have  
3 three minutes.

4 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSENTHAL: [Speaking  
5 Spanish] [applause, cheers] My district and I are  
6 very much looking forward to applying for a Municipal  
7 ID.

8 CLERK: Torres.

9 COUNCIL MEMBER TORRES: Wow, Helen, you  
10 speak better Spanish than I do. I want to commend  
11 Gail Benjamin actually. When I joined the Land Use  
12 Committee hearing, I pointed out that Gail was two  
13 when she started her career in her City Council. I  
14 was two when she started. So someone is getting old.  
15 I'm getting old. But I was two when Gail began her  
16 career in the City Council, and I admire the length  
17 and the quality of your service here, and it's an  
18 example for all of us. And I thank you for  
19 everything you have done. The city has benefitted  
20 from your institutional memory and this body as well.  
21 And I, too, look forward to the moment when I get a  
22 Municipal ID. I proudly vote aye.

23 CLERK: Treyger.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: Permission to  
25 explain my vote.

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER TREYGER: When I was a  
4 teacher, there was a learning environment survey that  
5 we asked parents to return. And the number one group  
6 that we had difficulties with getting them back were  
7 immigrants because-- And I think Council Member  
8 Dromm could agree with that, and others here as well.  
9 And the fear was about who will see this information?  
10 Where does it go? And this would count against  
11 schools not getting a high number of them returned.  
12 And I had to go to the painstaking effort of making  
13 phone calls, meeting with parents to ensure them that  
14 this information would not be used in any way against  
15 them. There was nothing on there that could be used  
16 against them, anyway. I truly commend and have much  
17 respect for my colleagues, Council Member Menchaca,  
18 Council Member Dromm. I believe that this is an  
19 absolute. The concept is phenomenal. I believe that  
20 we need a New York City card. We need a discount  
21 card to the culturals, and I can see great potential  
22 in this.

23 But the concerns raised by Council Member  
24 Maisel are the ones I share as well. For two years,  
25 information will be stored in the database, and in

2 two years we'll probably have a new president. And I  
3 am concerned that we might be inadvertently  
4 unintentionally creating a database that a future  
5 president that might not be as friendly to immigrants  
6 as our current one is. To look to this to be a  
7 database tool to shift through to harass and  
8 intimidate immigrant communities. And that is why I  
9 look forward to working with my Council colleagues  
10 and the Administration to make sure that we correct  
11 this potentially fatal flaw.

12 Because immigrants -- those colleagues  
13 raised the concerns that-- security concerns that  
14 potential criminals could abuse. Immigrants are not  
15 criminals. They are the fabric of our city, of our  
16 nation. They built this country. But I feel  
17 compelled today to abstain until we resolve this  
18 potentially fatal flaw that could be used to  
19 potentially hurt our immigrant brothers and sisters.  
20 So I'm going to abstain on Intro 253-A, and I vote  
21 aye on the rest. Thank you.

22 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

23 CLERK: Ulrich.

24 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Permission to  
25 explain my vote.

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2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes, sir.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Madam Public

4 Advocate, I have the utmost respect for my two  
5 friends and colleagues who are the prime sponsors of  
6 Intro 253-A, and I share their passion, and their  
7 commitment to fighting for comprehensive immigration  
8 reform because I believe it is desperately needed.  
9 And as it was said previously, I think that  
10 Washington has failed not only our city, but our  
11 country--

12 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Excuse me Council  
13 Member. Can we have quiet in the Chambers, please.

14 SERGEANT-AT-ARMS: Quiet in the Chambers,  
15 please.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: --in not passing  
17 comprehensive immigration reform at the federal  
18 level. But I want to identify myself with the  
19 comments made by my colleague Council Member  
20 Garodnick, and also to a larger extent, Council  
21 Member Maisel. I fear that the immigrants that I  
22 represent, and the immigrants in our city because of  
23 this bill and because of the Municipal ID Card  
24 potentially could be lulled into a false sense of  
25 security. And that one day when the political tides

2 turn, because it is a pendulum that swings both ways,  
3 that immigrants might be targeted because we are  
4 collecting this information from them.

5 I'm also disappointed because I had  
6 expressed a willingness to support this measure and  
7 this bill, and I wanted to see other components  
8 included in the final measure including as the  
9 Minority Leader mentioned a veteran component. The  
10 fact that we allow veterans to identify themselves on  
11 a New York State driver's license or a New York State  
12 identification card, and we're not doing that here is  
13 a disservice to our veterans. It's also  
14 disrespectful to our veterans. The fact that an  
15 undocumented person in our city can get a Muni ID  
16 card and get a discounted at the museum, but a  
17 veteran and an American citizen has to pay full price  
18 if they don't have that identification because quite  
19 frankly they think that they don't need one is also a  
20 disservice to those individuals. So I hate to say  
21 that I let the perfect be the enemy of the good here,  
22 but that is, in fact, the case. So I am respectfully  
23 voting no on Intro 253-A and aye on the rest. Thank  
24 you.

25 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.

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2 CLERK: Weprin.

3 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Madam, I'd like  
4 to explain my vote in Korean.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Please.

6 COUNCIL MEMBER WEPRIN: Okay, I don't  
7 speak Korean. Otherwise, I would like to, though.  
8 [laughter] No, just briefly. I would be remiss if I  
9 didn't mention Gail Benjamin also. Gail is the most  
10 knowledgeable person I've met in government. It's a  
11 lot of people I'm putting her in the class with, and  
12 she is someone we are going to miss tremendously  
13 because she has a historical perspective that no one  
14 else does, and is knowledgeable on so many aspects of  
15 this. And I said the other day that one of the  
16 things that is so great about her is that she never  
17 acts like she's better than you are, she just is  
18 better than you are, [laughter] and I think that's  
19 true. So that in mind [Speaks Korean] and I vote  
20 aye.

21 CLERK: Williams.

22 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Madam, please  
23 excuse my vote.

24 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

25

2 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you.

3 First, I do want to say thank you to our Mayor and  
4 our Speaker, who are the fabulous teacher, [sic] for  
5 providing leadership on this in making the Municipal  
6 IDs an issue that was a priority. And, of course,  
7 congratulations to Council Members Dromm and Menchaca  
8 for this landmark legislation. I, too, like many of  
9 my colleagues have some big concerns about how much  
10 is left after this bill is passed. I know that we  
11 can't. We can't legislate every eventuality. But I  
12 wish there were more public statements on three  
13 categories: The weighting of what you have to submit  
14 to provide who you are area, that the NYPD is going  
15 to do with the data, which I know hopefully we'll be  
16 seeing quarterly.

17 And most importantly, the incentives that  
18 will be made so that people like me and others, who  
19 want to get one, will get one. I think that a lot of  
20 these things could have been worked out a little more  
21 before it was brought to the floor. But it wasn't,  
22 and today I'm forced into what is basically a kind of  
23 binary choice that has to be made. And so, for my  
24 parents who came here as immigrants and now are  
25 citizens, but for my brother who is blood who could



2 not go to his mother's funeral because he was  
3 undocumented. I'm going to vote to support what I  
4 believe is the authorization to create this ID on  
5 faith that we will correct a lot of the issues, and  
6 really make sure that this is not dangerous those who  
7 are actually getting it.

8 Because if we don't, I believe that we  
9 will be endangering some people. And if we don't fix  
10 those three categories and make it plain, I believe  
11 we will not be doing what we achieved to do. And I  
12 will be one of the people leading the charge to  
13 retract this, and make sure that it doesn't go any  
14 further. So I am concerned about these things, but  
15 again, I'm going to vote aye with the hope that the  
16 final product when it comes out will have addressed  
17 these things. So, I'd like to vote aye on all with  
18 the exception of L Use -- Land Use 88, and I want to  
19 say congratulations to Gail Benjamin.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Thank you.  
21 Council Member, on Land Use 88, you're voting no or  
22 you're abstaining on Land Use 88?

23 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Sorry. I'm  
24 abstaining.

25 CLERK: Ignizio.

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER IGNIZIO: I would just  
3 like to vote no on 253-A and aye on all others, and I  
4 wish Gail Benjamin, a woman I've known for 17 years,  
5 a great retirement. When I first came in, Gail  
6 taught me the ropes like she taught so many of us,  
7 and always helped us. I had more hair. It was  
8 blacker. She looks just as beautiful, and I'm sure  
9 she's going to enjoy her retirement. I wish her  
10 well, and to all my colleagues who effectively are  
11 going on recess, I wish you a very good summer. And  
12 I see that staff is really happy that we're getting  
13 out of town. I just want to be honest with  
14 everybody. Thank you all and have a good summer  
15 until I see you a couple of weeks.

16 CLERK: Van Bramer.

17 COUNCIL MEMBER VAN BRAMER: Aye on all.

18 CLERK: Speaker Mark-Viverito.

19 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: [off mic]

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: As we await the  
21 results, let's congratulate Council Member Richards  
22 on his upcoming marriage, and Gail Brewer on his  
23 retirement. All items--

24

25

1 STATED MEETING

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2 COUNCIL MEMBER RICHARDS: I've been --  
3 wait, wait, wait, wait. I've been married three  
4 years. No controversy here.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs] Miller.  
6 I'm sorry. Miller. I'm sorry.

7 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Oddo is getting  
8 married?

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: [laughs] All  
10 items on today's General Order Calendar were adopted  
11 by a vote of 48 in the affirmative, zero negative,  
12 and zero abstentions with the exception of Intro 253-  
13 A, which was adopted by a vote of 43 in affirmative,  
14 three in the negative, two abstentions. Land Use  
15 Call-ups -- Land Use, LU 88 and Res 0342, which was  
16 adopted by a vote of 46 in the affirmative, zero  
17 negative, two abstentions. Congratulations Council  
18 Member Miller. Closing remarks from Speaker Melissa  
19 Mark-Viverito.

20 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you again,  
21 Madam Public Advocate. Again, this is a really -- I  
22 think Council Member Inez Barron had something to  
23 say.

24 [Pause]

25

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
3 Inez --

4 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: General  
5 discussion.

6 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Yes.

7 Introduction and Reading of Bills. Discussion of the  
8 Resolutions. None. Resolutions: None. General  
9 Discussion: Council Member Gibson.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GIBSON: Thank you very  
11 much, Madam Public Advocate. Let me take a quick  
12 opportunity. Earlier when we voted on the budget, I  
13 neglected to acknowledge several people.  
14 Unfortunately, my speech was cut short, colleagues.  
15 I'm sorry for that. But I do want to thank again--  
16 This has been exciting journey for me as someone who  
17 worked in Albany for many years starting out as an  
18 intern and now coming to this body and working some  
19 incredible public servants. It's been an honor, and  
20 a true blessing. And I want to thank our Mayor Bill  
21 de Blasio, and our Speaker, and the entire Finance  
22 Team that I recognized yesterday. But I also want to  
23 recognize Latanya McKinney [phonetic], as well as  
24 Tanisha Edwards, and my folks Ellen Ang, Regina Ryan,  
25 and Isha Wright for all of their work. And I do this

2 as a team. I cannot forget my incredible Budget  
3 Director Martin Munoz, who is here with me everyday,  
4 as well as my Communications Director, Jamie Gilkey  
5 [phonetic]. It has truly been a pleasure working  
6 day-to-day with all of you, and now as we embark on  
7 this summer season, I want to wish each and every one  
8 of you a wonderful and blessed summer season. And to  
9 Gail Benjamim, who has made an incredible mark on  
10 this Council. Gail, you have been a footprint in the  
11 City Council, and you are irreplaceable, and we truly  
12 thank you for your dedication, your integrity, your  
13 commitment, your character, and your investment in  
14 the City of New York. We're going to miss you. But  
15 we're going to follow in your foot steps, and  
16 continue to create sound development in his City of  
17 New York that provides equity for all of our New  
18 Yorkers. And with that, I want to thank everyone  
19 again for just allowing me to be a part of this City  
20 Council family. I've really, really appreciated each  
21 and everyone of you, my brothers and sisters. Thank  
22 you so much. God bless you all, and congratulations  
23 again to Council Members Menchaca and Dromm on this  
24 monumental legislation. Thank you again.

2 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Quiet. Quiet in  
3 the Chambers, please. Council Member Barron.

4 SERGEANT-AT-ARM: Quiet, please.

5 COUNCIL MEMBER BARRON: Thank you, Madam  
6 Public Advocate. I'll be brief. I just want to say  
7 that last night as I commended this body for  
8 presenting a budget that for the first time had an  
9 equitable distribution of the funds that we were able  
10 to allocate. I forget to commend the Finance Team,  
11 my staff, and my interns as well for helping guide me  
12 through the process. And I forgot to acknowledge the  
13 trailblazers who talked about reform in the City  
14 Council. So I want to make sure that it goes on the  
15 record that first to my City Council that was headed  
16 by Council Member Charles Barren, Allen Jennings, and  
17 a group of about 20 other Council members. Thank  
18 them for their leadership in that regard.

19 I want to add my comments of appreciation  
20 and thanks to Gail Benjamin as she goes forward in  
21 her retirement. To the sponsors of the immigration  
22 card, I want to commend you. And I want to say this  
23 is a card that will also benefit people who need  
24 services such as you and senior and homeless. So we  
25 want to appreciate the fact that they're working in

2 that regard. And as has already been mentioned,  
3 thank you. Last night, I talked about the fact that  
4 the Comptroller was dragging his feet. As has been  
5 said, he has signed that settlement, and there will  
6 be a press conference on the steps of City Hall  
7 tomorrow at 1:00, and you are all invited to be  
8 there. Thank you.

9 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
10 King.

11 COUNCIL MEMBER KING: Thank you. The  
12 DLAC 15-minute meeting inside the Committee Room, and  
13 happy summer to everyone. Thank you.

14 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
15 Williams.

16 COUNCIL MEMBER WILLIAMS: Thank you. I,  
17 just, too, wanted to make sure I make mention on the  
18 record. I thank all those who worked to help Central  
19 Park Five get this settlement. I thank the Mayor for  
20 pushing it through, and thank you, for the  
21 Comptroller Scott Stringer for signing it.  
22 Hopefully, we can get this chapter behind us. I know  
23 what happened to the young lady was a travesty. I  
24 also remember what I felt like as a young Black male  
25 in this city during that time, opening papers and

2 seeing people like me being called wolf packs and  
3 wilding. And so, I would say hopefully we can move  
4 this chapter behind us. And I do want to ask Mr.  
5 Donald Trump, if you're not going to apologize for  
6 your stupidity 25 years ago, please shut up now.  
7 Thank you.

8 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
9 Gentile.

10 COUNCIL MEMBER GENTILE: Just quickly.  
11 Illegal building conversions are just that, illegal.  
12 So I ask you to look and review Intro 393. It is a  
13 bill that I'm introducing that would allow DOB to  
14 issue violations for illegal conversions based on  
15 observable evidence. Like rebuttable presumption,  
16 but observable evidence. So please review, and co-  
17 sponsor Intro 393.

18 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
19 Cumbo.

20 [Pause]

21 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
22 Cornegy.

23 COUNCIL MEMBER CORNEGY: Thank you, Madam  
24 Public Advocate. I just wanted to invite my  
25 colleagues out this Saturday to my district. We will



2 be celebrating the 25th anniversary of Spike Les's Do  
3 the Right Thing with a huge block party and street  
4 co-naming, which actually had to go through the  
5 Mayor's Office. I didn't realize that through the  
6 City Council you can't co-name an event, but a  
7 person. So please join me from 12:00 to 6:00 on  
8 Stuyvesant between Quincy and Lexington to celebrate  
9 the 25th Anniversary of Do the Right Thing.

10 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
11 Rose.

12 [background comment]

13 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
14 Rose.

15 COUNCIL MEMBER ROSE: I just want to say  
16 to Gail Benjamin, thank you for helping us get the  
17 biggest thing that happened to Staten Island, the Big  
18 Wheel, and I wish you all the best. Thank you.

19 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
20 Lander.

21 COUNCIL MEMBER LANDER: Well, I do want  
22 to congratulate Council Member Levine on George  
23 Carlin Way. I do want to object that his speech in  
24 nomination was wholly inadequate and insufficiently  
25 offensive. And I just want to officially record that

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2 we miss Jimmy Oddo, who I believe is the only council  
3 member in my tenure who could have respectfully paid  
4 sufficient tribute to George Carlin.

5 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Council Member  
6 Ulrich.

7 COUNCIL MEMBER ULRICH: Very quick, Madam  
8 Public Advocate. I should have brought this up  
9 during the introduction of bills, but Council Member  
10 Treyger and I are introducing a bill to create a  
11 Hurricane Sandy monitor to help the city oversee all  
12 the federal, the billions of dollars in federal aid  
13 that we are receiving in federal disaster aid.  
14 Essentially, it's an IG, but it's not called an IG.  
15 We have to call it monitor. It will be under the  
16 Department of Investigation. It's Intro 406, and I'm  
17 encouraging all of my colleagues who are still here,  
18 all 12 or 13 of us to please co-sponsor this piece of  
19 legislation.

20 PUBLIC ADVOCATE JAMES: Speaker Melissa  
21 Mark-Viverito to close.

22 SPEAKER MARK-VIVERITO: Thank you Madam  
23 Public Advocate. Again, thank all my colleagues for  
24 a great first part of the session. It's been  
25 wonderful. We still meet in the summer, but not as

1           STATED MEETING

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2   often. I hope everyone has an enjoyable time with  
3   their family, and time off. And again, it's really  
4   been great working alongside all of you and the staff  
5   has been awesome as well. So with that, it's about 4  
6   o'clock, and have a good one everybody. [applause,  
7   cheers]

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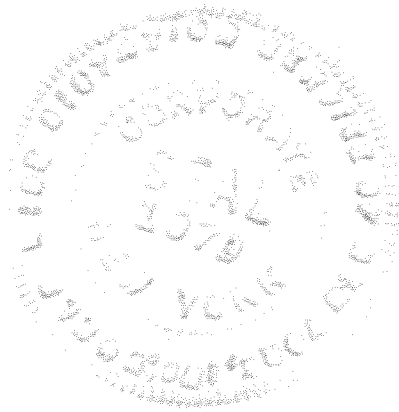
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C E R T I F I C A T E

World Wide Dictation certifies that the foregoing transcript is a true and accurate record of the proceedings. We further certify that there is no relation to any of the parties to this action by blood or marriage, and that there is interest in the outcome of this matter.



Date June 29, 2014

# EXHIBIT

# G



NEW YORK STATE  
DEPARTMENT *of*  
FINANCIAL SERVICES

---

Andrew M. Cuomo  
Governor

Maria T. Vullo  
Superintendent

September 1, 2016

Michael P. Smith  
President and CEO  
New York Bankers Association  
99 Park Avenue, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
New York, NY 10016

William Mellin  
President  
New York Credit Union Association  
P.O. Box 15118  
Albany, NY 12212

Dear Mr. Smith and Mr. Mellin:

This letter provides guidance by the Department of Financial Services (the "Department") on whether the New York City Municipal Identification Card ("Municipal ID") can be used by banks and credit unions to verify the identity of prospective customers under New York's customer identification program ("CIP") requirements for customers who seek to open bank accounts.

The Department is committed to ensuring broad access to financial products and services for all consumers and recognizes the Municipal ID as one method to expand access to financial services in New York. For individuals, access to bank and credit union accounts helps preserve income, leads to savings and asset-building opportunities, and improves access to affordable credit opportunities. Indeed, access to banking services can improve the overall economic well-being of all New Yorkers and the New York economy.

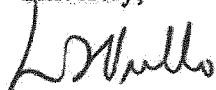
The Department is aware that the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency (collectively, the "Federal Agencies") have previously provided

guidance on this issue in a letter dated April 30, 2015.<sup>1</sup> The federal CIP rule requires banks to have CIPs for account opening that use risk-based procedures for verifying the identity of each customer so that the bank can form a reasonable belief that it knows the true identity of the customer. The minimum information a bank must obtain is the prospective customer's name, date of birth, address and an identification number.<sup>2</sup>

The CIP rule does not prescribe a specific type of government-issued identification card for use by institutions. Institutions that rely on documentary forms of evidence to verify a customer's identity should have procedures in place to identify the types of documents the institution will accept for such verification. Accordingly, it is the Department's position that institutions may accept the Municipal ID as a means of documentary verification as provided in the institutions' CIP procedures.

The Department encourages New York state-chartered and licensed financial institutions to accept the Municipal ID as a form of acceptable identification card, utilizing procedures applied to all potential customers to assess the risk presented by the customer and any need for additional documentation or information.

Sincerely,



Maria T. Vullo  
Superintendent

---

<sup>1</sup> See Federal Agencies' response letter (April 30, 2015). The Federal Agencies also concluded that the identification number included on all Municipal IDs satisfies the non-U.S. person identification number requirement contained in the federal CIP rules.

<sup>2</sup> 31 C.F.R. 1020.220; see 3 NYCRR Part 116.2

# EXHIBIT

# H





RONALD CASTORINA, JR.  
Assemblyman 62<sup>nd</sup> District

THE ASSEMBLY  
STATE OF NEW YORK  
ALBANY

Ranking SENIORITY MEMBER  
Committee on Cities

COMMITTEES

Banks  
Housing  
Labor  
Tourism, Parks, Arts and  
Sports Development

**BY REGULAR US MAIL**

October 20, 2016

Hon. Maria T. Vullo, Superintendent  
New York State Department of Financial Services  
One State Street  
New York, NY 10004

RE: New York City Municipal Identification Card

Dear Superintendent Vullo:

I write concerning your letter dated September 1, 2016, to the New York Bankers Association, and the New York Credit Association encouraging the banking community to accept New York City Municipal Identification Cards as adequate proof for opening a bank account. This form of identification is not like any other government identification that our banking institutions have relied upon in the past. In fact, the much less stringent standard of proof required to obtain an NYC Municipal ID Card is a great cause for concern, especially when utilized for financial services.

NYC Municipal ID Cards are not linked to a person's Social Security number and do not stringently vet the information presented as other government identification cards do. In fact, the NYC Municipal ID Card program allows for "stay at a homeless shelter for a period of fifteen (15) days" constituting adequate points toward proof of a person's residence.<sup>1</sup> One can envision the ease by which a terrorist or other criminal could easily obtain this form of identification to perpetrate criminal activity. I believe that you are opening the floodgates to the prospect of fraud, money laundering, and security breaches, all of which affect New Yorkers and our fellow Americans in a dangerous way.

Federal agencies<sup>2</sup> issued guidelines in 2015 requiring banks to have customer identification requirements. These guidelines require, at a minimum, a person seeking to open a financial account present a person's date of birth, address, and an identification number before a banking institution open an account generally, accomplished by presenting a valid driver's license. These guidelines were

<sup>1</sup> <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/idsnyc/card/documentation.page>

<sup>2</sup> Federal agencies referenced in your Municipal ID Letter include: Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation, the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network, and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency.

promulgated to prevent fraud, and to foster greater security measures against those who seek to do us harm, domestically and abroad.

Your actions unilaterally, without any advice or review from the legislature or the public, instruct New York's banks to accept NYC IDs to access financial services in New York State. Your two-page Municipal ID Letter artfully released just before Labor Day Weekend, cites no authority giving you, alone, this power. It cites no legal analysis supporting your opinion. It does not speak to combatting fraud associated with obtaining the NYC ID. Your letter fails even to make mention of the very real Home Land Security Risks associated with using NYC IDs to access New York's financial service products. In short, your direction to New York's banking community lacks appropriate due diligence for the enormity of the action you undertook.

Your actions, in my opinion, attempt to circumvent the Legislature, and the people. In 2008 we learned, the hard way, what happens when fraud permeates our financial services system. We are only as strong as our weakest requirement. In recent weeks the integrity of the NYC ID program came into serious question.

I, therefore, respectfully request the following: 1) you rescind the opinions expressed in The Municipal ID Letter; 2) allow the people to voice their opinions regarding this matter in New York through the legislative process, and 3) you present a thorough and thoughtful legal analysis, to the legislature for consideration.

Very truly yours,



Ronald Castorina, Jr.  
Member of the Assembly, 62<sup>nd</sup> District

# EXHIBIT

## I

Home Video Politics U.S. Opinion Business Entertainment Tech Science Health Travel Lifestyle World On Air

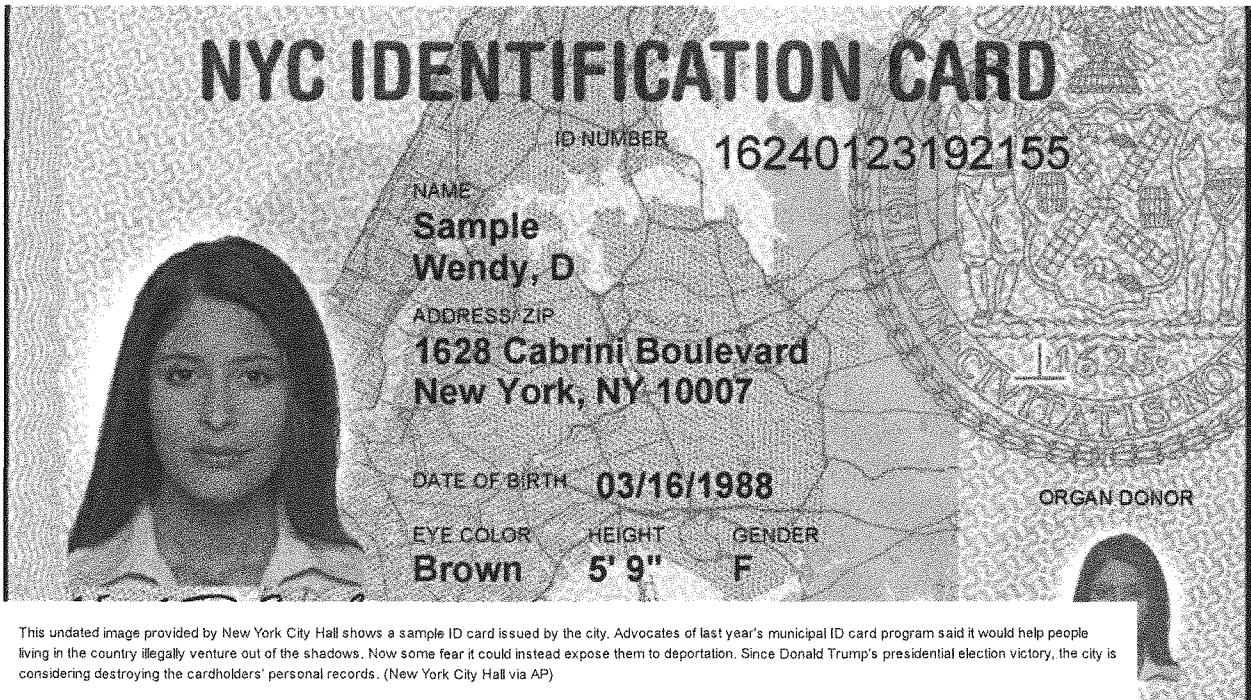
U.S. HOME CRIME TERRORISM ECONOMY IMMIGRATION DISASTERS MILITARY EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT PERSONAL FREEDOMS REGIONS

ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS

## New York City may erase ID card data to protect illegal immigrants

Published November 15, 2016

Associated Press



This undated image provided by New York City Hall shows a sample ID card issued by the city. Advocates of last year's municipal ID card program said it would help people living in the country illegally venture out of the shadows. Now some fear it could instead expose them to deportation. Since Donald Trump's presidential election victory, the city is considering destroying the cardholders' personal records. (New York City Hall via AP)

**NEW YORK** – When New York City launched the nation's biggest municipal ID card program last year, advocates said it would help people living in the U.S. illegally to venture out of the shadows.

ADVERTISEMENT

But since Donald Trump was elected president, city officials are instead fielding questions about whether the cards could put those same people at greater risk of being deported.

The city has vowed to protect cardholders' personal records and might even delete them using a kind of self-destruct provision that allows for the information to be destroyed at the end of the year.

At least one state lawmaker has criticized that idea, saying it could make it impossible to trace people if they have obtained cards fraudulently.

Some immigrants take comfort in the city's stance, while acknowledging they are still wary.

Alberto Saldivia got his "IDNYC" card this year after spending 15 years in the country without legal authorization.

"It did cause me considerable concern, because they have my information, also the information of my son," the 53-year-old Mexico native said through an interpreter.

But he felt reassured when Mayor Bill de Blasio said last week that the city would "absolutely" safeguard cardholders' identities. De Blasio, a Democrat, said officials would assess whether to delete the personal records, a provision that was built into the program partly over concerns about the possible election of a Republican president such as Trump, whose campaign promises included a vow to deport millions of people in the U.S. illegally.

Municipal ID programs began in 2007 in New Haven, Conn., and have expanded to about 10 cities, including Los Angeles and San Francisco. New York's program is the most ambitious, with more than 800,000 cardholders, many of them U.S. citizens or legal residents.

Officials encouraged everyone in the city to sign up, but the program was aimed at those without other forms of ID, including homeless people and, especially, the estimated 500,000 immigrants living illegally in the city. The ID would help them do such everyday things as cash a check or attend a parent-teacher conference at a public school, advocates said.

The program quickly proved popular, with New Yorkers waiting hours in line and months for appointments to register early on. Pope Francis received a ceremonial one during his visit to the city last year, and United Nations Secretary General Ban Ki-moon said the card would make him "a real New Yorker."

But civil liberties advocates sounded alarms about the city collecting identity documents that immigration authorities or law enforcement could request, with a judge's approval.

The program's backers included language that allows for destroying the applicants' identity and residency information at the end of 2016 if administrators do not move to keep them.

"Protecting it from a possible Republican president was just one of the reasons" for the provision, said City Councilman Carlos Menchaca, who wrote the law that created the program.

A critic of the program said deleting the records would only compound concerns about it.

"It's completely irresponsible to destroy the documentation of people who applied for a government-issued ID card," said state Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis, a Republican.

She said the proof-of-identity requirements may not be stringent enough to prevent fraud, and deleting the records would leave authorities "no way of knowing who these people are, how they obtained this documentation."

Some immigrants and their advocates remain hopeful that the IDs won't backfire. The extent of the program should thwart using it to target immigrants here illegally, since they represent only some of the cardholders, said Javier Valdes of Make the Road New York, an advocacy group that pushed for the program.

Juan Rosas Carrera plans to keep his appointment this weekend to get an IDNYC card, despite a friend's warning that it could be risky to give authorities his name and address. Rosas Carrera, a Mexican national and construction worker, has been living in the U.S. illegally for 17 years.

Still, he wants an ID card to open a bank account and feels it's worth the worry.

"I feel safe in New York. I also think that if you don't have a criminal record, nothing bad will really happen," said Rosas Carrera, 48. "But I am a bit worried about Trump."

## Trending in U.S.

- 1 **Why Trump was right to talk with Taiwan's president**
- 2 **I'm a Democrat and I'm ashamed at how tone deaf we've become**

# EXHIBIT

J

## Malliotakis, Castorina ask city not to destroy IDNYC docs



Assembly members Nicole Malliotakis and Ron Castorina Jr. speak against the IDNYC program in St. George on Monday, Nov. 28, 2016. (Rachel Shapiro/Staten Island Advance)



By [Rachel Shapiro | rshapiro@siadvance.com](mailto:rshapiro@siadvance.com)

[Email the author](#) | [Follow on Twitter](#)

on November 28, 2016 at 4:19 PM, updated December 02, 2016 at 7:05 AM

STATEN ISLAND, N.Y. - If city officials destroy documents collected from illegal immigrants who apply for municipal ID cards, they are creating a "slippery slope" and putting national security at risk, say Assembly members Nicole Malliotakis and Ron Castorina Jr., who are calling on officials to hold off.

The Republican Malliotakis **has opposed the IDNYC program** since its creation, as it exists primarily to provide undocumented immigrants with photo IDs, something that will help them come out of the shadows, proponents argue.

Her newly-elected colleague, Castorina, also objects to giving government-issued IDs to those in the country illegally, specifically **citing his opposition to allowing banks to accept the ID.**

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inRead invented by Teads

On Monday, the two Assembly Republicans spoke outside the Staten Island Business Center on St. Mark's Place in St. George, where city residents can obtain the ID cards.

They argue that the documents required to obtain an ID card are not solid proof of identification and residency in the city. The city doesn't consider legal status when determining whether to issue an ID card.

With Donald Trump's election, the liberal-leaning mayor and City Council are in favor of destroying the ID documents for fear they could be used to locate undocumented immigrants in the city and deport them.

Initially saying on the campaign trail that he hoped to deport the 11 million people in the country illegally, Trump has walked that back to deporting only those who commit crimes.

The city included a provision when it created the municipal ID program to destroy all personal records it collected if a "Tea Party Republican" wins the White House.

It was done for "political reasons" Malliotakis said. "That in itself is concerning."

She noted the 9/11 Commission Report, which states that many of the hijackers used fraudulent documents to obtain IDs.

"That's the concern we have today," she said.

If a person with a city municipal ID card uses it for nefarious reasons, investigators would need access to the documents given to the city. If they're destroyed, that could hinder justice, Malliotakis argued.

"It was a mistake to create this program and more of a mistake to destroy documents," she said.

While people applying for the ID must have three **points to confirm their identities** -- like U.S. or foreign passports, U.S. or foreign driver's licenses and U.S. or foreign birth certificates -- but they only need one to confirm their city residency.

That could be a utility bill, a bank statement or a letter from the city Housing Authority if the applicant lives in public housing.

Malliotakis often notes that one needs only to reside in a homeless shelter for 15 days before being considered a city resident, and a letter from the shelter management fulfills the requirement for one proof of residency.

IDNYC can't be used to obtain a driver's license, board an airplane, cross international borders or rent a car.

Castorina called the ID program an "unmitigated disaster" and "an issue of national security."

Castorina, a lawyer and former commissioner for the city Board of Elections, is researching whether destroying the documents is illegal -- if it is, he'll bring legal action against the city.

"We should not be issuing identification cards to people who are not here legally," he said.



He suspects that in many cases, fraudulent documents are used to obtain the IDs.

Those IDs may be used to get other IDs.

The term "slippery slope" was used several times by both Assembly members.

As for handing over documents to the federal government should it ask for it, "the City of New York has an obligation to follow the law," Castorina said. "The city is not above the federal government."

A City Hall spokesperson challenged the Assembly members' assertions that the ID program is lax and unsafe.

"The safety of New Yorkers is City Hall's top priority, and that includes the nearly 40 percent of city residents who are foreign born. We rely on law enforcement professionals from the NYPD to set the bar for security, and IDNYC consistently meets this high standard. Claims that IDNYC is being used by those intending serious harm is reckless fear-mongering - the IDNYC application process is similar to DMVs across the country, highly trained staff use state of the art technology to identify instances of fraud, and IDNYC cannot be used to obtain a driver's license, board a plane, or cross a border. Over 900,000 New Yorkers have IDNYC, and we are committed to protecting the privacy and security of our data. The City will make a decision regarding record retention in the near future."

*The story was updated to include a comment from the mayor's office.*

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# EXHIBIT

# K

## City Council Speaker to GOP: 'Go Ahead and Sue Us' Over Proposed Immigrant Record Purge

By [Madina Toure](#) • 11/29/16 6:25pm



Surrounded by Council colleagues, Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito lauds the IDNYC program at a 2015 event. IDNYC

Council Speaker Melissa Mark-Viverito offered a curt retort today to two Staten Island Republicans preparing legal action against the city over its plan to flush municipal identification records and to shield undocumented immigrants from President-elect Donald Trump: “go ahead and sue us.”

A legislative trap door in the bill that created the IDNYC program almost two years ago enables the city to trash the data files on its applicants, many of whom are foreign nationals lacking other forms of government paperwork, should a nativist president assume office. Assemblyman Ronald Castorina and Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis contended yesterday that this option, if Mayor Bill de Blasio utilizes it as proposed, could make it harder for federal law enforcement to track potential terrorists and criminals.

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The two GOP lawmakers said they gearing up to take the city to court to force it to retain the documents.

“Go ahead and sue us,” Mark-Viverito, a fierce advocate for both IDNYC and the undocumented, spat out when the Observer asked about the potential suit at an unrelated press conference at City Hall today.

The speaker, a prominent surrogate for Hillary Clinton, has attacked Trump repeatedly on Twitter and vowed that New York City will remain a sanctuary city in spite of Republican threats of economic sanctions. She echoed the mayor today in pledging that the city will do whatever is necessary to protect the program and its applicants from federal incursions.

“There’s a law in place and the law is very explicit about how information is to be handled,” Mark-Viverito said during the City Council’s monthly pre-stated meeting. “We are looking at exploring those options and so we are gonna exercise whatever rights we have as the city. They want to raise the funds and they want to sue the city, they have every right to do so if that’s what they choose to do.”

And Malliotakis, for her part, caught wind of Mark-Viverito’s comments. She delivered an equally terse response.

“Arrogant,” she tweeted. “I guess as long as taxpayers will be footing the bill to defend her shady policies in court, it’s ok.”

The de Blasio administration, along with Mark-Viverito and advocates, has argued that IDNYC enables undocumented immigrants to partake in simple, run-of-the-mill activities that require proof of identification, such as opening a bank account. And while the mayor is still encouraging people to sign up for IDNYC, Mark-Viverito isn’t ready to do the same.

She said the city is reviewing its legal options.

“I have not taken that position,” she added. “Obviously we are very concerned about the [issue] now—between now and the end of the year and now and January 20—so we’re very clearly engaged in a conversation as I’ve indicated before about one, the data is secure right now and we’re going to retain a confidentiality.”

A City Hall spokesperson told the Observer yesterday that its staff carefully verify personal information used to obtain the municipal identifications, and that an IDNYC cannot be used to get a driver’s license, board a plane or cross a

border. The spokesperson also said the city relies on the NYPD to “set the bar for security.”

*This story has been updated to include a comment from Assemblywoman Nicole Malliotakis.*

*Disclosure: Donald Trump is the father-in-law of Jared Kushner, the publisher of Observer Media.*

NYC Council Speaker:  
Trump Security Costs  
Are 'Unsustainable'  
CBS Local



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# EXHIBIT

# L



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This form resides at <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/about/foil-request.page>

NAME of FIELDS	DATA
<b>First Name:</b>	Ronald
<b>Last Name:</b>	Castorina Jr
<b>Address:</b>	7001 Amboy Road Suite 202 E
<b>City:</b>	Staten Island
<b>State:</b>	NY
<b>ZIP Code:</b>	10307
<b>Email:</b>	roncastorina@gmail.com
<b>Phone:</b>	718-967-5194
<b>Request:</b>	I request delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York Citys Municipal ID program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayors Office in digital format.

# EXHIBIT

# M

### Thank You For Filling Out This Form

Shown below is your submission to **NYC.gov** on Friday, December 2, 2016 at 16:51:06

This form resides at <http://www1.nyc.gov/site/hra/about/foil-request.page>

NAME of FIELDS	DATA
<b>First Name:</b>	Nicole
<b>Last Name:</b>	Malliotakis
<b>Address:</b>	11 Maplewood Place
<b>City:</b>	Staten Island
<b>State:</b>	NY
<b>ZIP Code:</b>	10306
<b>Email:</b>	nysassembly60@gmail.com
<b>Phone:</b>	718-987-0197
<b>Request:</b>	I request delivery, to my office address listed above, all scanned application materials associated with IDNYC (also known as New York Citys MunicipallD program) program maintained by HRA and any other City Agency including the Mayors Office in digital format.

SUPREME COURT  
STATE OF NEW YORK, COUNTY OF RICHMOND

Index No.

Year

In the Matter of RONALD CASTORINA, JR and NICOLD MALLIOTAKIS

Petitioners/Plaintiffs

-against-

BILL DE BLASIO, in his official capacity as MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, THE OFFICE OF THE MAYOR OF THE CITY OF NEW YORK, MELISSA MARK-VIVERITO, in her official capacity as the SPEAKER OF THE NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL, STEVEN BANKS, COMMISSIONER OF THE NEW YORK CITY HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, in his official capacity, MATTHEW BRUNE, CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER OF THE NEW YORK CITY HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, in his official capacity, and RICARDO BROWN, EXECUTIVE DEPUTY COMMISSIONER, MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEMS, HUMAN RESOURCES ADMINISTRATION/DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES, in his official capacity,

Respondents/Defendants,

For a Judgment Pursuant to Article 78 of the Civil Practice Law and Rules.

AFFIRMATION OF JEFFREY ALFANO IN SUPPORT

LAW OFFICE OF JEFFREY ALFANO

Attorney(s) for Petitioners/Plaintiffs  
Office and Post Office Address, Telephone

1000 SOUTH AVENUE, SUITE 104  
STATEN ISLAND, NY 10314  
718-701-1441

To

Signature (Rule 130-1.1-a)

Print name beneath

Service of a copy of the within is hereby admitted.

Attorney(s) for

Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

PLEASE TAKE NOTICE:

NOTICE OF ENTRY

that the within is a (certified) true copy of a  
duly entered in the office of the clerk of the within named court on

NOTICE OF SETTLEMENT

that an order  
will be presented for settlement to the HON.  
within named Court, at

of which the within is a true copy  
one of the judges of the

on

at

M.

Dated,

Yours, etc.

LAW OFFICE OF JEFFREY ALFANO