

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL
Greenways to Reform



New York League of Conservation Voters
 Education Fund

NEW YORK LEAGUE OF CONSERVATION VOTERS
EDUCATION FUND

29 Broadway, Suite 1100

New York, NY 10006

P: 212-361-6350

F: 212-361-6363

e-mail: info@nylcv.org

www.nylcv.org

AUTHORS

Craig Wilson, *Director of New York City Policy and Advocacy*

Katharine Stahnke, *Legal Intern*

Marcia Bystryn, *Executive Director*

DESIGN

Suzanne Doig

Table of Contents



3

THE ROLE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

3

THE CITY COUNCIL: Committee Structure, City Council Procedures, Transparency, Environmental Productivity

4

Committee Structure

5

City Council Procedures
A Case Study: How A Bill Becomes Law...or Stalls...

7

Transparency

8

Environmental Productivity

9

IMPROVING THE CITY COUNCIL'S LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

10

9 GREENWAYS TO REFORM

11

APPENDIX

THE ROLE OF THE CITY COUNCIL

The New York City Council is the lawmaking body of the City of New York. Comprised of 51 members throughout the five boroughs, the Council legislates on a wide range of issues, monitors the operation and performance of city agencies, makes land use decisions, and is responsible for negotiating and approving the City's budget.



The City Council is an important counterweight to the mayor and the City Administration, overseeing agency performance, ensuring implementation of legislation, and providing a check on executive action. This is particularly important for environmental issues that frequently cut across agency jurisdictions. If an administration is not focused on environmental issues or is daunted by the task of advancing a multiagency effort, the Council needs to have the capacity to advance the agenda. Local Law 19, which created the City's recycling program, and Local Law 6, which required the City to purchase significantly cleaner vehicles, are prime examples of the Council's importance.

This report analyzes changes in the City Council's Committee Structure, Procedures, and Transparency over the past eight years and relates those changes to the Council's Environmental Productivity. Nine "Greenways" to reform the City Council's rules are then suggested that will improve the quality of the City's environment.

In order for the Council to function in this capacity, its speaker must be strong and effective. However, vigorous debate and the ability of individual Council members to advance their legislative agendas are also essential to the body's vitality. Balancing these needs is the challenge.

THE CITY COUNCIL: Committee Structure, City Council Procedures, Transparency, Environmental Productivity

Gifford Miller was unanimously elected on January 9, 2002 as Speaker of the New York City Council. Miller is the first Speaker elected under the term-limits law, which was twice approved by voters. In the time period leading up to the election, a group of 21 newly elected Council members banded together to form the Fresh Democracy Council, which called for changes in City Council rules and procedures in order to better empower individual members.

Under Speaker Miller, the City Council made eight reforms to their operating rules, which were designed to address the Fresh Democracy Council's goals and provide greater transparency in the Council's operations. Some of these reforms have served the public well, such as the City Council's online legislative tracking system. But others have only changed the written rules of the institution and not its culture. For example, there is a provision to allow Council members to force a vote on legislation stalled before a committee, but it has never been exercised.

The more critical question, however, is whether these changes have resulted in an environmentally effective Council. This report analyzes changes in the City Council's Committee Structure, Procedures, and Transparency over the past eight years and relates those changes to the Council's Environmental Productivity. Nine "Greenways" to reform the City Council's rules are then suggested.

COMMITTEE STRUCTURE

At the beginning of his term in 2002, Speaker Miller expanded the number of City Council committees from 31 to 43. Of the 12 new committees, 2 — the Waterfront Committee and the Sanitation and Solid Waste Management Committee — consider environmental legislation. The creation of these committees has benefited the environment as legislation on these important issues can be heard by more specialized committees, whose members have come to understand their complexity. The additional committees also help to ease scheduling as there are now more opportunities for hearings.

Similarly pertinent committees formed before 2002 include Environmental Protection (the committee most frequently charged with hearing proposed environmental legislation), Contracts, Health, Transportation, Parks, and Housing and Buildings. Examples of environmental legislation heard by these committees include:

- AIR QUALITY LEGISLATION — *Environmental Protection Committee*
- ENVIRONMENTAL PURCHASING LEGISLATION — *Contracts Committee*
- GREEN BUILDINGS LEGISLATION — *Housing and Buildings Committee*
- PESTICIDE LEGISLATION — *Health Committee*
- ADOPT-A-PARK LEGISLATION — *Parks Committee*
- SOLID WASTE AND RECYCLING LEGISLATION — *Sanitation and Solid Waste Committee*
- FUEL EFFICIENT HYBRID TAXI LEGISLATION — *Transportation Committee*
- WATERFRONT INVENTORY — *Waterfront Committee*

Committee chairs are appointed by the Speaker. Chairmanships are coveted because they increase the committee member's power and visibility and include a stipend. Chairs can stop legislation from proceeding through their committee by refusing to hold a hearing. However, it is the Speaker who determines which committee will hear a particular bill and how quickly the committee staff will guide the bill through the hearing process. Although the rules of the Council state that, "The senior staff person assigned to each committee shall be designated by the chairperson of such committee," committee staff is hired by, funded by, and reports to the Speaker.

The committee calendar, which establishes when the City Council will consider or vote on legislation, is also determined by the Speaker. As a consequence, committee chairs can only conduct a hearing and consider legislation with the Speaker's approval. Additionally, committee chairs must have the approval of the Speaker in order to hold the vote that is necessary to pass legislation out of their committee and on to the full Council. These practices result in a highly centralized power structure and can delay the progress of important environmental legislation.

CITY COUNCIL PROCEDURES

The City Council typically meets twice a month. At this meeting, known as the "Stated," the Council votes on legislation or resolutions that have passed out of 1 of the 43 committees. In order to be voted on, a bill must be placed on Council members' desks in City Hall eight days prior to a vote. During these eight days, referred to as the "aging" period, the bill may not be amended.

While this may seem like a prudent practice, Council members typically only go to their City Hall desks for Stated City Council or committee meetings. The Speaker's office has recently begun to e-mail an agenda to Council members in advance of the Stated meeting, but this practice should be expanded to include the text of the aging bills. Furthermore, this policy should be memorialized in the Council rules.

A Case Study: How a Bill Becomes Law...or Stalls...

In order for a bill to become law, it must be heard and voted on by a committee and then by the full Council. Scheduling for the hearing, committee meeting, and full Council vote are all controlled by the Speaker.

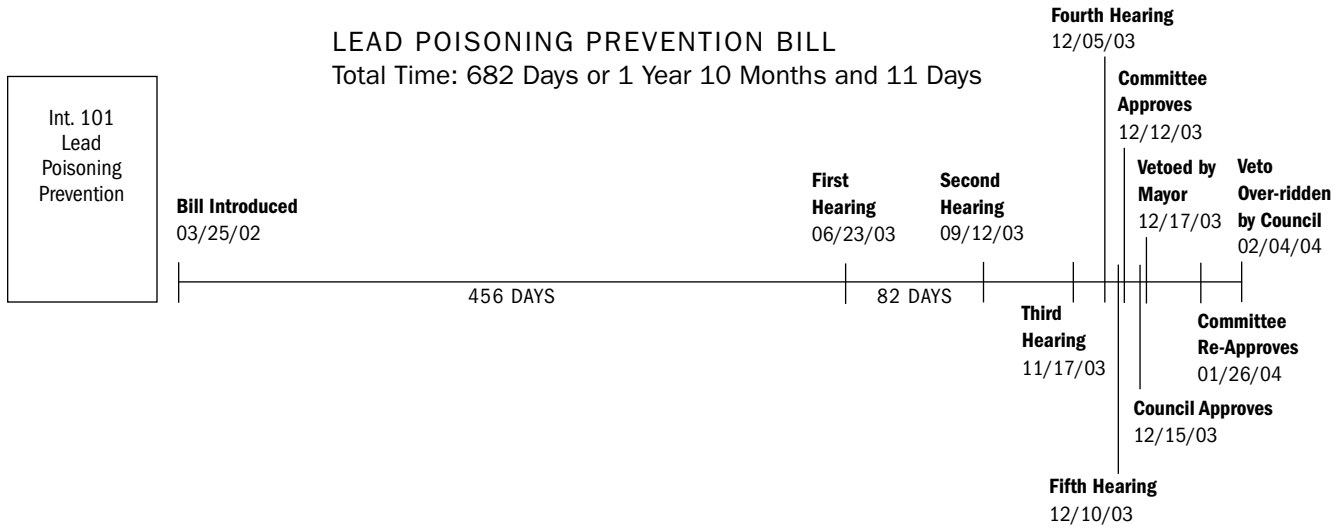
Under Speaker Miller's term as leader of the City Council, many important pieces of environmental health legislation moved through the City Council. A comparison of the progress of two pieces of legislation, one to prevent lead poisoning and the other to reduce emissions from City-owned vehicles, illustrates the Speaker's nearly complete control over the legislative process and the manner in which he can use that control to advance or stall legislation.

CASE #1

Introduction 101, a bill designed to strengthen the City's rules regarding lead paint and dust in homes, day care centers, schools, and playgrounds, was introduced in the Council on March 25, 2002. This bill replaced Local Law 38 of 1999, which environmental and health advocacy groups contended inadequately protected children. It was struck down by New York's highest court on July 1, 2003.

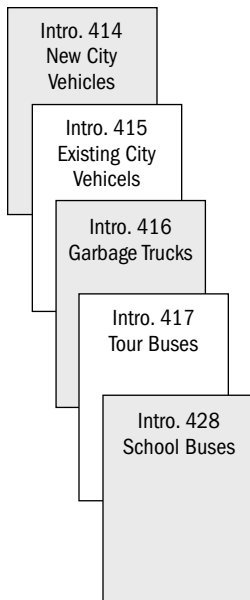
Although this bill was cosponsored by a majority of Council members, it took until June 23, 2003, or 456 days, for the bill to receive its first hearing. At this time, an environmental and public health coalition mounted a campaign, resulting in frequent newspaper articles and public attention focused on the legislation. Still, the bill's second hearing did not occur for 82 days (September 12, 2003). However, in the 35

days that followed before the third hearing on November 13, 2003, the Speaker endorsed the bill, and the legislative process rapidly progressed. With the Speaker on board, two more hearings were held within 23 days (December 5 and December 10, 2003) and the Council approved the bill on December 15, 2003, less than a month after it gained Speaker Miller's support. On February 4, 2004, the Council overrode the Mayor's veto and Intro. 101 became Local Law #1.



CASE #2

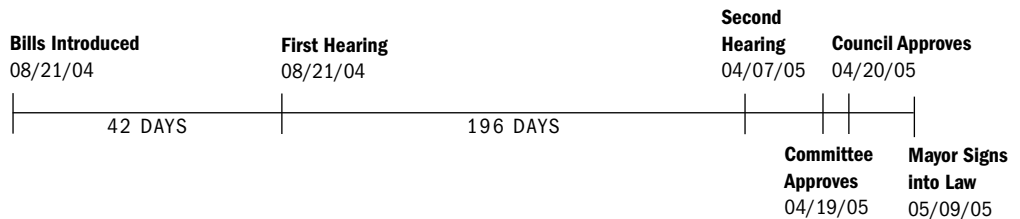
Recognizing New York City's poor air quality and the harm posed by vehicle emissions, the City Council passed Local Law 6 in 1991. This law required the City to purchase cleaner vehicles and set forth many benchmarks that were ambitious at the time. However, to continue to improve the City's environment, this law needed to be modernized. Speaker Miller and several Council members recognized this need and introduced five pieces of legislation on August 21, 2004.



The five bills, designed to further the reduction of emissions from a wide variety of City-owned or City-contracted vehicles, were heard 42 days after their introduction on September 23, 2004. Their second and final hearing was held 196 days later on April 4, 2005 and the Council approved all five bills 13 days later. On May 9, 2005, the Mayor signed these bills into law. In total, the process took 262 days, or six months and 18 days, less than it took for Intro. 101 to be granted its first hearing.

CLEAN AIR EMISSIONS BILLS

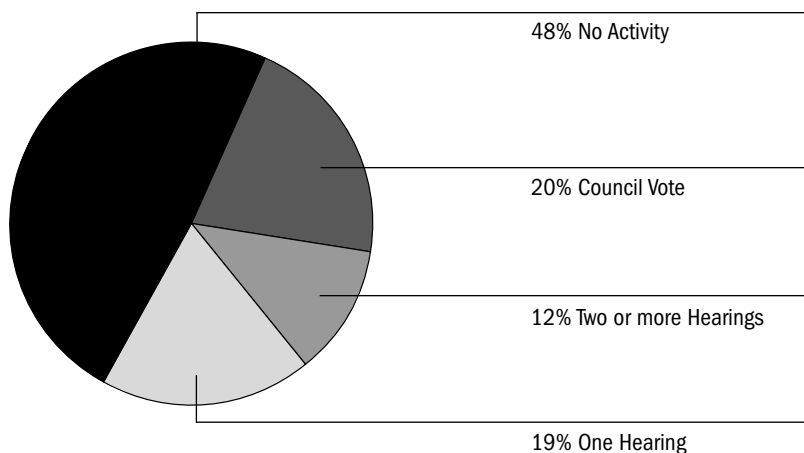
Total Time: 262 Days or 8 Months and 19 Days



Legislation Seen, But Not Heard

The chart below shows that 50% of environmental legislation introduced into the Council between 1998 and 2005 never had a first hearing. Either important legislation went unheard or staff and Council resources were wasted on frivolous legislation. The Council member may have used the legislation as a means to obtain media coverage — a common practice in the City Council — or the bills may not have had the Speaker's support. Either explanation underlines the point that a guaranteed and reasonable timeframe by which legislation can have a first hearing does not exist.

ENVIRONMENTAL INTRO.'S 1998-2005



Legislation Heard, Legislation Approved

The analysis of legislation over the past eight years documents that each time a committee voted on environmental legislation it was approved. Additionally, the full Council only once overturned environmental legislation passed out of a committee. It is clear that bills are passed out of committee only after the legislation has the approval of the Speaker.

TRANSPARENCY

New York City residents need to be able to hold their elected representatives in the City Council accountable for their actions. In order to do so, the Council must provide them with the necessary information.

In 2002, the Fresh Democracy Council successfully advocated for several common sense proposals, such as posting City Council votes online. While progress was made, more needs to be done to make the workings of the Council transparent. Currently, only oral testimony is available as part of City Council hearing transcripts and they are only accessible through the City Council Clerk's office. Additionally, mayoral activities and City Council proceedings are currently aired on cable television (Channel 74) days, weeks, or sometimes months after they occur.

The City’s budget, at over \$50 billion and over 700 pages in length, is one of the most important City documents. While much attention is given to the Council’s role in forming the City’s annual budget, little attention is paid to the City Council

“member item” process. Member items are discretionary allocations from the City’s budget to particular organizations or groups made at the request of a Council member.



A popular Government, without popular information, or the means of acquiring it, is but a prologue to a farce or a tragedy; or, perhaps both. Knowledge will forever govern ignorance; and a people who mean to be their own governors must arm themselves with the power which knowledge gives.

FORMER U.S. PRESIDENT JAMES MADISON, 1822

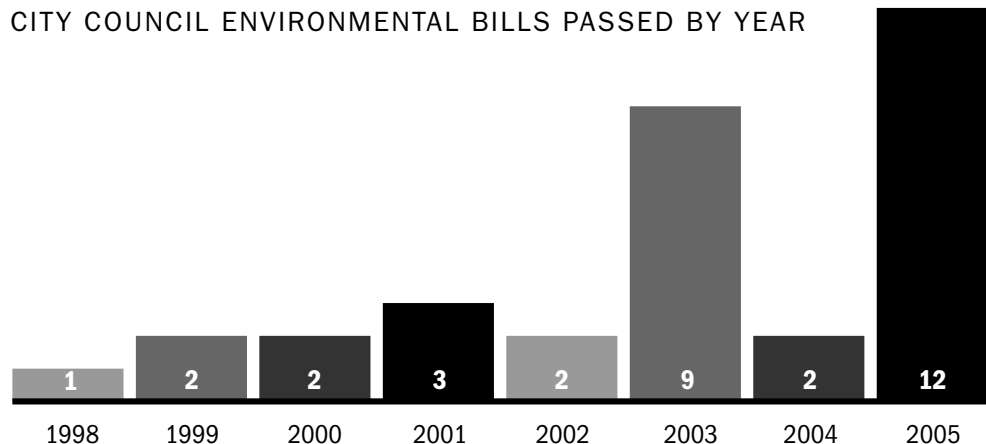
Which member items requests are funded and which are not is controlled by the Speaker. City Council members submit their requests to the Speaker for organizations or projects in their district. Whether Council members’ requests are granted is determined in large part by their political standing. As a result, member item requests have become an important tool for the Speaker in controlling individual Council members’ actions.

ENVIRONMENTAL PRODUCTIVITY

An analysis of City Council initiatives related to the environment from 1998 through 2005 reveals that the number of environmental bills passed by the Council is largely a function of the willingness of the Speaker of the City Council to move this legislation forward. Under the final term of Speaker Peter F. Vallone (1998–2001) 7 environmental bills passed the Council. Under Speaker Miller’s leadership (2002–2005) the Council passed 26 pieces of environmental legislation. The reason is fairly simple – environmental legislation has been a priority for Speaker Miller and his key staff.

The challenge is to ensure that there are mechanisms to advance environmental legislation when the Speaker is not an advocate for the environment. Through the series of recommendations offered in this report, individual Council members will be empowered, the public will have the information to hold their Council members accountable, and, ultimately, the environmental productivity of the Council will be improved.

CITY COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL BILLS PASSED BY YEAR



IMPROVING THE CITY COUNCIL'S LEGISLATIVE PROCESS

In order to increase the productivity and transparency of the City Council, changes need to be made in the Council's structure and procedures. The reforms outlined below detail significant reforms the Council can implement at the beginning of the new Council session in January 2006.

The first set of reforms concern committee structure and are designed to allow the committees' chairs to play a stronger role in the legislative process. The second set of reforms deal with procedures and are designed to ensure that Council members are properly informed and to provide a guaranteed and reasonable timeframe by which legislation can have a first hearing. The final set of reforms addresses the issue of transparency so that the public may hold their elected officials properly accountable.

These reforms are intended to improve the rate at which environmental legislation progresses through the Council by opening up the process and providing the public with a greater understanding of the actions of the Council. With increased awareness, the public will demand and ultimately be rewarded with greater action.

Committee Structure

1 RECOMMENDATION #1
Empower committee chairs to have an equitable role in the hiring of committee personnel and their time management.

2 RECOMMENDATION #2
Permit committee chairpersons to determine their committee's schedule.

3 RECOMMENDATION #3
Permit committee chairpersons to determine when to hold votes in their committee.

Procedures

4 RECOMMENDATION #4
Allow Council members to trigger a committee hearing for legislation they introduced if a bill goes unheard for 60 days.

5 RECOMMENDATION #5
Require the Speaker to prepare an agenda for each upcoming Stated City Council meeting and distribute the agenda one week in advance. The agenda should be complete with legislation to be voted on and distributed directly to the offices of each Council member and posted online.

Transparency

6 RECOMMENDATION #6
Establish a formal and open process for organizations to submit funding requests and publish a clear listing of all projects and organizations receiving funding by Council district, complete with dollar amounts, on the City Council website.

7 RECOMMENDATION #7
Transcripts of City Council hearings and Stated meetings should be posted online and otherwise be made easily available to the public.

8 RECOMMENDATION #8
All written testimony in support of and opposed to legislation should be posted online.

9 RECOMMENDATION #9
Mayoral activities and City Council proceedings should be aired live, catalogued, and available online. Additionally, Channel 74's coverage should be expanded to include civic and public policy programming — creating a local version of C-Span. Programming should also include live and rebroadcast Council sessions, Council press conferences, and environmental forums and conferences.

Appendix

NEW YORK CITY COUNCIL ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATIVE ACTIVITY 1998–2005

The four possible outcomes in any given year for each piece of environmental legislation, known in the City Council as an Introduction or Intro., are:

- **NO ACTIVITY:** *Legislation introduced to the Council, but not heard by a committee or the full Council.*
- **ONE HEARING:** *Legislation heard once by a committee with no subsequent activity*
- **TWO OR MORE HEARINGS:** *Legislation heard at least twice by a committee with no subsequent activity*
- **COUNCIL VOTE:** *Legislation approved by a committee and voted on by the full City Council*

Any pending legislation that has not passed the City Council at the conclusion of a legislative session is considered “dead.” This legislation is often reintroduced in the next City Council session. A “*” indicates the first version of an Intro. that was subsequently reintroduced and “**” indicates the reintroduced version of preexisting legislation.

The data used for this report is current as of November 29, 2005. The bill title listed after an Intro.’s number is the bill title given by the City Council. A date listed after an Intro.’s description reflects the date the Intro. was voted on by the City Council unless otherwise noted. For further details regarding any of the bills listed below please visit the New York City Council website at <http://www.nycouncil.info>.

1998

NO ACTIVITY (17)

- Intro. 55-1998 Fuel additives, city-owned vehicles
- Intro. 56-1998* Printing inks from vegetable oils –
Reintroduced as Intro. 69-2002
- Intro. 83-1998 Solid waste, new private moratorium
- Intro. 176-1998* Right-to-know law reporting requirements
– Reintroduced as Intro. 122-2002
- Intro. 181-1998 Fuel seizure, sulfur content
- Intro. 182-1998* Right-to-know law fees – Reintroduced as
Intro. 124-2002
- Intro. 183-1998 Asbestos control
- Intro. 184-1998* Recyclable biodegradable packaging
– Reintroduced as Intro. 106-2002
- Intro. 185-1998* Tree protection - Reintroduced twice as Intro.
103-2002 and 239-2004
- Intro. 205-1998 Lead poisoning prevention, children
- Intro. 213-1998 Fresh Kills Landfill environmental plan
- Intro. 230-1998 Fresh Kill Landfill limitations
- Intro. 251-1998* Recycled Oil, City Vehicles – Reintroduced as
Intro. 109-2002
- Intro. 257-1998 Fresh Kill Landfill environmental plan
preparation
- Intro. 293-1998 Scrap tires

- Intro. 299-1998 Disposable service articles prohibited
- Intro. 340-1998 Perchloroethylene dry cleaning equipment,
removal

ONE HEARING (2)

- Intro. 193-1998* Hazardous substance database -
Reintroduced as Intro. 47-2002
- Intro. 482-1998* Products made from recycled materials,
purchase- Reintroduced as Intro. 29-2002

TWO OR MORE HEARINGS (0)

None

COUNCIL VOTE (2)

- Intro. 282-1998 Solid waste management plan - voted on
11/29/2000
- Intro. 463-1998 Recycling, weekly collections - 12/09/1998

Note: The following Intro.'s were voted on by the Council, but were not enacted into law.

- Intro. 281-1998 Solid Waste Management Plan
– 11/29/2000- “Filed by Council” after
Council, never sent to Mayor
- Intro. 347-1998 Recycling, Weekly Collections – 10/22/1998
– Voted on and approved by the Council, sent
to the Mayor and subsequently recalled by
City Council

1999

NO ACTIVITY (3)

- Intro. 519-1999 City-owned property, sale
- Intro. 522-1999 Green thumb garden sales, moratorium
- Intro. 584-1999 Bicycles, building access

ONE HEARING (0)

None

TWO OR MORE HEARINGS (0)

None

COUNCIL VOTE (2)

- Intro. 531-1999 Motor fuel storage systems- 11/10/1999
- Intro. 582-1999 Childhood lead poisoning prevention
- 6/30/1999

2000

NO ACTIVITY (7)

- Intro. 724-2000 Solid waste transfer stations, hours of operation
- Intro. 740-2000 Parents' right to know law, environmental hazards public schools
- Intro. 742-2000* Greenthumb community gardens, establishment - Reintroduced as Intro. 206-2002
- Intro. 743-2000 Greenthumb community gardens, moratorium disposition
- Intro. 782-2000 Airport, air pollution study
- Intro. 812-2000 Requiring sight-seeing buses to use alternative fuel
- Intro. 843-2000 Limiting the operation of personal watercraft

ONE HEARING (2)

- Intro. 735-2000 Grease and oil, food service establishments
- Intro. 755-2000* Spraying of pesticides, public notification
- Reintroduced as Intro. 328-2004

TWO OR MORE HEARINGS (5)

- Intro. 676-2000 Tree replacements
- Intro. 736-2000* Premises discharge sewer system, penalties
- Reintroduced as Intro. 58-2002
- Intro. 784-2000 Contracts, purchase of wood products
- Intro. 803-2000 Carbon Dioxide emissions from electric generating units.
- Intro. 830-2000 Establishments with grease interceptors to dispose of grease properly

COUNCIL VOTE (4)

- Intro. 692-2000 Hazardous substances emergency response law - 6/28/2001
- Intro. 813-2000 Sight-seeing buses comply with emissions standards - 1/3/2001
- Intro. 832-2000 Banning the testing of gas piping systems with gauges that use mercury - 3/14/2001
- Intro. 842-2000 Commercial solid waste management system - 11/29/2000

2001

NO ACTIVITY (4)

- Intro. 915-2001 Enacting a pesticide application Act
- Intro. 946-2001 Banning the sale of clinical mercury thermometers
- Intro. 966-2001 Include a fuel surcharge in taxicab rates
- Intro. 969-2001* Increase civil penalties for water pollution, drainage & sewer control violations
- Reintroduced as Intro. 123-2002

ONE HEARING (1)

- Intro. 865-2001 Amending the Smoke-Free Air Act of 1995

TWO OR MORE HEARINGS (0)

None

COUNCIL VOTE (0)

None

2002

NO ACTIVITY (11)

- **Intro. 29-2002 Products made from recycled materials, purchase
- Intro. 69-2002** Printing inks from vegetable oils
- Intro. 80-2002 Imposing moratorium, solid waste transfer stations
- Intro. 89-2002 Improper disposal of commercial/residential solid waste, increase penalties
- Intro. 103-2002** Tree protection
- Intro. 106-2002** Recyclable biodegradable packaging
- Intro. 159-2002* Requirements for high performance buildings
- Reintroduced as Intro. 324-2004
- Intro. 164-2002 Air quality control
- Intro. 170-2002 Penalties for recycling violations
- Intro. 206-2002** Greenthumb community gardens, establishment & maintenance
- Intro. 309-2002 Increasing the fines and penalties for illegal dumping
- Intro. 30-2002** Carbon Dioxide emissions from electric generating units
- Intro. 58-2002** Premises discharge sewer system, penalties
- Intro. 108-2002** Contracts, purchase of wood products
- Intro. 124-2002** Right-to-know law fees

ONE HEARING (4)

TWO OR MORE HEARINGS (2)

- Intro. 47-2002** Hazardous substance database
- Intro. 158-2002** Public awareness city-wide of energy conservation measures

COUNCIL VOTE (7)

- Intro. 101-2002 Lead poisoning prevention - vetoed by Mayor on 12/15/2003, Council overruled on 2/4/04
- Intro. 109-2002** Recycled oil, city vehicles - 3/26/03

- Intro. 122-2002** Right-to-know law reporting requirements - 12/15/03
- Intro. 123-2002** Increase civil penalties for water pollution, drainage & sewer control violations - 3/26/03
- Intro. 156-2002 Procurement of energy efficient products - vetoed by Mayor on 9/12/2002, Council overruled on 11/20/2002
- Intro. 191-2002 Use of ultra low sulfur diesel fuel by non-road vehicles - 12/15/2003
- Intro. 325-2002 Temporary task force on recycling - 12/4/2002

2003

NO ACTIVITY (12)

- Intro. 345-2003 Requiring the Economic Development Corporation (EDC) to identify within its annual report to the Mayor and Council each EDC project that concerns the sale of vacant city-owned property
- Intro. 392-2003 Deposit program for all primary and rechargeable batteries
- Intro. 402-2003 Planting of drought-resistant trees and vegetation on city-owned property
- Intro. 403-2003 Low-flow sink and lavatory faucets
- Intro. 459-2003 Allowing onsite disposal of storm water runoff
- Intro. 464-2003 Department of Environmental Protection testing for contaminants in the areas affected by the attacks on the WTC
- Intro. 524-2003 Granting J-51 tax abatements for energy conservation, electric submetering and load control equipment to Mitchell Lama Housing Developments
- Intro. 561-2003 Childhood lead poisoning prevention, and to repeal subdivision h of section 27-2013 of such code
- Intro. 572-2003 Prohibition on sale, lease, rental or operation of motorized scooters
- Intro. 589-2003 Replacement of trees removed during construction projects
- Intro. 601-2003 Use of air conditioning systems
- Intro. 602-2003 Restricting the purchase and use of sport utility vehicles by the City of New York

ONE HEARING (6)

- Intro. 344-2003 Truck routing sheets and maps depicting legal truck routes
- Intro. 378-2003 Restrictions regarding engine idling
- Intro. 388-2003 Eradicate forest insects and forest tree diseases.
- Intro. 560-2003 Authorized emergency vehicles and their exemption from the restrictions on idling
- Intro. 587-2003* Penalties and signage regarding the idling of motor vehicles -Reintroduced as Intro. 110-2004

- Intro. 606-2003 Enforcement of the restrictions regarding engine idling

TWO OR MORE HEARINGS (3)

- Intro. 396-2003 Storage of salt for purposes of snow removal
- Intro. 397-2003* Dumping snow and ice from piers - Reintroduced as Intro. 160-2004
- Intro. 558-2003* Disposal of solid waste - Reintroduced as Intro. 95-2004

COUNCIL VOTE (4)

- Intro. 377-2003 Procurement of energy efficient products - 3/26/2003
- Intro. 399-2003 Creating an adopt-a-park program - 8/19/2003
- Intro. 496-2003 Public sale of taxicab licenses - 6/27/2003
- Intro. 585-2003 Increasing the penalties for violations of the community right-to-know law - 12/15/2003

2004

NO ACTIVITY (11)

- Intro. 2-2004** Contracts, purchase of wood products
- Intro. 92-2004 Preserving land at the Fresh Kills Landfill
- Intro. 95-2004** Disposal of solid waste
- Intro. 96-2004 Waste material receptacle regulation
- Intro. 103-2004 Solid waste management services, fees
- Intro. 148-2004** Carbon Dioxide emissions from electric generating units
- Intro. 155-2004 Building access for bicycles
- Intro. 160-2004** Dumping snow and ice from piers.
- Intro. 164-2004 Prohibiting the application of moisture cured urethane in dwellings
- Intro. 239-2004** Tree protection
- Intro. 404-2004 Require city agencies to develop and implement policies and programs to ensure nondiscriminatory compliance with environmental, energy, health and safety laws

ONE HEARING (9)

- Intro. 327-2004 Concessions contracts on properties under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation
- Intro. 374-2004 Creating an energy shortage contingency plan
- Intro. 375-2004 Creation of an energy office and public awareness city-wide of energy efficiency and conservation measures
- Intro. 379-2004 Purchase of Energy Star certified appliances whenever appliances in rental apartments are replaced
- Intro. 381-2004 A survey regarding clean on-site power generation for city facilities
- Intro. 382-2004 Creates program for environmental building
- Intro. 383-2004 Mitigating the heat island effect
- Intro. 438-2004 Expedited review of permits or other approvals for green buildings

Intro. 470-2004 Requiring NY Police Department to submit to the Council reports of crime in areas under the jurisdiction of the Department of Parks and Recreation

TWO OR MORE HEARINGS (3)

Intro. 162-2004 Allowing on-site disposal of storm water runoff
Intro. 378-2004 Energy efficient use of city office equipment
Intro. 500-2004 Increasing fines for violations of the law for illegal dumping along waterfront property

COUNCIL VOTE (10)

Intro. 110-2004** Penalties and signage regarding the idling of motor vehicles 6/7/2004
Intro. 324-2004** Requirements for city-owned and city-funded green buildings - 9/15/2005
Intro. 328-2004** Opting in to the state Neighbor Notification Law concerning the application of pesticides - 4/20/2005
Intro. 329-2004 Reduction of pesticide use by city agencies - 4/20/2005
Intro. 367-2004 Sale or purchase of products claiming to be or contain an endangered or threatened species - 11/23/2004
Intro. 414-2004 City's purchase of cleaner vehicles - 4/20/2005
Intro. 415-2004 City's use of ultra low sulfur diesel fuel and the best available technology - 4/20/2005
Intro. 416-2004 Reducing emission of pollutants from vehicles that handle solid waste and recyclable materials - 4/20/2005
Intro. 417-2004 Reduce emission of pollutants from sight-seeing buses - 4/20/2005
Intro. 428-2004 Reduce the emissions of pollutants from vehicles that transport children to and from school - 4/20/2005

2005

NO ACTIVITY (13)

Intro. 537-2005 Reporting on releases from and the status of underground storage tank systems
Intro. 568-2005 Use of ultra low sulfur diesel fuel by diesel fuel-powered ferries owned by, operated by or on behalf of, or leased by the city
Intro. 569-2005 Use of ultra low sulfur diesel fuel by diesel fuel-powered private ferries
Intro. 670-2005 Permitting of private waste transfer stations
Intro. 671-2005 In relation to recycling
Intro. 672-2005 In relation to recycling
Intro. 673-2005 Conducting a study as to whether Pier 76 in Manhattan can be used as a location for a marine transfer station
Intro. 674-2005 In relation to commercial recycling

Intro. 676-2005 Reducing the emission of pollutants from marine vessels
Intro. 683-2005 Providing an income tax credit for the construction and maintenance of environmentally beneficial roofs
Intro. 687-2005 Creation of an office of waste reduction, reuse and recycling
Intro. 710-2005 Creating incentives for city agencies to save energy
Intro. 716-2005 Boring, strata and soil percolation testing for the on-site disposal of storm water

ONE HEARING (6)

Intro. 546-2005 The use of green power
Intro. 567-2005 Developing a comprehensive program for the remediation and reuse of brownfields
Intro. 582-2005 Tax lien foreclosure by action in-rem for properties
Intro. 626-2005 Protecting the purity of the NYC drinking water supply
Intro. 642-2005 Specifications for alternative fuel vehicle taxicabs
Intro. 661-2005 Reducing the emission of global warming pollution

TWO OR MORE HEARINGS (6)

Intro. 534-2005 Establishment of an office of environmental purchasing
Intro. 536-2005 Use of energy efficient products
Intro. 544-2005 Reduction of hazardous substances in products used by the city
Intro. 545-2005 Use of products with recycled content
Intro. 552-2005 Use of less toxic cleaning and other custodial products
Intro. 581-2005 Creating a plan to combat illegal dumping into the waterways of NYC

COUNCIL VOTE (4)

Intro. 565-2005 Developing a watershed protection plan for the watershed/sewershed of Jamaica Bay - 6/30/2005
Intro. 566-2005 Create a temporary task force to study the feasibility of transferring city-owned wetlands to the jurisdiction of the department of parks and recreation - 8/17/2005
Intro. 607-2005 Exemption from taxes of certain multiple dwellings for certain lead based paint activities - 7/27/2005
Intro. 664-2005 Clean air taxis - 6/30/2005

The New York League of Conservation Voters Education Fund (NYLCVEF) educates New Yorkers about environmental issues and environmental decision-making processes at the local, regional, and state government levels. Established in 1993 as the educational affiliate of the New York League of Conservation Voters, NYLCVEF fosters open, nonpartisan discussion on environmental policy and empowers New Yorkers to participate in environmental protection efforts in their communities.



New York League of Conservation Voters

Education Fund
29 Broadway, Suite 1100
New York, New York 10006
P: 212-361-6350
F: 212-361-6363
e-mail: info@nylcv.org
www.nylcv.org