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**The City of New York
Community Board 8 Manhattan
Environment Committee
Tuesday, November 15, 2022 – 6:30pm
This meeting was conducted via Zoom**

Minutes

CB8 Attendance: Wilma Johnson, Sahar Husain, Valerie Mason, Barbara Rudder, Abraham Salcedo, Rami Sigal, Russell Squire, Marco Tamayo and Lynne Strong-Shinozaki.

1. Discussion on New York State proposals to combat Climate Change

Assemblywoman Rebecca Seawright joined the meeting to share details of the bills that the Assembly is working on.

Justin Flagg, Director of Communication and Environmental Policy of State Senator Liz Krueger, discussed the State's initiatives to combat climate change.

The NY Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act Bill, (CLCPA) an omnibus bill that puts into law the targets to eliminate greenhouse emissions and scaling up clean energy that will transform NY's economy. Greenhouse emissions must be reduced to 40 percent by 2030 and 85 percent by 2050, with a net zero goal. The target is to have 70 percent of the State's electricity from renewable sources by 2030 and 100 percent by 2040. The Act gives guidelines on sources of funding, who will pay, and the time frame with emphasis on equity and affordability. It emphasizes that disadvantaged communities are not harmed during the process.

The Climate Action Council has been charged with creating a scoping plan on how to meet the goals of the CLCPA. The council has held meetings and by the end of the year it is due to share its final plan, which will include how to pay for these targets.

All Electric Buildings Act. The law was passed that all new buildings will be completely electric by December 2023 if the building is less than seven stories and by July 2027 if the building is seven stories or more.

The Build Public Renewable Act fills in the gaps in the Renewable Energy Act. It requires the New York power authority to provide only renewable energy and power to customers. City local law 97 will determine when existing buildings will be converted to electricity.

The Clean Fuel Standard Bill is intended to reduce carbon intensity from the on-road transportation sector by 20% by 2030, with further reductions to be implemented based upon advances in technology. creates.

Extended Producer Responsibility Act deals with plastic production which is a major pollutant. It establishes an extended producer responsibility program for packaging which creates provisions related to improved recycling practices.

Sen Kruegers bill has a bill that deals with Gas transmission. It aims to prevent additional gas production from the Public Service.

The Fossil Fuel Subsidy Elimination Act deals with how to pay for all of these initiatives. Right now there are subsidies provided to the Fossil Fuel industry and those will be eliminated.

The Climate Change Superfund Act establishes the climate change adaptation cost recovery program to require companies that have contributed significantly to the buildup of climate warming greenhouse gases in the atmosphere to bear a share of the costs of needed infrastructure investments to adapt to climate change. Also it highlights what the State will have to pay to such initiatives as solar panel implementation.

Proposition 1 was overwhelmingly passed by NY State voters. This 4.2 billion dollar Bond Act is the largest environmental bond Act in history and will promote substantial wins for clean air, clean water, and green jobs. NY will now have the resources to mitigate the dangers of climate change.

It was questioned whether our current electric grid will be able to handle the conversion to electricity. Justin assured us that there will be upgrades to our capacity.

It was noted that NYS currently has four Nuclear power plants that are subsidized because they have zero gas emissions. They are expensive to run, and very costly to build. Therefore, NY will not build additional plants.

Additionally, it was discussed that some e-bikes and e-scooters install second use batteries that are dangerous. When charged, they have exploded and caused harm, even deaths. The City and State are looking into banning them. Also, there is a need for more inexpensive charging stations.

RESOLUTION:

WHEREAS: There have been many accidents and deaths associated with the charging of E-Vehicle batteries; and

WHEREAS: It is known that certain batteries cause explosions when charged; and

WHEREAS: There is an insufficient number of inexpensive charging stations, and

WHEREAS: The City Council has held hearings about regulating the batteries used in E-Vehicles;

BE IT RESOLVED: Community Board 8M urges our City and State representatives to pass legislation outlawing batteries that cause danger when charged.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED: Community Board 8M urges our City and State representatives to provide for the construction of more inexpensive and easily accessible charging stations.

Vote: 7-0-0

For: Wilma Johnson, Sahar Hussain, Valerie Mason, Barbara Rudder, Abraham Salcedo, Rami Sigal, Marco Tamayo

2. Old Business – None discussed

2 New Business – None discussed

Sahar Hussain, Barbara Rudder, and Lynne Strong-Shinozaki, Co-Chairs