



The City of New York

Manhattan Community Board 1

Catherine McVay Hughes CHAIRPERSON | Noah Pfefferblit DISTRICT MANAGER

New York City Council Committee on Environmental Protection

Public Hearing on Int. 378,

**A Local Law to amend the administrative code of the city of New York,
in relation to reducing greenhouse gases by eighty percent by 2050**

City Hall Committee Room,

Thursday, October 23, 2014 at 1:00 PM

Thank you, Chairman Richards and Committee Members for holding this important meeting today and inviting our testimony. My name is Catherine McVay Hughes, and I represent Community District 1 in Lower Manhattan where I am Chair of Community Board 1. Our district includes most of Manhattan below Canal Street and south of the Brooklyn Bridge.

Our Executive Committee unanimously passed the following resolution which will come before our full board at our meeting on October 28th, in support of Int. 378.

WHEREAS: The New York City Council has found that it is in the best interests of New York City to provide for an increase in future reductions in citywide greenhouse gas emissions from a thirty percent reduction in citywide emissions by 2030, to an eighty percent reduction by calendar year 2050; and

WHEREAS: This in view of the rapid progress of climate change events and indicators and in order to increase the effectiveness of New York City measures intended to prepare for and alter the course of adverse climate change impacts on New York City's critical infrastructure and vulnerable citizens; and

WHEREAS: This addition is also consistent with the spirit of PlaNYC 2030 and the New York City Climate Protection Act, Local Law 22 of 2008; and

WHEREAS: The emissions reduction required by the proposed legislation would be achieved through the applicable policies, programs and actions included in PlaNYC, the long-term sustainability plan developed and updated pursuant to section twenty of the New York City charter; and

WHEREAS: CB 1 has been a longtime advocate of greening and sustainability, most recently publishing the "[Community District 1 Green Spaces Profile](#)" in September 2014; and

WHEREAS: The Green Spaces Profile summarizes the transition to green building infrastructure in Community District 1, including LEED rated and Energy Star certified spaces, as well as the successful ongoing transition from dirty heating oil; and

WHEREAS: As we approach the two year anniversary of Super Sandy, CB1 recalls that two people drowned in our district (one in Tribeca and another in the Financial District) and that there was seven feet of water in the South Street Seaport area and its environs. In addition, repairs of underground transit infrastructure are anticipated to continue for up to another five years (e.g. Brooklyn Battery Tunnel and South Ferry Station); and

WHEREAS: CB1 is bounded by water on three sides and lies entirely within the newly defined flood zones; and now

THEREFORE

BE IT

RESOLVED

THAT: CB 1 supports Int. No. 378 and the initiative to reduce greenhouse gases by 80% by 2050; and

BE IT

FURTHER

RESOLVED

THAT: Community Board 1 urges the New York City administration to remain diligent in the implementation and enforcement of policies relating to this initiative to ensure the City can meet or exceed the goal of reducing greenhouse gasses by 2050.