

# Public Safety

## BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft



Committee Chair: Terry Clements

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.  
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor  
White Plains, NY 10601  
[www.westchesterlegislators.com](http://www.westchesterlegislators.com)

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**Tuesday, September 19, 2023**

**4:15 PM**

**Committee Room**

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### CALL TO ORDER

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting.

Joint w/ Legislation

Legislator Symra Brandon will be joining remotely from Yonkers Public Library 28 Wells Avenue 5th Floor Yonkers, NY 10701

Legislator Colin Smith will be joining remotely from 1132 Main St Suite 1 Peekskill, NY10566

With a quorum present, Chair Clements called the meeting to order at 4:26 PM.

Others in attendance:

BOL: Legislator Imamura, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Maher, Legislator Williams-Johnson, Legislator Nolan, Committee Coordinator Jill Axelrod

**Present:** Legislator Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**Remote:** Committee Vice-Chair Smith and Legislator Brandon

### MINUTES APPROVAL

#### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

This was approved

[LL-2023-316](#) LOCAL LAW-Regulation of Lithium Ion Batteries

## Guests:

Richard Wishnie, Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services  
Susan Spear, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services  
Douglas Stiller, Chief of Special Operations , Department of Emergency Services  
James Maisano, Director, Department of Consumer Protection  
Jason Ward, Chief of Fire Training, Department of Emergency Services  
Chris Johnson, Fire Training Technician, Department of Emergency Services  
Louis Vetrone, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Environmental Facilities  
Melissa Rotini, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Environmental Facilities  
Andrew Sandor, Fire Chief, New Rochelle Fire Department  
Howard Reiss, Fire Chief, Fairview Fire Department  
Gus Spedalieri, Fire Chief, Greenville Fire Department

Commissioner Spear explained the goals of the Department for this law. Working with DEF, Consumer Protection, the Law Dept and the Fire Advisory Board to put together a comprehensive plan for Lithium Ion Battery safety.

This law will require that only regulated and graded lithium ion batteries be sold by retail establishments in the County, and require every retail establishment in the County engaged in the retail business of selling E-bikes and electric mobility devices, to post a notice warning of the dangers of Lithium Ion Batteries. DES will also be required to engage in an ongoing educational and informational campaign to try to mitigate the risks associated with the use, storage and charging of electric mobility devices, E-bikes and lithium-ion batteries in general.

The Law will permit DES to use its fire inspectors, along with local fire chiefs, to conduct site visits throughout the County in an effort to educate the public, increase awareness of the potential dangers associated with the use of lithium ion batteries, and to ensure compliance with the various provisions of the law. The law also provides that the Director of Weights and Measures -Consumer Protection shall have the authority to enforce the provisions of the proposed local law in accordance with various procedures contained in the Consumer Protection Code.

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

**[RES-2023-118](#) PH-Regulation of Lithium Ion Batteries**

Guests:

Richard Wishnie, Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services  
 Susan Spear, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Emergency Services  
 Douglas Stiller, Chief of Special Operations , Department of Emergency Services  
 James Maisano, Director, Department of Consumer Protection  
 Jason Ward, Chief of Fire Training, Department of Emergency Services  
 Chris Johnson, Fire Training Technician, Department of Emergency Services  
 Louis Vetrone, Deputy Commissioner, Department of Environmental Facilities  
 Melissa Rotini, Assistant Commissioner, Department of Environmental Facilities  
 Andrew Sandor, Fire Chief, New Rochelle Fire Department  
 Howard Reiss, Fire Chief, Fairview Fire Department  
 Gus Spedaliere, Fire Chief, Greenville Fire Department

Please refer to item 2023-316

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Clements, Legislator Alvarado, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

**II. OTHER BUSINESS**

**III. RECEIVE & FILE**

[2023-317](#)      **COMM-Letter of Support-Lithium Ion Batteries Proposed  
 Legislation-West. Co. Dept. of Emergency Services**

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was received, filed, and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Clements, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

**Absent:** Legislator Alvarado

[2023-318](#)      **COMM-Letter of Support-Lithium Ion Batteries Proposed  
 Legislation-Greenville Fire District**

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was received, filed, and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Clements, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

**Absent:** Legislator Alvarado

[2023-319](#)**COMM-Letter of Support-Lithium Ion Batteries Proposed  
Legislation-Fairview Fire Dept.**

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was received, filed, and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Clements, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

**Absent:** Legislator Alvarado

[2023-320](#)**COMM-Letter of Support-Lithium Ion Batteries Proposed  
Legislation-New Rochelle Fire Dept.**

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was received, filed, and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Clements, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

**Absent:** Legislator Alvarado

[2023-321](#)**COMM-Letter of Support-Lithium Ion Batteries Proposed  
Legislation-Peekskill Fire Dept.**

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was received, filed, and approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Clements, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Smith, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Brandon

**Absent:** Legislator Alvarado

**ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the Committee adjourned at 5:30 PM by the following vote:

**Aye:** Legislator Clements, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Pierce and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

**Absent:** Legislator Alvarado

**Remote:** Committee Vice-Chair Smith and Legislator Brandon