

Public Works & Transportation

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final



Committee Chair: Erika Pierce

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Tuesday, July 9, 2024

1:00 PM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Joint with the Parks and Environment Committee and Health Sub-Committee

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. *With a quorum present, Chair Pierce called the meeting to order at 1:21 PM.*

Others in Attendance: GUESTS: Dr. Phoebe Stapleton (remote); DOH: Dr. Sherlita Amler (remote); BOL: Legislator David Tubiolo, Legislator Judah Holstein, Legislator James Nolan, Legislator Emiljana Ulaj (remote), Warren Watson, James Silverberg and Dayana Gómez-Holguín

Present: Legislator Pierce, Legislator Barr, Legislator Williams Johnson and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Legislator Williams

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

PFAS Series Continued: Plastics and its impact on health

Guest: Phoebe Stapleton, PhD, ATC - Associate Professor
Department of Pharmacology and Toxicology
Ernest Mario School of Pharmacy
Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences Institute
Rutgers University

Dr. Stapleton's explained the differences between microplastics and nanoplastics: microplastics are mainly released from larger products, including from environmental sources like tire wear, incineration, landfill or plastic wastes; and nanoplastics are produced from the breakdown of microplastics. There is no straight-forward way to avoid ingesting plastics since there are so many ways that people end up consuming them. Ideally, people should consume drinking water from faucets over bottled water due to the protection given by better regulations for drinking water, however if that is not feasible, then using bottled drinking water is better than risking dehydration. People should avoid plastic food containers, including reuseable

water bottles, and instead use glass or aluminum containers. However, if people must use plastic receptacles, is important to properly clean them and avoid placing them in heated areas, including dishwashers and microwaves. When reheating foods in the microwave, protect the food with a wet paper towel instead of a plastic shield or lid. Regarding incinerator filters, the current ones cannot protect against the release of nanoplastics. Although there is no exact research about the effects of plastics in the body, Dr. Stapleton did explain where these plastics have been found within the human body.

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Williams Johnson, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the Committee adjourned at 2:04pm.