

Where to Find Legislative Histories of Local Laws from 1938 to Present

by Christine Bruzzese

Local Law Folders. The Municipal Archives maintains a collection of Local Law folders. These folders **may** include the “**bill jacket**” or file of related historical materials. Folders must be requested by Local Law year and number. Call (212) 788-8585 or contact the Municipal Archives by e-mail via the Department of Records website at www.nyc.gov/records.

City Council Proceedings. *Proceedings of the Council of the City of New York* summarizes individual meetings. All Introductions (bills) and Local Laws discussed at meetings are presented here. Proceedings of each individual meeting are published separately and then cumulated in semi-annual bound volumes with indexes. Voting records on each bill are also given in the *Proceedings*.

City Council Hearings. Transcripts of Council hearings and testimony can be obtained from the City Clerk’s office. The telephone number is (212) 669-8171.

City Council website. The City Council maintains a website at www.nyccouncil.info. All Introductions, Resolutions and Local Laws from 1990 forward can be searched by keyword(s) or number (if known). Complete text of all legislation and Committee reports are published on this website. History and status of a bill’s progress after introduction in the Council can also be found here.

Council Digest and Council Calendar.

The *Council Digest* from New York Legal Publishing is issued monthly with an annual cumulative volume. Holdings are from 1991 to present. The *Council Calendar*, from the City Council, follows the same publication schedule as the *Digest*. Holdings are from 1938 to present. Both sources provide indexes for locating bills, laws, resolutions, land use applications and other materials.

Mayoral Bill Jackets. For copies of Mayoral bill jackets from 2000 to the present, contact the Mayor’s Office of City Legislative Affairs at (212) 788-3678. These bill jackets include transcripts of any Mayoral hearings that were held concerning proposed legislation.

New York City Charter and Administrative Code. Sections of the *Administrative Code* are annotated with historical notes, derivations and case notes. The first two provide references to city or state legislation that added or amended a section. Case notes refer to related legal cases.

New York City Legislative Annual. Published by New York Legislative Service, *Legislative Annual* is another source for proposed and final legislation. Summaries of Council Committee reports for each proposed law can also be found here.