



April 10, 2014

Mr. Anthony Shorris  
First Deputy Mayor  
City of New York  
City Hall  
New York, NY 10007

Mr. Zachary Carter  
Corporation Counsel  
City of New York  
100 Church Street  
New York, NY 10007

**VIA EMAIL AND MAIL**

Re: Status of implementing New York City Webcasting Law

Dear First Deputy Mayor Shorris and Corporation Counsel Carter,

We write to follow up on previous correspondence with First Deputy Mayor Shorris regarding the implementation of Local Law 103 of 2013, which requires city entities to webcast their public meetings. The law had an effective date of March 2, 2014, which was 90 days after passage, and which we understand posed challenges for implementation.

At the February 24<sup>th</sup> City Council Committee on Technology hearing on webcasting, we were pleased to hear that the Mayor's Office is considering creating a centralized and user-friendly portal to house archived video of public meetings pursuant to Local Law 103. Senior Advisor to the Mayor Jeff Merritt also stated that the Law Department was in the process of determining which city entities, and what meetings, will fall under the mandates set forth in the webcasting law.

Given the large public interest in webcasting and seeing this law implemented in a timely fashion, we respectfully request that you make public the Law Department's determination of which city entities, and which meetings, are subject to the law. Ideally, this would be provided as a comprehensive list.

We welcome the chance to discuss the implementation of the webcasting law with you and your colleagues. Our groups have been researching webcasting at the city and state level, and attached is a summary of our findings. We are confident New York City's webcasting law will succeed and look forward to working with you to promote the webcasting of city government's public meetings to ensure that they reach the maximum public audience possible.

Sincerely,

Noel Hidalgo, Executive Director  
BetaNYC

Dick Dadey, Executive Director  
Citizens Union

Brian Paul, Research and Policy Manager  
Common Cause NY

Elizabeth Bird, Research Analyst  
Good Jobs New York

Cathy Gray, Vice President  
League of Women Voters of the City of New York

Gene Russianoff, Staff Attorney  
NYPIRG

Frank Herbert, Director  
OpenPlans

John Kaehny, Executive Director  
Reinvent Albany

Andrew Rasiej, Senior Technology Advisor  
Sunlight Foundation

Jacqueline M. Ebanks, Executive Director  
Women's City Club of New York

Cc. Manhattan Borough President Gale Brewer  
Councilmember Ben Kallos, Chair, Committee on Governmental Operations  
Councilmember James Vacca, Chair, Committee on Technology  
Jeff Merritt, Senior Advisor to the Mayor  
Cullen Howe, Counsel to the City Council Committee on Technology